



Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

October 30, 2023

THE HONORABLE KATIE HOBBS
Governor
State of Arizona
State Capitol
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating two Arizona counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for eight or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

In accordance with Section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your state and contiguous states are named as contiguous disaster counties. Enclosed you will find documentation that provides a detailed list of all primary and contiguous counties impacted by this disaster.

Other counties in Arizona may have already been designated as natural disaster counties if they had previously met the requirements found under 7 CFR 759.5(a) for the current crop year.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure

DISASTER DESIGNATION AREAS FOR ARIZONA AND CONTIGUOUS STATES

Primary Counties

Arizona	(2)
Apache	Yavapai

Contiguous Counties:

Arizona	(8)		
Coconino	Graham	La Paz	Mohave
Gila	Greenlee	Maricopa	Navajo

Contiguous Counties:

Colorado	(1)		
Montezuma			
New Mexico	(4)		
Catron	Cibola	McKinley	San Juan
Utah	(1)		
San Juan			