



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

August 24, 2020

The Honorable Jared Polis  
Governor  
State of Colorado  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Governor Polis:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating two Colorado 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 8 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 adjacent 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 Colorado 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 8 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Perdue".

Sonny Perdue  
Secretary

Enclosure

## Disaster Designation Areas for Colorado and Contiguous States

### **Primary Counties:**

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| <b>Colorado</b> | <b>(2)</b> |
| Washington      | Yuma       |

### **Contiguous Counties:**

|                 |            |        |          |
|-----------------|------------|--------|----------|
| <b>Colorado</b> | <b>(7)</b> |        |          |
| Adams           | Kit Carson | Logan  | Phillips |
| Arapahoe        | Lincoln    | Morgan |          |

In addition, in accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in adjacent states are named as contiguous disaster areas. Those states, counties, and numbers are:

### **Contiguous Counties in Adjacent States:**

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| <b>Kansas</b>   | <b>(1)</b> |
| Cheyenne        |            |
| <b>Nebraska</b> | <b>(2)</b> |
| Chase           | Dundy      |

**cc:**  
**DAB/ES:Suspense**  
**FLP/LMD: Cobb**

**Control Number: #8657763**

**DRAFT:DAB/ES: RRussell-Spruell:rrs:07/23/2020:202-720-3265**

**FINAL:DAB/ES: RRussell-Spruell:rrs:07/23/2020:202-720-3265**

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**NOTES TO FILE:**

- 1. Automatic designation under the “FAST-TRACK” Drought Designation Rule in 7CFR, Part 759.**
- 2. Disaster Crop Year Affected: 2020.**