

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Texas State FSA Office
2405 Texas Avenue South
College Station, TX 77840

TX NOTICE FLP-1385

3-FLP (Rev. 2)

FOR: County Offices

Secretarial Disaster Declaration S5381

Approved by: State Executive Director

1 Overview

A Background

On **March 17, 2023**, the Secretary of Agriculture designated **139 Texas Counties** as primary natural disaster areas. This action is based on damages and losses **caused by Drought (Fast Track)** occurring **November 1, 2022 and continuing**. The primary counties are:

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Andrews | Atascosa | Austin | Bailey | Bandera | Bell | Bexar |
| Blanco | Borden | Bosque | Briscoe | Brooks | Brown | Burnet |
| Caldwell | Callahan | Carson | Castro | Childress | Clay | Cochran |
| Coke | Coleman | Collingsworth | Colorado | Comal | Comanche | Concho |
| Cooke | Coryell | Cottle | Crosby | Dallam | Dawson | Deaf Smith |
| Dickens | Dimmit | Duval | Eastland | Edwards | Erath | Falls |
| Fayette | Fisher | Floyd | Foard | Frio | Gaines | Garza |
| Gillespie | Glasscock | Gonzales | Gray | Grayson | Guadalupe | Hale |
| Hall | Hamilton | Hansford | Hardeman | Hartley | Haskell | Hays |
| Hemphill | Hidalgo | Hill | Howard | Hutchinson | Jim Hogg | Jim Wells |
| Jones | Kendall | Kenedy | Kent | Kerr | Kimble | King |
| Kinney | Kleberg | Knox | Lamb | Lampasas | Lavaca | Limestone |
| Lipscomb | Llano | Lubbock | Lynn | McCulloch | McLennan | Martin |
| Mason | Maverick | Medina | Menard | Midland | Milam | Mills |
| Mitchell | Montague | Moore | Motley | Nolan | Ochiltree | Oldham |
| Palo Pinto | Parker | Parmer | Potter | Randall | Real | Roberts |
| Robertson | Runnels | San Saba | Scurry | Shackelford | Sherman | Starr |
| Stephens | Sterling | Stonewall | Swisher | Taylor | Terry | Tom Green |
| Travis | Uvalde | Val Verde | Washington | Webb | Wheeler | Wichita |
| Wilbarger | Williamson | Wilson | Yoakum | Zapata | Zavala | |

Disposal Date	Distribution (6-RMH/4/05/2023)
March 31, 2024	County Offices

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In addition to the above **counties**, **49 other Texas counties** are named as **contiguous** where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance, pursuant to section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act. Those counties are:

Archer	Armstrong	Bastrop	Baylor	Brazos	Burleson	Cameron
Collin	Crockett	Denton	DeWitt	Donley	Ector	Ellis
Fannin	Fort Bend	Freestone	Grimes	Hockley	Hood	Irion
Jack	Jackson	Johnson	Karnes	La Salle	Lee	Leon
Live Oak	McMullen	Madison	Navarro	Nueces	Reagan	San Patricio
Schleicher	Somervell	Sutton	Tarrant	Terrell	Throckmorton	Upton
Victoria	Waller	Wharton	Willacy	Winkler	Wise	Young

Also, in accordance with section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in an adjacent State that are contiguous to one or more of the designated **Texas counties**, are named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance. For this designation, the affected States and counties are:

<u>New Mexico</u> (5)	Curry	Lea	Quay	Roosevelt	Union
<u>Oklahoma</u> (14)	Beaver	Beckham	Bryan	Cimarron	Cotton
	Ellis	Harmon	Jackson	Jefferson	Love
	Marshall	Roger Mills	Texas	Tillman	

This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

B Application Deadline

EM Loan applications will be received through **November 17, 2023** for **production and physical losses**.

2 Action

A Exceptions for Application Deadlines

County Offices shall thoroughly review Exhibit 1.

B Determining Security Values

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **November 1, 2022**.

C District Director’s and Farm Loan Manager’s Responsibilities

District Directors and Farm Loan Managers shall follow instructions according to 3-FLP (Rev. 2), and FmHA Instruction 1945-A for emergency loan applicability.

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The Farm Loan Manager shall notify borrowers of Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) availability in accordance with handbook 5-FLP paragraph 42.

D Public Announcements

Special emphasis will be placed on informing the farm community through public announcements and arranging and conducting meetings with local Agricultural lenders and leaders.

3 Contact Point

A Inquires

If there are questions concerning this notice, contact the Conservation or Farm Loan Program Division.

Subject: **Secretarial Disaster Declaration S5381**

Please carefully review the notice listing the primary and contiguous counties determined eligible by the Secretary and the Emergency Preparedness and Programs Branch for emergency (EM) loans effective **March 17, 2023**.

This declaration is coded **S5381**, and EM loan applications will be received through **November 17, 2023**. For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **November 1, 2022**.

Please proceed to take the appropriate notification and coordination actions required by Handbook 1-DIS and 7CFR part 759.