



Farm Service Agency  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

---

## USDA Designates Eight Montana Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought Fifteen Contiguous Counties, Including Eleven Montana Counties, Also Eligible for Assistance

News Release | Montana | August 09, 2024

[View PDF](#)

---

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#). Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation, or to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), 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.

**Impacted Area:** Montana

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought

**Application Deadline:** 4/7/2025

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Flathead, Jefferson, Lake, Madison, Ravalli and Silver Bow

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Idaho:** Clark, Fremont, Idaho and Lemhi

**Montana:** Broadwater, Gallatin, Glacier, Granite, Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, Missoula, Pondera, Powell, Sanders and Teton

## More Resources

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](#), and [Loan Assistance Tool](#) can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

#

### **Farm Service Agency:**

1400 Independence Ave.  
SW Washington, DC 20250

### **Contact:**

FPAC Press Desk  
[FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov](mailto:FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov)