

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**Farm Service Agency**  
**100 USDA, Suite 102**  
**Stillwater, OK 74074**

**For:** County Offices

**Secretarial Natural Disaster Determination S1697 (AR)**

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**Approved by:** State Executive Director:

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**1 Overview**

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**A**  
**Background**

Secretarial Natural Disaster Determination S1697 was declared October 16, 2002, for several counties in Arkansas based on damages and losses caused by excessive rain, flooding, and hail that occurred March 18, 2002, and continuing.

Also, in accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in an adjacent State that are contiguous to a primary county will be named as contiguous disaster counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance. In Oklahoma, LeFlore and Sequoyah Counties have been declared contiguous counties in the disaster declaration.

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**B**  
**Application**  
**Deadline**

EM loan applications will be received through June 16, 2003, for physical and production losses in the subject counties.

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**C**  
**Comparison**  
**With Previous**  
**OK Instructions**

This OK Notice supplements OK Instruction 1945-A, and OK Instruction 1924-B, Exhibit D.

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**2 Action**

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**A**  
**Determining**  
**Security Values**

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is March 18, 2002.

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<b>Disposal</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
July 1, 2003	Farm Loan Teams, County Offices, DDs, CORs

## OK Notice FLP-371

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**B**  
**District Director Responsibility** The District Director will closely monitor compliance to meet the requirements of Section 1945.20(a)(3) of FmHA Instruction 1945-A.

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**C**  
**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.

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### 3 Filing Instructions

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**A**  
**FLP Series** This notice will be filed in chronological order with FLP series notices, and a copy of this notice will be filed preceding FmHA Instruction 1945-A and FmHA Instruction 1924-B.

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**B**  
**Operation Filing** A file will be established in the Farm Loan Office's operational file for each disaster designation. The file will contain a copy of this notice and documentation to support compliance with the requirements of Section 1945.20(1)(3). This file will be labeled, "Secretarial Natural Disaster Determination S1697 (AR)," filed, maintained, and disposed of in accordance with Handbook 25-AS, exhibit 40.5.

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### 4 Contact Point

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**A**  
**Inquiries** If there are questions concerning this notice, contact Phil Estes, Farm Loan Programs Director, at (405) 742-1050.

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