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

For: County Offices

Secretarial Natural Disaster Determination S1797 (CO)

Approved by: State Executive Director:

1 Overview

A Background

Secretarial Natural Disaster Determination S1797 was declared effective July 15, 2003, for several counties in Colorado based on damages and losses caused by drought that began September 2000, and continuing.

Also, in accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Cimarron County in Oklahoma was named as a contiguous disaster county.

This designation makes family-sized farm operators in both the primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency, provided eligibility requirements are met.

B Application Deadline

EM loan applications will be received through March 15, 2004, for physical and production losses in the primary and contiguous counties.

C Comparison With Previous OK Instructions

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

2 Action

A Determining Security Values

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is September 1, 2000.

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Disposal	Distribution
April 1, 2004	Farm Loan Teams, County Offices, DDs, CORs

2 Action, *cont.*

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.

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.

3 Filing Instructions

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.

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 S1797 (CO)," filed, maintained, and disposed of in accordance with Handbook 25-AS, exhibit 40.5.

4 Contact Point

A Inquiries

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