Amendment Transmittal

A Reason for Amendment

Paragraph 1 has been amended to clarify the time frame for administering ECP from the policy established in 1-ECP (Rev. 6) for disasters that occurred between May 4, 2021 and September 15, 2021.

B Update on 1-ECP (Rev. 5)

1-ECP (Rev. 5):

- was mistakenly made obsolete when 1-ECP (Rev. 6) Amend. 1 was issued
- should be used for disasters that occurred between September 10, 2015 and May 3, 2021.
Part 1  General Information

Section 1  General Provisions

1  Overview

A Handbook Purpose

This handbook provides procedures for STC’s, COC’s, and State and County Offices administering ECP for disasters that occurred between May 4, 2021 and September 15, 2021.

These procedures cover the following areas:

- reviewing State and county programs
- managing ECP funds allocated to State and County Offices
- eligibility of persons, legal entities, land, and practices
- administrative responsibilities of STC’s, DD’s, and COC’s
- accepting and processing applications for ECP C/S
- providing TA needed for designated practices
- processing and issuing advance and final C/S payments.

2  ECP Authorization

A Source of Authority

The Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (92 Stat. 420-434), as amended by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill), Section 2403, is the statutory authority for ECP.

The regulations at 7 CFR Part 701 govern ECP.
ECP Authorization (Continued)

B  ECP Objectives

ECP is a C/S program. Subject to the availability of funds, the objective of ECP is to make C/S assistance available to eligible agricultural producers and ranchers for performing approved emergency conservation practices to:

- rehabilitate farmlands and conservation structures damaged by natural disasters such as:
  - hurricane and typhoon
  - tornado
  - high winds, including micro-bursts
  - storm, including ice storms
  - flood
  - high water
  - wind-driven water
  - tidal wave
  - earthquake
  - volcanic eruption
  - landslide
  - mudslide
  - severe snowstorm
  - drought
  - wildfire by lightning or when exacerbated by natural conditions
  - explosion
  - other natural phenomena

- install water conservation measures during periods of severe drought to supply emergency water for:
  - livestock, including confined livestock and poultry
  - existing eligible irrigation systems serving orchards and vineyards, including:
    - ditches
    - other permanently installed systems.

Note: Center pivot, hand move, and wheel move systems are not considered permanently installed systems for ECP purposes.