

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

**Livestock Forage Disaster Program
1-LFP**

Amendment 5

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A Reasons for Amendment

Subparagraph 2 B has been amended to reduce the number of required DD reviews from 10 to 5.

Subparagraph 23 A has been amended to include the link to the U.S. Drought Monitor's "FSA Eligibility Tool".

Subparagraph 25 A, B, and C have been amended to update eligible and ineligible livestock.

Subparagraph 26 F has been added to include heirs' property exception.

Subparagraph 56 C has been amended to update the 2023 Daily AU Rate, Monthly Value of Forage, and Payment Rates.

Subparagraph 88 D has been amended to:

- update the policy and instructions for required DD reviews and SED reporting
- reduce the number of required DD reviews from 10 to 5.

Subparagraph 88 E has been added to include instructions for recording/reporting DD reviews.

Subparagraph 88 F has been added to include instructions for accessing and using the internal control reviews SharePoint.

Subparagraph 89 A has been amended to correct the AUM conversion formula to AU's.

Subparagraph 91 B has been amended to update the program checklist.

Exhibit 2 has been amended to include water buffalo in the buffalo definitions.

Exhibit 6 has been amended to add ostrich to the Standard AU Conversion Chart.

Amendment Transmittal (Continued)

A Reasons for Amendment (Continued)

| Page Control Chart | | |
|--------------------|---|--|
| TC | Text | Exhibit |
| | 1-5, 1-6 2-7, 2-8 2-19, 2-20 2-27 through 2-32 2-44.5, 2-44.6 (add) 2-125 through 2-128 2-191 through 2-194 2-194.5 through 2-194.10 (add) 2-203, 2-204 2-231, 2-232 | 1, pages 1-2 2, pages 1-4 6, pages 1-2 |

2 Responsibilities

A DAFP Responsibilities

DAFP will develop all LFP regulations and policy and ensure that LFP is administered according to LFP regulations.

B STC Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and 7 CFR Part 1416, Subparts A and C, STC's will:

- direct the administration of LFP in the State through SED
- ensure that FSA State and County Offices, and COC's follow LFP provisions
- take any action **required** by either regulation or procedure that COC has **not** taken
- correct, or require COC to correct, any action that is not according to LFP regulations or procedure
- require COC to withhold taking any action that is not according to LFP regulations or procedure
- handle suspected fraud cases according to applicable procedure
- provide COC and DD with a copy of STC or DAFP determination for appeals or relief cases
- require all applications executed by State Office employees, STC, members, COC members, CED's, County Office employees, and their spouses be sent to STC, or designee for approval/disapproval
- handle appeals according to 1-APP
- establish acres per AU (carrying capacities) and normal grazing periods for grazing and forward recommendations to DAFP according to 1-NAP (Rev. 2)
- thoroughly document, in the STC minutes, all program recommendations, such grazing periods, carrying capacities, program and eligibility determinations, appeals, etc.
- *--require the first 5 applications in the Service Center be reviewed by a State Office--* representative according to subparagraph 88 D to ensure that the program is being implemented according to LFP provisions

Note: STC's may establish additional reviews to ensure that LFP is administered according to these provisions.

2 Responsibilities (Continued)

B STC Responsibilities (Continued)

- STC will ensure that producers are properly notified of LFP provisions and program availability in the county, including deadlines for submitting the following:
 - CCC-853 Application for benefits
 - FSA-578 Report of acreage
 - required signatures
 - supporting documentation, including but not limited to leases, CCC-855, contract grower agreements, eligibility forms, etc.
- take oversight actions to ensure that IPIA provisions are met to prevent County Offices from issuing improper payments according to subparagraph 58 E.

C SED Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and 7 CFR Part 1416, Subparts A and C, SED's will:

- ensure that FSA State and County Offices administer LFP according to regulations and procedure, are thoroughly trained, understand the intent of LFP, and be alert to improper administration of the LFP program and/or abuse
- ensure that State Office representatives conduct reviews according to subparagraph 88 D

Note: SED's may establish additional reviews to ensure that LFP is administered according to these provisions. SED's may also require that second party reviews be conducted on all LFP applications if County Offices continue to be problematic with IPIA and improper payments.

- immediately notify the National Office Livestock Forage Disaster Program Manager of software problems, incomplete or incorrect procedures, specific problems, or findings
- take oversight actions to ensure that IPIA provisions are met to prevent County Offices from issuing improper payments according to subparagraph 58 E
- handle appeals according to 1-APP
- ensure that **all** County Offices publicize LFP provisions according to paragraph 3.

23 Eligible Grazing Losses (Continued)

A Eligible Grazing Losses Because of Drought (Continued)

- D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county for:
 - at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period (nonconsecutive weeks) for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the county
 - or is rated as having a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period for the specific grazing land or pastureland for the county
- D4 (exceptional drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period (nonconsecutive weeks) for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the county.

Notes: The grazing losses that occur because of a qualifying drought **must** occur during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land during the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. Whenever an intensity rating of D2, D3, or D4 occurs in any area of the county, the entire county is eligible under a qualifying drought and eligible livestock producers who certify a grazing loss are eligible for LFP.

--The "FSA Eligibility Tool" provided by the U.S. Drought Monitor located at <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/FSA/Home.aspx> can be used as a resource to verify county eligibility for LFP. The search criteria requires the start and ending dates of the specific grazing period by county and State.--

23 Eligible Grazing Losses (Continued)

B Determining Beginning Date of Qualifying Drought

*--The National Office receives drought data from the U.S. Drought Monitor on a weekly basis. The determination of the beginning date of a qualifying drought by pasture type is based on the start and ending dates of a D2, D3, or D4 drought intensity rating(s) on the U. S. Drought Monitor weekly report data. The U.S. Drought Monitor report is created weekly on Tuesdays, released on Thursdays, and is effective until the following Monday. For D2, D3b, and D4b qualifying drought, the start date of qualifying drought, for counting the duration of consecutive or non-consecutive weeks for eligibility purposes, is the later of either the Tuesday report date or the beginning date of the grazing period if it falls within that week's report. The end date is the required number of weeks from the start date for eligibility purposes which is the date of qualifying drought. Since the duration requirement for D3a and D4a is 1 day, the date of qualifying drought is the later of either the beginning date of the week's qualifying report, or the first date of the grazing season, if it falls within that qualifying week's report. The date of qualifying drought as determined, must fall during the established grazing period for the county and pasture type.

The National Office will notify State and County Offices eligible for LFP by posting a list of eligible counties by pasture type every Thursday at <https://inside.fsa.usda.gov/program-areas/dafp/dap/lfp/index> under "LFP Eligible Counties".--*

The LFP Eligible Counties Report contains the following columns:

- State
- County
- Program Year
- Pasture Type
- *--D2 Qualifying Drought Start and End Dates (duration of 8 consecutive weeks)
- D3a Qualifying Drought Start and End Dates (duration of 1 day)
- D3b Qualifying Drought Start and End Dates (duration of 4 non-consecutive weeks)
- D4a Qualifying Drought Start and End Dates (duration of 1 day)
- D4b Qualifying Drought Start and End Dates (duration of 4 non-consecutive weeks)--*
- Date of Qualifying Drought
- Drought Factor
- Grazing Period Start and End Dates
- Maximum Eligible Payment Months
- Payment Factor.

Note: The report only contains counties that are eligible for 1 or more pasture types. If a county is **not** listed, that county is **not** eligible for any pasture types.

25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP

A Eligible Covered Livestock

To be considered eligible covered livestock, livestock **must** meet **all** of the following conditions:

- be weaned grazing animals such as adult and nonadult beef cattle, adult and nonadult beefalo, adult and nonadult buffalo/bison, adult and nonadult dairy cattle, alpacas, deer, *--elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, ostriches, reindeer, or sheep--*

- be livestock that would normally have been grazing the eligible grazing land or pastureland in the eligible county:

- during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the eligible county during the qualifying drought

Note: Livestock that would **not** have normally been grazing the land in the eligible county will **not** be eligible to be included in the calculation for determining monthly feed cost. However, if the livestock would normally have been grazing the eligible grazing land but the producer had to move the livestock to another county for grazing, the livestock would be eligible to be included when calculating the monthly feed cost.

- when the Federal agency prohibited the eligible livestock producer from using the managed rangeland for grazing because of a qualifying fire
- be livestock that the eligible livestock producer:
 - during the 60 days before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire, owned, leased, purchased, entered into a contract to purchase, or was a contract grower
 - sold or otherwise disposed of because of a qualifying drought during:
 - the current production year
 - 1 or both of the 2 production years immediately preceding the current production year
 - *--be livestock produced and maintained for commercial use or be livestock that is--* produced and maintained for producing livestock products for commercial use, such as milk from dairy, as part of the contract grower's or livestock producer's farming operation on the beginning date of the qualifying drought or fire

25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP (Continued)

A Eligible Covered Livestock (Continued)

- **not** have been livestock produced or maintained for reasons other than commercial use,
*--as part of a farming operation including, but not limited to:
 - wild free roaming livestock
 - racing or wagering
 - hunting
 - consumption by the owner--*
- **not** have been produced or maintained for reasons other than commercial use as part of the producer's farming operation
- **not** have been livestock that were or would have been in a feedlot, on the beginning date of the qualifying drought or fire, as part of the normal business operation of the producer.

The eligible covered livestock categories are:

- Adult beef cows or bulls
- Non-adult beef cattle
- Adult beefalo cows or bulls
- Non-adult beefalo
- *--Adult buffalo or bison cows or bulls (includes water buffalo)
- Non-adult buffalo or bison (includes water buffalo)--*
- Adult dairy cows or bulls
- Non-adult dairy cattle
- Alpacas
- Deer
- Elk
- Emu
- Equine
- Goats
- Llamas
- Reindeer
- Sheep
- *--Ostrich (effective program year 2022 and subsequent years).--*

Note: Unweaned non-adult beef cattle, beefalo, buffalo, bison, or dairy cattle are not considered grazing animals as defined and are not eligible for LFP.

25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP (Continued)

B Eligible Mitigated Livestock (Continued)

Example 2: Less than 365 Day Grazing Period

2016 CCC-853: Producer Jill has 140 adult beef cows on April 9, 2016, that graze native pasture in Lincoln County, SD. Jill sold 40 adult beef on April 10, 2016, because of drought condition, but before Lincoln County, SD suffering a qualifying drought. The normal grazing period for native grass in *--Lincoln County, SD is April 1 to October 15. On May 1, 2016, Lincoln--* County is rated a qualifying drought of D3. Jill has 100 adult beef cows that graze native pasture in Lincoln County, SD, on May 1, 2016. Because of drought, Jill sells 20 adult beef cows that graze the native pasture in Lincoln County, SD on December 15, 2016. Jill has not purchased any livestock to replace the adult cows mitigated in 2016. Jill files her **2016 CCC-853** on December 31, 2016, reporting the following.

| 13. Livestock Kind/Type and Weight Range | 14. Current Year Inventory | 15. Current Year Mitigated | 16. Prior Years Mitigated |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Adult Cows | 100 | 40 | 0 |

Note: The 40 adult cows sold on April 10, 2016, because of drought are considered current year mitigated livestock because they were sold during the 60 calendar days before the May 1, 2016, qualifying drought. The 20 adult beef cows sold on December 15, 2016, were also mitigated because of drought. However, the 20 adult cows were sold after the qualifying drought date and should not be considered current year mitigated livestock because they are included in the current program year inventory.

2017 CCC-853: On January 28, 2017, Jill sold 10 adult beef cows outside the normal grazing season period on February 1, 2017, because of the systemic drought that continued from the 2016 program year. Lincoln County, SD was rated a D2 or greater by the U.S. Drought Monitor the week the 10 adult beef *--cows were sold in Lincoln County, SD. On April 10, 2017, Producer Jill--* sold an additional 15 adult beef cows because of drought. Lincoln County, SD qualified for D3 drought rating on May 1, 2017. On May 1, 2017, Jill has 55 adult beef cows grazing native grass. Jill sold 30 adult beef cows because of the drought conditions on July 20, 2017.

25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP (Continued)

B Eligible Mitigated Livestock (Continued)

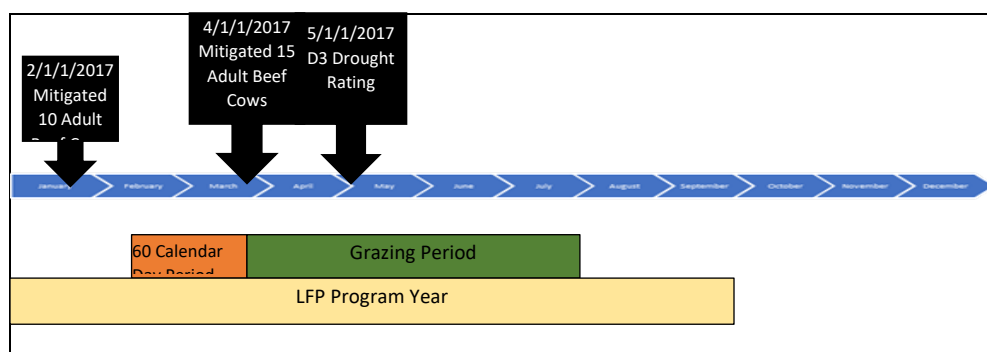
Example 3: Less than 365 Day Grazing Period (Continued)

Following the filing of valid FSA-578's Jill files her **2017 CCC-853** on July 25, 2017, reporting the following.

| 13. Livestock Kind/Type and Weight Range | 14. Current Year Inventory | 15. Current Year Mitigated | 16. Prior Years Mitigated |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Adult Cows | 55 | 25 | 60 |

Note: The 40 adult beef cows sold April 10, 2016, are considered prior year mitigated livestock because they were sold because of systemic drought conditions. The 20 adult beef cows sold on December 15, 2016, are considered prior year mitigated livestock even though they are sold outside of the normal grazing period because Lincoln County, SD is suffering a systemic drought. The 10 adult beef cows sold on February 1, 2017, because of drought and can be considered current year mitigated livestock even though they are sold outside of the normal grazing period because Lincoln County, SD is *--suffering a systemic drought. The 15 adult beef cows sold on April 10, 2017, were mitigated because of drought within the 60-calendar-day period before the D3 drought rating and are also considered current year mitigated livestock.--*

The following diagram provides a visual representation of the 2017 program year for Jill. The diagram is an example of livestock sold outside the normal grazing period that were considered current year mitigated livestock because of systemic drought and, also that were sold during the 60-calendar-day period before the beginning date of the qualifying drought.



25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP (Continued)

B Eligible Mitigated Livestock (Continued)

Example 2: Less than 365 Day Grazing Period (Continued)

2018 CCC-853: The drought continues into program year 2018 in Lincoln County, SD. On May 1, 2018, Jill has 55 adult beef cows grazing native pasture in Lincoln County, SD and the County has a D3 qualifying drought rating. Producer Jill maintained her livestock for the remainder of 2018. Jill has not purchased any livestock to replace the adult cows mitigated in 2016 and 2017. Following the filing of valid FSA-578's Jill files her **2018 CCC-853** on May 4, 2018, reporting the following.

| 13. Livestock Kind/Type and Weight Range | 14. Current Year Inventory | 15. Current Year Mitigated | 16. Prior Years Mitigated |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Adult Cows | 55 | 0 | 85 |

Note: The 40 adult beef cows sold April 10, 2016, 20 adult beef cows sold on December 15, 2016, 10 adult beef sold February 1, 2017, and 15 adult beef sold April 1, 2017, are considered prior years mitigated livestock because they were sold because of drought within the 2 previous program years.

2019 CCC-853: The drought continues in to program year 2019 in Lincoln County, SD. On February 15, 2019, Jill sold 10 adult beef cows because of systemic drought. Lincoln County, SD had a D2 or greater rating the week the 10 adult beef cows were sold. On May 1, 2019, Jill has 45 adult beef cows grazing native pasture in Lincoln County, SD and the County has a D3 qualifying drought rating. Jill maintained her livestock for the remainder of 2019 and she has not purchased an additional adult beef cows to replace previously mitigated livestock. Following the filing of FSA-578, Jill files her **2019 CCC-853** on May 3, 2019, reporting the following.

| 13. Livestock Kind/Type and Weight Range | 14. Current Year Inventory | 15. Current Year Mitigated | 16. Prior Years Mitigated |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Adult Cows | 45 | 10 | 25 |

25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP (Continued)

B Eligible Mitigated Livestock (Continued)

Example 2: Less than 365 Day Grazing Period (Continued)

Note: The 40 adult beef cows sold April 10, 2016, and 20 adult beef cows sold on December 15, 2016, are ineligible mitigated livestock on the 2019 CCC-853 because they were sold 3 program years before the current program year. The 10 adult beef sold February 1, 2017, and 15 adult beef sold April 1, 2017, are considered prior years mitigated livestock because they were sold because of drought within the 2 previous program years.

The 10 adult beef cows sold February 15, 2019, are considered current year mitigated livestock because they were sold because of systemic drought.

C Ineligible Livestock

Ineligible livestock that cannot receive payments for LFP include, but are **not** limited to the following:

- livestock produced or maintained for reasons other than commercial use including, but ***--not** limited to:
 - consumption by the owner
 - hunting
 - racing or wagering
- yaks
- livestock that were or would have been in a feedlot on the beginning date of the qualifying drought or fire, as part of the normal business operation of the producer--*
- unweaned livestock or animals not meeting the definition of a grazing animal
- any wild free roaming livestock, including horses and deer
- any animals **not** included in subparagraph A.

25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP (Continued)

C Ineligible Livestock (Continued)

Example 1: Mike Jones owns 5 horses, 2 beef steers, and 3 goats. Jones maintains the
 *--horses for pleasure riding competitions and maintains the goats and beef
 steers for show for his children. Mr. Jones' livestock are part of his
 operation and are subject to be sold at any given time for the viability of
 his commercial operation.

Because Mr. Jones' livestock are maintained for commercial use, the
 animals are **eligible** livestock for LFP.--*

Example 2: Jane Black owns and raises a deer herd. Black sells the does to a local
 food market to be processed into meat products. She sells the bucks to
 hunting preserves nationwide.

Black is in the business of selling deer as a means of livelihood for profit;
 therefore, the deer are maintained for commercial sale and are eligible
 livestock for LFP.

D Livestock Located in Feed Lots

Livestock that were or would have been physically located in a feedlot on the beginning date
 of a qualifying drought or fire are **not** eligible for LFP. COC will determine eligibility of
 livestock placed in a feedlot on a case-by-case basis. Livestock are those physically located
 in a feedlot:

- on the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire, or placed in a feedlot after the
 beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire, for the purpose of fattening for slaughter as
 part of producer's normal operation
- as part of a livestock producer's normal course of business before the livestock reached
 their normal selling or fattening weight.

Example 1: John Smith owns 200 head of nonadult beef cattle weighing an average of
 750 pounds each. Mr. Smith's eligible grazing land is located in County A.
 County A was rated as having a D3 drought intensity level on the
 U.S. Drought Monitor for 1 day on January 1, 2019. Mr. Smith placed the
 200 head of nonadult beef cattle in Lucky 7 Feedlot, Inc., located in
 County A, on January 1, 2019, for the purpose of fattening for slaughter. The
 200 head of nonadult beef cattle owned by Mr. Smith are **not** eligible for LFP
 because the adult beef cattle were placed in the feedlot for the purpose of
 fattening for slaughter as part of his normal operation.

25 Eligible Covered Livestock for LFP (Continued)**D Livestock Located in Feed Lots (Continued)**

Example 2: Judy Jones owns 750 head of nonadult beef cattle weighing an average of 500 pounds each. Ms. Jones' eligible grazing land is located in County A. County A was rated as having a D2 drought intensity level for 8 consecutive weeks on the U.S. Drought Monitor on March 1, 2019. The normal grazing period for native pasture in County A is May 1 through November 15. Ms. Jones, as part of her normal business operation, placed the 750 head of nonadult beef cattle in Rafter 3 Feedlot, located in County A, on March 20, 2019. The 750 head of nonadult beef cattle owned by Ms. Jones are **not** eligible for LFP because nonadult beef cattle were placed in the feedlot as part of Ms. Jones' normal business operation and **not** because of an eligible qualifying drought or fire.

Note: Eligible livestock placed in a feedlot earlier than normal because of a qualifying drought or fire may be eligible for LFP if all other eligibility requirements are met.

Example 3: Jim Black owned 250 head of nonadult beef cattle weighing an average of 500 pounds each on March 1, 2019. Black's eligible grazing land is located in County A. County A is rated as having a D3 intensity level on the U.S. Drought Monitor on March 1, 2019. Black normally removes the 250 head of nonadult beef cattle from the 1,000 acres of native pasture he owns and places them in Lucky 7 Feedlot, Inc., located in County A, when nonadult beef cattle reach 750 pounds for the purpose of fattening for slaughter. Because of a qualifying drought, Black ran out of native pasture and was forced to place the 250 head of nonadult beef cattle in a feedlot on March 1, 2019, before nonadult beef cattle reached the weight of 750 pounds.

The 250 head of nonadult beef cattle placed in the feedlot earlier than normal are eligible for LFP because of the unavailability of native pasture for grazing because of a qualifying drought.

26 Eligible Grazing Land for LFP (Continued)***--F Heirs' Property Exception**

Livestock producers who are unable to provide a lease or deed on heirs' property but have been determined by COC as an eligible operator of heirs' property, having risk and control and meeting the requirements according to 10-CM, will not be required to provide any additional supporting documentation on that property. The COC determination as an operator on heirs' property will meet the lease or rental agreement requirement for the applicable grazing land of the eligible producer and grazing land eligibility for LFP purposes.--*

Section 2 Payment Rates, Limitations, and Reductions

56 Drought Payment Calculation

A General Payment Information

An eligible livestock producer will be eligible to receive LFP payments for grazing losses because of a qualifying drought equal to a factor of 1, 3, 4, or 5 times the monthly payment rate calculated according to subparagraph B.

To be eligible to receive a factor of:

- 1-month payment, that is a payment equal to the monthly feed cost as determined according to subparagraph B, the eligible livestock producer **must** own or lease grazing land or pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated a D2 severe drought (intensity) in any area of the county for at least 8 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland in the county
- 3-month payment, that is a payment equal to 3 times the monthly feed cost as determined according to subparagraph B, the eligible livestock producer **must** own or lease grazing land or pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated at least a D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the county
- 4-month payment, that is a payment equal to 4 times the monthly feed cost as determined under subparagraph B, the eligible livestock producer **must** own or lease grazing land or pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated a D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the county or is rated a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the county
- 5-month payment, that is a payment equal to 5 times the monthly feed cost as determined under subparagraph B, the eligible livestock producer **must** own or lease grazing land or pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the county.

56 Drought Payment Calculation (Continued)**B LFP Monthly Payment Rate**

The monthly payment rate will be equal to 60 percent of the **lesser of** either the monthly feed cost:

- for all weaned covered livestock owned or leased by the eligible livestock producer, or
- calculated by using the normal carrying capacity of the eligible grazing land of the eligible livestock producer.

In the case of an eligible weaned livestock producer that sold or otherwise disposed of covered livestock because of drought conditions in 1 or both of the 2 previous production years, the payment rate will be equal to 80 percent of the monthly payment rate. See subparagraph 25 B for eligible mitigated livestock.

C Monthly Feed Cost Payment Rates for Covered Livestock

The monthly feed cost for covered livestock is based, in part, on the number of pounds of corn equivalent per head, as established by FSA, determined necessary to provide the energy requirements for the specific kind/type of livestock for 30 calendar days.

The AU daily feed rate and monthly forage value determined according to [7 CFR 1416.207] is the following.

| Year | Daily AU Feed Rate | Monthly Value of Forage |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2019 | \$0.9781 | \$29.34 |
| 2020 | \$1.0629 | \$31.89 |
| 2021 | \$1.0393 | \$31.18 |
| 2022 | \$1.5763 | \$47.29 |
| *--2023 | \$1.9374 | \$58.12--* |

56 Drought Payment Calculation (Continued)

C Monthly Feed Cost Payment Rates for Covered Livestock (Continued)

The following provides the monthly payment rate per head by covered livestock category.
See Exhibit 6 for the Standard AU Conversion Chart.

| Kind of Livestock | Type | Weight Range | Payment Rate Per Head | | | | |
|-------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|----------|------------|
| | | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | *--2023 |
| Beef | Adult | Cows and Bulls | \$29.34 | \$31.89 | \$31.18 | \$47.29 | \$58.12 |
| | Nonadult | 500 pounds or more | \$22.01 | \$23.92 | \$23.38 | \$35.47 | \$43.59 |
| | Nonadult | Less than 500 pounds | \$14.67 | \$15.94 | \$15.59 | \$23.64 | \$29.06 |
| Dairy | Adult | Cows and Bulls | \$76.29 | \$82.91 | \$81.07 | \$122.95 | \$151.12 |
| | Nonadult | 500 pounds or more | \$22.01 | \$23.92 | \$23.38 | \$35.47 | \$43.59 |
| | Nonadult | Less than 500 pounds | \$14.67 | \$15.94 | \$15.59 | \$23.64 | \$29.06 |
| Beefalo | Adult | Cows and Bulls | \$29.34 | \$31.89 | \$31.18 | \$47.29 | \$58.12 |
| | Nonadult | 500 pounds or more | \$22.01 | \$23.92 | \$23.38 | \$35.47 | \$43.59 |
| | Nonadult | Less than 500 pounds | \$14.67 | \$15.94 | \$15.59 | \$23.64 | \$29.06 |
| Buffalo/ Bison | Adult | Cows and Bulls | \$29.34 | \$31.89 | \$31.18 | \$47.29 | \$58.12 |
| | Nonadult | 500 pounds or more | \$22.01 | \$23.92 | \$23.38 | \$35.47 | \$43.59 |
| | Nonadult | Less than 500 pounds | \$14.67 | \$15.94 | \$15.59 | \$23.64 | \$29.06 |
| Sheep | All | | \$7.34 | \$7.97 | \$7.79 | \$11.82 | \$14.53 |
| Goats | All | | \$7.34 | \$7.97 | \$7.79 | \$11.82 | \$14.53 |
| Deer | All | | \$7.34 | \$7.97 | \$7.79 | \$11.82 | \$14.53 |
| Equine | All | | \$21.71 | \$23.60 | \$23.07 | \$34.99 | \$43.01 |
| Elk | All | | \$15.85 | \$17.22 | \$16.84 | \$25.54 | \$31.39 |
| Reindeer | All | | \$6.46 | \$7.02 | \$6.87 | \$10.42 | \$12.80 |
| Alpacas | All | | \$24.17 | \$26.27 | \$25.68 | \$38.95 | \$47.88 |
| Emus | All | | \$15.02 | \$16.32 | \$15.96 | \$24.20 | \$29.75 |
| Llamas | All | | \$10.71 | \$11.64 | \$11.38 | \$17.26 | \$21.21 |
| *--Ostrich | All | | | | | \$26.01 | \$31.97--* |

Note: A grazing animal is defined as those species of livestock that, from a nutritional and physiological perspective, are weaned and satisfy more than 50 percent of their net energy requirement through the consumption of forage grasses and legumes, regardless of whether they are grazing or are present on grazing land or pastureland. Unweaned livestock are not considered a grazing animal and are ineligible for LFP.

The monthly feed cost for covered livestock will be calculated by multiplying the monthly payment rate per head, from the table, times the number of eligible covered livestock.

56 Drought Payment Calculation (Continued)**D Example of Monthly Payment Rate Calculation**

The LFP monthly payment rate for losses because of qualifying drought are calculated at 60 percent of the lesser of step 1 or step 2 below as follows:

Step 1: The monthly feed cost for all covered livestock calculated by multiplying the monthly feed cost payment rate for each specific kind, type and weight range from the table in subparagraph C, times the number of head of eligible covered livestock for each specific kind/type and weight range of livestock and totaling the result.

Example: Participant has 100 head of adult beef cows that suffer a grazing loss during 2019, because of a qualifying drought. The monthly feed cost for the 100 head of adult beef cows equals the monthly payment rate from the table in subparagraph C times the number of head of eligible covered livestock.

100 head adult beef cattle x \$29.34 (monthly payment rate per head) =
\$2,934 (monthly feed cost payment rate for adult beef cattle).

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

B COC Adjusting or Disapproving CCC-853's (Continued)

If it is determined that any information provided on CCC-853 is **not** reasonable or is questionable, including but not limited to current year inventory, additional verifiable documentation or evidence must be requested from the participant, in writing, to support the data provided. Other agencies, organizations, or facilities may also be contacted to verify information provided by participants or in limited cases on farm visits may be required to verify information.

Important: See subparagraph C when contacting other agencies, organizations, or facilities to verify information provided by participants.

Exception: COC's will **not** require tax records; however, participant may voluntarily provide tax records.

If all program eligibility requirements are **not** met or it is determined that the information on CCC-853 or any additional supporting documentation provided by participant, is **not** accurate or reasonable, then the following actions shall be taken by COC:

- adjust or disapprove CCC-853
- notify participant of the adjustment or disapproval
- provide participant applicable appeal rights according to 1-APP
- thoroughly document reason for the adjustment or disapproval in COC minutes.

Note: See:

- subparagraph 22 C for late-filed provisions
- paragraph 4 for unacceptable, incorrect, or false records and certifications
- paragraph 5 for misrepresentation.

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

C Verifying Data With Other Agencies, Organizations, or Facilities

When contacting agencies, organizations, or facilities to verify data provided by a participant, the County Office must be specific in the information requested. The request should include, but is **not** limited to, the following:

- participant's name and address
- animal kind and type
- why the request is being made
- what information is being requested.

***--D DD Review of Initial CCC-853's**

DD's must review the first five CCC-853's submitted, for both qualifying drought--* conditions and fire conditions, in each Service Center before approval or disapproval. The review will ensure that:

- separate CCC-853's are submitted by participant and physical location County Office
- signature requirements, including power of attorney, are met
- no State or County Office developed forms, worksheets, applications, or other documents are being used to obtain or collect the data required from participants
- all program eligibility determinations have been properly completed and documented
- all supporting documentation has been received
- supporting data required for payment eligibility is properly completed and on file; such as AD-1026, CCC-901, CCC-902, CCC-941, and accurate subsidiary and SCIMS data
- payment calculations are correct and payment eligibility is met.

Note: DD's must document review on CCC-770 LFP for each CCC-853.

DD's must perform a follow up review after approval/disapproval by COC to ensure that the determination was adequately documented in COC minutes for:

- approvals, see subparagraphs 26 E and 28 A
- disapprovals, see subparagraph 88 B.

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

***--D DD Review of Initial CCC-853's (Continued)**

A DD review of the initial CCC-853's and supporting documentation submitted is critical--* to ensuring that LFP is being administered according to the procedures provided in this handbook and the regulations in 7 CFR Part 1416, Subparts A and C.

Reviewing the initial CCC-853's and supporting documentation in a timely manner:

- identifies possible weaknesses in the administration of LFP that may be resolved by additional training, clarified procedures, modified software, or require the County Office to complete CCC-770 LFP for each CCC-853 filed before payment is issued
- prevents numerous participants from being impacted by erroneous LFP administration
- allows corrections to be made in a timely manner before erroneous payments are issued.

***--E Recording/Reporting DD Reviews**

Within 10 workdays of completing the applicable review, DD's must provide a written report to SED describing the review findings, including a list of errors discovered and the overall status of the implementation of LFP in the County Office.

FSA's reporting mechanism for program year 2023 and subsequent years is easily accessible and provides the information needed for the required reviews. The reporting mechanism uses SharePoint which allows SED's, DD's, SND, and DAFP to review the progress and results of the required reporting. It also allows SND to use the information to provide internal review reporting.

A questionnaire on the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint must be completed by DD's or delegate. This questionnaire includes standardized questions for DD's to provide data that allows SED's and SND to collect data for the State and national levels. This data also provides SED with the required information to qualify as a written report to meet the requirements.

Note: The questionnaire should be submitted once all applicable required reviews for each Service Center are completed.

All reviews must be completed and recorded on the SharePoint by April 1 after each program year deadline. The National Office will review reports of all DD reviews completed and incomplete. These reviews will allow the National Office to do the following:

- identify common findings
- provide a process to review ELAP policy, and
- assist the State Offices with addressing common findings in their state, including steps to reduce errors.--*

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

***--F Accessing and Using the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint**

The “**Internal Control Reviews SharePoint**” for required reporting is located at:

https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/fsa-dafp/Internal_Control_Reviews?e=1%3A020f17a56ff1425a9791d6167bcb2f21

Note: County Office Employees will **not** have access to this SharePoint.

The Internal Control Reviews SharePoint contains the following links:

- Program Contacts
- DD Program Review Questionnaire
- DD Program Review Reports.

Note: The Internal Control Reviews SharePoint will be updated to include multiple program reviews in addition to LFP.

The **DD Program Review Questionnaire** will be used for all applicable programs that include DD review requirements. Standardized questions will display for each program. Any findings should be reported to the selected programs.

Once all the required reviews are complete for the Service Center, the following are the items and the action steps needed for the DD or delegate to complete the LFP questionnaire:

| Item | Action |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| State and District Information | |
| State | Select the State from the drop-down menu. |
| District | Select the applicable district number for the applications reviewed from the drop-down menu. |
| Service Center | Select the Service Center name for the applications reviewed from the drop-down menu. |
| Name of Reviewer | Using the search, find the representative that completed the review(s). Note: This may be DD, acting DD, or someone delegated to complete the required DD review of the application(s) in this Service Center. |
| State Executive Director Name | This entry populates automatically with the name of the SED for the State selected. Note: This field is not locked and may be updated if SED has changed or its incorrect. |

--*

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

*--F Accessing and Using the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint (Continued)

| Item | Action |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| State and District Information | |
| State Executive Director Email | This entry populates automatically with SED's e-mail. Note: This field is not locked and may be updated if SED has changed or the e-mail is incorrect. |
| Executive Officer Name | This entry populates automatically with the name of the Executive Officer (EO) for the State selected. Note: This field is not locked and may be updated if EO has changed or its incorrect. |
| Executive Officer Email | This entry populates automatically with EO's e-mail. Note: This field is not locked and maybe updated if EO has changed or the e-mail is incorrect. |
| Administrative Officer Name | This entry populates automatically with the name of the Administrative Officer (AO) for the state selected. Note: This field is not locked and may be updated if AO has changed or its incorrect. |
| Administrative Officer Email | This entry automatically populates with AO's email. Note: This field is not locked and may be updated if AO has changed or the e-mail is incorrect. |
| State Office Program Chief Name | Using the search, find the name of the applicable State Office Program Chief. |

--*

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

*--F Accessing and Using the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint (Continued)

| Item | Action |
|---|--|
| Program Review Details | |
| Program | Select "LFP" from the drop-down menu. |
| Program Year | Select the program year for which the review was completed from the drop-down menu. |
| Did the review indicate any concerns or findings in the administration of the program? | Select "Yes" or "No" from the drop-down menu. |
| If yes, what was the finding(s)? (LFP) | Select the item(s) from CCC-770 LFP that includes findings during the review process from the drop-down menu. Note: Multiple items can be selected if there were more than 1 finding. |
| What was the corrective action(s) taken? | Enter the corrective action(s) used by the County Office to update the application under review. Note: If the corrective action is required for more than 1 application under review, notate the action taken and the number of applications that required corrective action(s). |
| Have all the required DD/STO reviews for this Service Center been completed for this program? | Select "Yes" or "No" from the drop-down menu. If "Yes" is selected, an e-mail notification will be sent to SED, EO, AO, STO Program Chief, and the reviewer when the Questionnaire is completed. If "No" is selected, an e-mail notification will not be sent and SED, EO, AO, and STO Program Chief will not be notified. Note: The questionnaire must only completed once all reviews are completed by DD. |
| Date Completed All Reviews | Select a date from the calendar, or enter the date as MM/DD/YYYY, when the reviews were all completed. |
| Attachments | Upload all CCC-770's of the reviewed applications. |

--*

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

*--F Accessing and Using the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint (Continued)

The following is a screenshot of the DD Program Review Questionnaire:

District Director Review Tracking

District Directors are to complete this form after they have completed all required program reviews for each Service Center. Do not complete and submit this form until all reviews for the Service Center are complete.

State and District Information

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| State - | District # - | Service Center - |
| Name of Reviewer Find Items | State Executive Director Name | State Executive Director Email |
| Executive Officer Name | Executive Officer Email | Administrative Officer Name |
| Administrative Officer Email | Program Chief Find Items | |

Program Review Details

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Program LFP | Program Year Find Items | Did the review indicate any concerns or findings in the administration of the program? Find Items |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|

If yes, what was the finding(s) from the CCC-770? (LFP)
Find Items

What was the corrective action(s) taken?

I certify that all reviews are done for this Service Center:
Find Items

Date Completed All Reviews
12/31/2001

Attachments
Include all completed CCC-770s for these reviews in the attachment field below.

There is nothing attached.

Attach file

Submit

--*

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

*--F Accessing and Using the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint (Continued)

The “**DD Program Review Reports**” will allow anyone with access to the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint to monitor and review the completed questionnaires. There are several different views created within the reports link. The following are examples of report views created by the National Office that are applicable to LFP:

- By State and District (default)
- LFP DD Reviews.

The following is an example of the DD Program Review Reports on the default page “By State and District”:

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| <div> + New Edit Share Copy link Comment Delete ... 1 selected By State and District </div> | | | | | | | |
| DD Program Review Reports ☆ | | | | | | | |
| > | State ▾ | District # ▾ | Service Center ▾ | Name of Revie... ▾ | Program ▾ | Program Year ▾ | Did the review |
| > | State : Alaska (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : American Samoa (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Arkansas (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Colorado (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Connecticut (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Texas (1) | | | | | | |

The following is a screenshot of how to access the different views:

+ New
Edit
Share
Copy link
Comment
Delete
...
1 selected
By State and District

DD Program Review Reports ☆

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| > | State ▾ | District # ▾ | Service Center ▾ | Name of Revie... ▾ | Program ▾ | Program Year ▾ | Did the review |
| > | State : Alaska (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : American Samoa (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Arkansas (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Colorado (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Connecticut (1) | | | | | | |
| > | State : Texas (1) | | | | | | |

✓ List
 Compact List
Gallery
✓ By State and District
 ELAP - Farm-Raised Fish DD Reviews
ELAP - Honeybees DD Reviews
ELAP - Livestock DD Reviews
LFP DD Reviews
LIP DD Reviews
Create new view
Save view as
Format current view

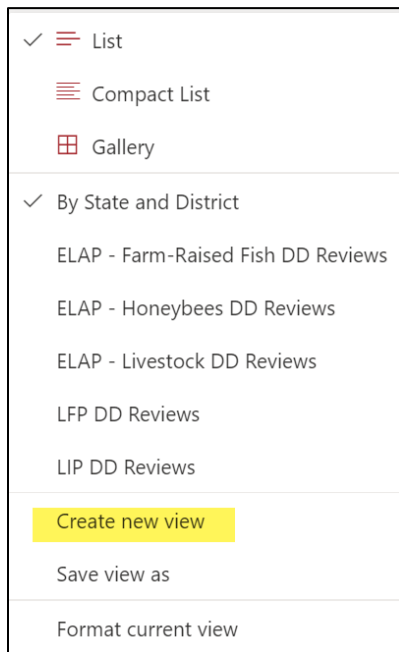
--*

88 Acting on CCC-853's (Continued)

*--F Accessing and Using the Internal Control Reviews SharePoint (Continued)

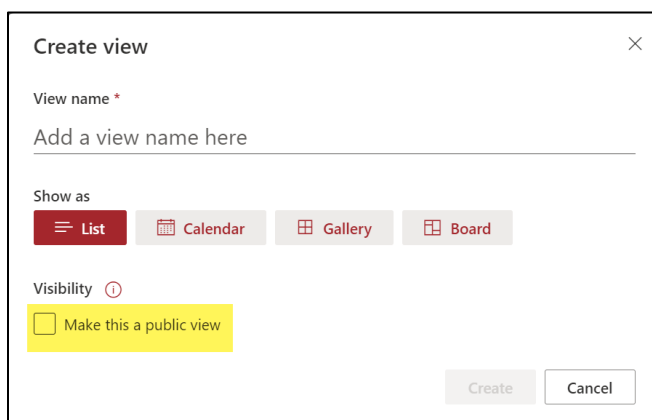
All employees with access to the SharePoint may use the personal report view by clicking “Create new view” in the different views drop-down menu.

The following is a screenshot of where to select “Create view”:



When creating a personal report view, the “Make this a public view” pop up will display with a check box defaulted like the following example. **Users must uncheck** this option so the view is only for personal use. If this box is not unchecked, it will create a National Office “create views” list.

The following is an example of the “Make this a view public” pop up.



--*

89 CCC-853, Livestock Forage Disaster Program Application

A Completing Manual CCC-853

Instructions to complete a manual CCC-853 are as follows.

Note: A manual CCC-853 will only be used when the automated LFP application software system is unavailable.

| Item | Instruction |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Enter State and county code for the physical location of the county in which the loss of grazing occurred. |
| 2 | <p>Enter calendar year the loss of grazing occurred.</p> <p>Note: If pasture type is a short season small grains for grazing crop, enter the calendar year as the calendar year when the normal grazing period for the short season small grains ends.</p> <p>Example: The producer claims to have suffered a grazing loss for wheat (short season small grains) reported as intended for grazing. The normal grazing period for wheat (short season small grains) is October 1, 2019, through March 1, 2020. The calendar year the producer would file an application for payment would be 2020.</p> |
| 3 | Enter County Office State and county name for the administrative location and the State and county name of the physical county location where the producer's loss of grazing occurred, if different. |
| 4 | Enter date of application. |
| 5 | <p>Enter application number.</p> <p>Note: This is an automated system-assigned number.</p> |
| Part A - Producer Information | |
| 6 | Enter producer's name and address. |
| 7 | <p>Enter associated producers who had an ownership share, contract grower share, or cash-lease share of any of the eligible covered livestock in Part C or represented in Part E during the 60 calendar days before the beginning date of the qualifying drought and/or fire and indicate their share.</p> <p>If there is multiple ownership, a separate CCC-853 must be completed for each ownership, contract grower, cash leased share of eligible covered livestock, and the respective share entered in item 15 of inventory reported in item 12, 13, and/or 14.</p> <p>If application is solely for a fire condition, go to item 32.</p> |

89 CCC-853, Livestock Forage Disaster Program Application (Continued)

A Completing Manual CCC-853 (Continued)

| Item | Instruction |
|---|--|
| Part E - Forage Information Fire (Continued) | |
| 34 | <p>ENTER "Rangeland" as the pasture type for all rangeland that is managed by a federal agency (that is, BIA, BLM, FS, etc.) that was affected by fire for which the eligible producer is prohibited by the federal agency from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland because of fire.</p> <p>Note: Grazing losses on private or State rangelands managed by a federal agency because of fire for which an eligible producer is prohibited by the federal agency from grazing the normal permitted rangeland because of fire will also be entered in items 32 through 38.</p> |
| 35 | <p>Enter permitted AU's from the Federal grazing lease agreement. AUM data must be obtained from the producer's FSA-578 for the calendar year in which the grazing loss occurred and converted to AU.</p> <p>Note: The conversion formula to convert AUM to AU's is the following:</p> $*--[(AUM / \%PL) \times 30.416 \text{ days}] / \text{number of grazing days} = AU--*$ |
| 36 | <p>Enter number of permit days grazing is allowed under the federal lease agreement during the calendar year.</p> <p>Note: The number of permit days grazing is allowed under the federal lease agreement will be obtained from the producers grazing permit.</p> |
| 37 | <p>Enter number of AU's the producer is prohibited from grazing on the managed rangeland by the federal agency because of fire.</p> <p>Note: There may be entries in item 37 and/or item 38.</p> |
| 38 | <p>Enter number of days the producer is prohibited from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland by the federal agency because of fire.</p> <p>Note: There may be entries in item 37 and/or item 38.</p> |
| 39 | <p>COC will enter the adjusted permitted AU's, if applicable.</p> <p>Note: An entry is only required when COC determines permitted AU's different than the permitted AU's certified to by the producer in item 35.</p> <p>The producer will be provided applicable appeal rights according to 1-APP if an entry is entered in item 39.</p> |

89 CCC-853, Livestock Forage Disaster Program Application (Continued)

A Completing Manual CCC-853 (Continued)

| Item | Instruction |
|---|---|
| Part E - Forage Information Fire (Continued) | |
| 40 | <p>*--COC will enter the adjusted permit days, if applicable.</p> <p>Note: An entry is only required when COC determines permit days different than the permit days certified to by the producer in item 36.</p> <p>The producer will be provided applicable appeal rights according to 1-APP if an entry is entered in item 40.</p> |
| 41 | <p>COC will enter the adjusted reduced AU's, if applicable.</p> <p>Note: An entry is only required when COC determines reduced AU's different than the reduced AU's certified to by the producer in item 37.</p> <p>The producer will be provided applicable appeal rights according to 1-APP if an entry is entered in item 41.</p> |
| 42 | <p>COC will enter the adjusted reduced grazing days, if applicable.</p> <p>Note: An entry is only required when COC determines reduced grazing days different than the reduced grazing days certified to by the producer in item 38.</p> <p>The producer will be provided applicable appeal rights according to 1-APP if an entry is entered in item 42.</p> |
| COC USE ONLY--* | |
| 43 | Enter amount of compensation received from other disaster assistance programs for the same grazing losses. |

91 CCC-770 LFP, Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) Checklist**A Overview**

The Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 requires Federal agencies to evaluate programs to determine whether internal controls are sufficient to prevent improper payments. CCC-770 LFP was developed to address areas of concern to ensure that LFP payments are issued properly.

B CCC-770 LFP Program Checklist

CCC-770 LFP:

- is applicable to administering LFP
- *--must be used when CCC-853 is filed for the first 10 applications, within each Service Center--*
- does **not** negate STC, SED, State Office, DD, COC, CED, and County Office responsibility for administering all provisions applicable to LFP.

Note: CCC-770 LFP was developed by the National Office and is the **only** authorized checklist for LFP. County Offices will **not** use State or locally generated checklists for administering LFP.

91 CCC-770 LFP, Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) Checklist (Continued)**C County Offices Use of CCC-770 LFP**

County Offices may use CCC-770 LFP as a management tool to help address deficiencies identified by a review or spot check of whether LFP policies or procedures are being followed before issuing LFP payments.

The County Office employee that completes each item on CCC-770 LFP is certifying that the applicable LFP provisions have, or have **not**, been met. As an alternative, County Offices may choose to review all items after COC approval, if applicable.

After all questions on CCC-770 LFP have been answered in a manner that supports approving the applicable CCC-853, the County Office employee will sign and date CCC-770 LFP, item 35, as the preparer.

Note: In cases involving multiple preparers, the preparer can use item 34, “Remarks” section, to indicate which items they verified.

County Offices will see the applicable handbook provisions, as specified, for additional information.

D Determining When to Use CCC-770 LFP

SED, STC, or designee, DD, or CED, will determine:

- when County Offices are to complete CCC-770 LFP, if apparent internal control deficiencies are found during CED, STC representative, or DD reviews
-
- whether CCC-770 LFP is necessary to avoid findings indicated in COR reviews
-
- when additional internal controls are necessary to reduce improper payments.

Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Delegations of Authority

Reports

None

Forms

This table lists all forms referenced in this handbook.

| Number | Title | Display Reference | Reference |
|-------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| AD-1026 | Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification | | 58, 87, 88 |
| CCC-770 LFP | Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) Checklist | 91 | 88 |
| CCC-853 | Livestock Forage Disaster Program Application | 89 | Text, Ex. 2 |
| CCC-853-1 | Estimated Livestock Forage Disaster Program Payment Calculation Worksheet | 90 | |
| CCC-855 | Annual Lease Agreement Certification Statement | 28 | 2, 6, 22, 26 |
| CCC-901 | Members Information | | 58, 87, 88 |
| CCC-902 | Farm Operating Plan | | 58, 87, 88 |
| CCC-903 | Worksheet for Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitation Determinations | | 58, 87 |
| CCC-941 | Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification and Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information | | 87, 88 |
| FSA-321 | Finality Rule and Equitable Relief | | 6 |
| FSA-578 | Report of Acreage | | 2, 6, 7, 22, 24, 25, 26, 87, 89 |

Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Delegations of Authority (Continued)

Abbreviations Not Listed in 1-CM

The following abbreviations are not listed in 1-CM.

| Approved Abbreviation | Term | Reference |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| 2014 Farm Bill | Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79) | 1 |
| AU | animal unit | Text, Ex. 6 |
| AUD | animal unit day | 57, 90 |
| AUM | animal unit month | Text |
| DAFP | Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs | Text |
| IPIA | Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 | 2, 58 |
| PRF | Pasture, Rangeland, Forage | 21 |
| RI-PRF | Rainfall Index-Pasture, Rangeland, Forage | 21 |
| SND | Safety Net Division | 1, 6 |

Delegations of Authority

COC may delegate authority to CED's to approve only routine CCC-853's with supporting documentation.

Important: CED's will **not** be delegated authority to disapprove any CCC-853.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook

Acreage Tolerance

Acreage tolerance means the number of acres that the reported acreage may differ from the determined acreage for all grazing acres the producer has certified as having a grazing loss because of drought or fire.

Adult Beef Bull

Adult beef bull means a male beef bovine animal that was at least 2 years old and used for breeding purposes on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Adult Beef Cow

Adult beef cow means a female beef breed bovine animal that had delivered 1 or more offspring. A first-time bred beef heifer will also be considered an adult beef cow if it was pregnant on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Adult Beefalo Bull

Adult beefalo bull means a male hybrid of beef and bison that was at least 2 years old and used for breeding purposes before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Adult Beefalo Cow

Adult beefalo cow means a female hybrid of beef and bison that had delivered 1 or more offspring before dying. A first-time bred beefalo heifer will also be considered an adult beefalo cow if it was pregnant on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Adult Buffalo/Bison Bull

--Adult buffalo/bison bull means a male animal of those breeds, including water buffalo, that-- was at least 2 years old and used for breeding purposes on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Adult Buffalo/Bison Cow

--Adult buffalo/bison cow means a female animal of those breeds, including water buffalo, that-- had delivered 1 or more offspring. A first-time bred buffalo/bison heifer will also be considered an adult buffalo/bison cow if it was pregnant on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Adult Dairy Bull

Adult dairy bull means a male dairy breed bovine animal at least 2 years old used primarily for breeding dairy cows on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)**Adult Dairy Cow**

Adult dairy cow means a female dairy breed bovine animal used for the purpose of providing milk for human consumption that had delivered one or more offspring. A first time bred dairy *--heifer will also be considered an adult dairy cow if it was pregnant on or before the beginning--* date of a qualifying drought or fire.

Agricultural Operation

Agricultural operation means a farming operation.

Application

Application means CCC-853.

Commercial Use

Commercial use means used in the operation of a business activity engaged in as a means of livelihood for profit by the eligible livestock producer.

Contract

Contract means, with respect to contracts for the handling of livestock, a written agreement between a livestock owner and another individual or entity setting the specific terms, conditions, and obligations of the parties involved regarding the production of livestock or livestock products.

Contract Grower

Contract grower means a person or legal entity, other than a feedlot, that was engaged in a farming operation not as an owner of covered livestock but in a business whole income is dependent on the actual weight gain of the livestock or number of offspring produced from the livestock.

Covered Livestock

Covered livestock means livestock of an eligible livestock producer that, at any time during the 60 calendar days before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire as determined by the Secretary, the eligible livestock producer:

- owned, leased, purchased, or entered into a contract to purchase
- is a contract grower
- sold or otherwise disposed of because of a qualifying drought conditions during the current production year

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)

Covered Livestock (Continued)

- sold or otherwise disposed of because of drought conditions in 1 or both of the 2 production years immediately preceding the current production year. Notwithstanding the foregoing *--portions of this definition, covered livestock for “contract growers” will **not** include--* livestock in feedlots.

Current Year Mitigated Livestock

Current year mitigated livestock means livestock that are sold or disposed of during the current program year.

Equine Animal

Equine animal means a weaned domesticated horse, mule, or donkey.

Farming Operation

Farming operation means a business enterprise engaged in producing agricultural products.

Federal Agency

Federal Agency means, with respect to the control of grazing land, an agency of the Federal Government that manages rangeland on which livestock is generally permitted to graze. For the purposes of LFP, it includes, but is **not** limited to:

- BIA
- BLM
- FS.

Goat

Goat means a weaned domesticated, ruminant mammal of the genus Capra, including Angora goats.

Grazing Animals

Grazing animals mean those species of livestock that, from a nutritional and physiological perspective, satisfy more than 50 percent of their net energy requirement through the consumption of growing forage grasses and legumes. Species of livestock for which more than 50 percent of their net energy requirements are not recommended to be met from consumption of forage grasses and legumes, such as poultry and swine, are excluded regardless of whether those species are grazing or are present on grazing land or pastureland.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)**Nonadult Beef Cattle**

Nonadult beef cattle means a weaned beef breed bovine animal that on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire does **not** meet the definition of adult beef cow or bull.

Nonadult Beefalo

Nonadult beefalo means a weaned animal hybrid of beef and bison that or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire does not meet the definition of a beefalo cow or bull.

Nonadult Buffalo/Bison

--Nonadult buffalo/bison means a weaned animal of those breeds, including water buffalo, that-- on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire does **not** meet the definition of adult buffalo/bison cow or bull.

Nonadult Dairy Cattle

Nonadult dairy cattle means a weaned bovine animal, of a breed used for providing milk for human consumption, that on or before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire, does **not** meet the definition of adult dairy cow or bull.

Normal Carrying Capacity

Normal carrying capacity means, with respect to each type of grazing land or pastureland in a county, the normal carrying capacity that would be expected from the grazing land or pastureland for livestock during the normal grazing period in the county, in the absence of a drought or fire that diminishes the production of the grazing land or pastureland.

Normal Grazing Period

Normal grazing period means, with respect to a county, the normal grazing period during the calendar year with respect to each specific type of grazing land or pastureland in the county served by the applicable COC.

Owner

Owner means 1 who had legal ownership of the livestock for which benefits are being requested during the 60 calendar days before the beginning of a qualifying drought or fire.

Standard AU Conversion Chart

The following provides the Standard AU Conversion Chart for converting AU's for specific animal types to an AU equivalent.

| Animal Type | Unit |
|--|-------------|
| Dairy Cow or Bull | 2.6 |
| Beef, Buffalo, or Beefalo Adult Cow or Bull | 1.00 |
| Equine | .74 |
| Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Buffalo, or Beefalo 500 lbs. or more | .75 |
| Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Buffalo, or Beefalo less than 500 lbs | .50 |
| Deer | .25 |
| Sheep or Goats | .25 |
| Reindeer | .22 |
| Alpaca | .82 |
| Llama | .36 |
| *--Ostrich | .55--* |
| Emu | .51 |
| Elk | .45 |

