



Farm Service Agency

Washington State Fact Sheet



Storm Recovery Assistance

January 2008

Overview

Early December storms caused extensive damage to crops, livestock and farmland in Western Washington. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has the following disaster programs available to assist farmers and ranchers who suffered damage due to these storms: All Western Washington counties that have received disaster designations, or are contiguous to counties with a designation, triggering eligibility for disaster assistance dependent on such designations may apply for the following programs.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

The Emergency Conservation Program pays cost-share assistance of up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved emergency conservation practices, as determined by FSA county committees. Practices include debris removal, fence repair, and repair to certain conservation practices. County committees approve individual or cumulative requests for cost-sharing of up to \$200,000 or less per person, per disaster, although funding is limited. Check with the county where you apply to find out the application closing date.

Dairy Disaster Assistance Program (DDAP)

FSA will make payments to dairy producers who suffered dairy production and/or dairy spoilage losses due to the December storm. FSA requires dairy operations to provide production evidence to establish the operation's commercial marketing and production history. An application deadline has not been set yet for the Dairy Disaster Assistance Program.

Emergency Loan Program (EM)

Low interest loans, 3.75 percent, which may be used to restore or replace essential property; pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year, pay essential family living expenses, reorganize the farming operation, and refinance certain debts. Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000. Applications for emergency loans must be received within 8 months of the county's disaster or quarantine designation date.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

The Livestock Indemnity Program pays producers at established rates for the physical loss of livestock due to losses caused by the storm. Payments will be made for the year with the greatest losses. Eligible livestock include dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, catfish, crawfish, equine, sheep, goats, swine, poultry or deer that died as a result of an eligible disaster. The livestock must have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation.

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

The Livestock Compensation Program compensates livestock producers at established rates for feed due to losses which occurred as a result of the storm. To be eligible under LCP, livestock must be

dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine or deer that have been physically located in an eligible county on the beginning date of the disaster period. The livestock must have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation. Losses may have occurred in between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007. Payments will be made for the year with the greatest losses. An end date for signups has not been established

Note: if the only agriculturally related enterprise is raising horses, this is **not** an eligible enterprise for FSA disaster programs.

A **Crop Disaster Program** is also available for signup. The Crop Disaster Program provides payments to producers who suffered damage to their crops. Damage includes decreased yields or prevented plantings. It also includes lower prices received due to impaired crop quality. The program covers losses that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007 if the crop was planted, or prevented from being planted, before December 31, 2007. Producers may claim losses for multiple crops in multiple years with payments paid for the most beneficial year. Producers must have obtained crop insurance or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year in which crop disaster benefits are requested. Yield loss must exceed 35 percent to be eligible for the Crop Disaster Program.

Other Assistance Available

Debris Removal

Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland announced that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will coordinate removal of woody debris in Lewis, Pacific and Grays Harbor Counties where early December flooding deposited this material on farmlands. Removal services would be available at no cost to farmers who request the agency's assistance and authorize access to their land. DNR is coordinating the woody debris removal effort with the state's other natural resources agencies, the State Military Department Emergency Management Division, and local governments in the affected counties.

DNR will work with the counties, local conservation districts, and Natural Resources Conservation Service to get information to the farmers who have woody debris from the storm on their agricultural lands. **Interested property owners should contact Region Manager, Eric Schroff at the Pacific Cascade Region office in Castle Rock: 360-577-2025.**

FSA Contact Information:

Lewis, Grays Harbor, Pacific Counties

1554 Bishop Rd Ste 100
Chehalis, WA 98532-8710
Phone: (360) 748-0083
Fax: (360) 740-9745

Pierce, So. King, Kitsap, Thurston, Mason Counties

1011 E Main Ave #107
Puyallup, WA 98372-6738
Phone: (253) 845-9272
Fax: (253) 445-9934

Clark, Skamania, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum Counties

11104 NE 149th St Bldg C Ste 500
Brush Prairie, WA 98606-9518
Phone: (360) 883-1987
Fax: (360) 885-3384

Snohomish, Clallam, Jefferson, No. King Counties

528 91st Ave NE Ste B
Lake Stevens, WA 98258-2538
Phone: (425) 334-3131
Fax: (425) 335-5024

The FSA website is located at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>
