



## USDA Designates Thirteen Montana Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought

Emergency Designation | Idaho | July 16, 2025

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Idaho

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This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#). Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation, or to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

**Impacted Area:** Montana

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought

**Application Deadline:** March 9, 2026

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Beaverhead, Carter, Cascade, Custer, Dawson, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Lake, Prairie, Ravalli, Richland, Silver Bow and Wibaux

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Idaho:** Clark, Fremont, Idaho and Lemhi
- **Montana:** Chouteau, Flathead, Garfield, Granite, Jefferson, Judith Basin, Lewis and Clark, McCone, Madison, Meagher, Missoula, Powder River, Powell, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sanders and Teton
- **North Dakota:** Bowman, Golden Valley, McKenzie, Slope and Williams
- **South Dakota:** Butte and Harding

- **Wyoming:** Crook

### **More Resources**

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](#), and [Loan Assistance Tool](#) can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

### **Farm Service Agency:**

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### **Contact:**

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