



## USDA Designates 12 Montana Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought

Emergency Designation | Montana | July 31, 2025

### **Additional Five Montana Counties Also Eligible Due to Idaho Primary Drought Designations**

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.

#### **Triggering Disaster #1**

**Impacted Area:** Montana

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought

**Application Deadline:** 3/16/2026

#### **Primary Counties Eligible:**

- **Montana:** Daniels, Garfield, McCone, Mineral, Missoula, Phillips, Roosevelt, Sanders and Valley

#### **Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Idaho:** Bonner, Clearwater, Idaho and Shoshone

- **Montana:** Blaine, Custer, Dawson, Fergus, Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Petroleum, Powell, Prairie, Ravalli, Richland, Rosebud and Sheridan
- **North Dakota:** McKenzie and Williams

**Triggering Disaster #2**

**Impacted Area:** Montana

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought

**Application Deadline:** 3/16/2026

**Primary Counties Eligible:**

- **Montana:** Hill, Liberty and Toole

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Montana:** Blaine, Chouteau, Glacier and Pondera

**Triggering Disaster #3**

**Impacted Area:** Idaho

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought

**Application Deadline:** 3/16/2025

**Primary Counties Eligible:**

- **Idaho:** Clearwater, Idaho, Lemhi, Lewis and Shoshone

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Idaho:** Adams, Benewah, Bonner, Butte, Clark, Custer, Kootenai, Latah, Nez Perce and Valley
- **Montana:** Beaverhead, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders
- **Oregon:** Wallowa

## 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](#).

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