

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Texas State FSA Office
2405 Texas Avenue South
College Station, TX 77840

TX NOTICE FLP-1034

3-FLP (Rev. 2)

FOR: County Offices

Secretarial Disaster Declaration S3781

Approved by: State Executive Director

/s/ Judith A Canales

1 Overview

A Background

On **January 7, 2015**, the Secretary of Agriculture under the final rule of the disaster designation found at 7 CFR 759.5 (a), utilized the "Fast Track" authority and designated **156 Texas Counties** as primary natural disaster areas. This action is based on damages and losses caused by **Drought January 1, 2014 and continuing**. The primary counties are:

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| Andrews | Aransas | Archer | Armstrong | Bailey | Bandera | Baylor |
| Bee | Bell | Bexar | Blanco | Borden | Bosque | Briscoe |
| Brown | Burnet | Calhoun | Callahan | Carson | Castro | Childress |
| Clay | Cochran | Coke | Coleman | Collin | Collingsworth | Comanche |
| Concho | Cooke | Coryell | Cottle | Crockett | Crosby | Dallam |
| Dallas | Dawson | Deaf Smith | Denton | DeWitt | Dickens | Dimmit |
| Donley | Eastland | Ector | Edwards | Ellis | El Paso | Erath |
| Fannin | Fisher | Floyd | Foard | Frio | Gaines | Garza |
| Gillespie | Goliad | Gonzales | Gray | Grayson | Hale | Hall |
| Hamilton | Hansford | Hardeman | Hartley | Haskell | Hemphill | Hidalgo |
| Hill | Hockley | Hood | Howard | Hutchinson | Irion | Jack |
| Jackson | Jim Wells | Johnson | Jones | Karnes | Kaufman | Kendall |
| Kent | Kerr | Kimble | King | Kinney | Knox | Lamb |
| Lampasas | La Salle | Lipscomb | Llano | Lubbock | Lynn | McCulloch |
| McLennan | Martin | Mason | Matagorda | Medina | Menard | Midland |
| Mills | Mitchell | Montague | Moore | Motley | Navarro | Nolan |
| Nueces | Ochiltree | Oldham | Palo Pinto | Parker | Parmer | Potter |
| Randall | Reagan | Real | Refugio | Roberts | Rockwall | Runnels |
| San Patricio | San Saba | Schleicher | Scurry | Shackelford | Sherman | Starr |
| Stephens | Sterling | Stonewall | Sutton | Swisher | Tarrant | Taylor |

Disposal Date January 31, 2016	Distribution (6-RMH/1/9/2015) County Offices
--	--

TX Notice FLP-1034

Terrell	Terry	Throckmorton	Tom Green	Upton	Uvalde	Val Verde
Victoria	Wheeler	Wichita	Wilbarger	Williamson	Wise	Yoakum
Young	Zavala					

In addition to the above counties, **43 other Texas Counties** are named as **contiguous counties** where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance, pursuant to section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act. Those counties are:

Atascosa	Bastrop	Brazoria	Brewster	Brooks	Caldwell	Cameron
Colorado	Comal	Crane	Delta	Duval	Falls	Fayette
Freestone	Glasscock	Guadalupe	Hays	Henderson	Hudspeth	Hunt
Jim Hogg	Kenedy	Kleberg	Lamar	Lavaca	Lee	Limestone
Live Oak	McMullen	Maverick	Milam	Pecos	Somervell	Travis
Van Zandt	Ward	Webb	Wharton	Willacy	Wilson	Winkler
Zapata						

Also, in accordance with section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in an adjacent State that are contiguous to one or more of the designated **Texas Counties**, are named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance. For this designation, the affected States and counties are:

<u>New Mexico (7)</u>	Curry	Dona Ana	Lea	Otero	Quay
	Roosevelt	Union			
<u>Oklahoma (14)</u>	Beaver	Beckham	Bryan	Cimarron	Cotton
	Ellis	Harmon	Jackson	Jefferson	Love
	Marshall	Roger Mills	Texas	Tillman	

This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

B Application Deadline

EM Loan applications will be received through **September 8, 2015** for **production and physical losses**.

2 Action

A Exceptions for Application Deadlines

County Offices shall thoroughly review Exhibit 1.

B Determining Security Values

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **September 30, 2014**.

TX Notice FLP-1034

C District Director's and Farm Loan Manager's Responsibilities

District Directors and Farm Loan Managers shall follow instructions according to 3-FLP (Rev. 2), and FmHA Instruction 1945-A for emergency loan applicability.

The Farm Loan Manager shall notify borrowers of Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) availability in accordance with handbook 5-FLP paragraph 42.

D Public Announcements

Special emphasis will be placed on informing the farm community through public announcements and arranging and conducting meetings with local Agricultural lenders and leaders.

3 Contact Point

A Inquires

If there are questions concerning this notice, contact the Conservation or Farm Loan Program Division.

Subject: Secretarial Disaster Declaration S3781

Please carefully review the notice listing the primary and contiguous counties determined eligible by Secretary Vilsack and the Emergency Preparedness and Programs Branch for emergency (EM) loans effective **January 7, 2015**.

This declaration is coded **S3781**, and EM loan applications will be received through **September 8, 2015**. For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **January 1, 2014**.

Please proceed to take the appropriate notification and coordination actions required by Handbook 1-DIS and 7CFR part 759.



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

Release Date: January 8, 2015
Release Number: TX 14212-01

Media Contact: Richard Jenkins
Phone: (916) 735-1500

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available to Texas Small Businesses

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Small, nonfarm businesses in 199 Texas counties and neighboring counties in New Mexico and Oklahoma are now eligible to apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by the drought in the following primary counties that began January 1, 2014, announced Tanya N. Garfield, Director of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

Primary Texas counties:

Andrews	Aransas	Archer	Armstrong	Bailey	Bandera
Baylor	Bee	Bell	Bexar	Blanco	Borden
Bosque	Briscoe	Brown	Burnet	Calhoun	Callahan
Carson	Castro	Childress	Clay	Cochran	Coke
Coleman	Collin	Collingsworth	Comanche	Concho	Cooke
Coryell	Cottle	Crockett	Crosby	Dallam	Dallas
Dawson	Deaf Smith	Denton	DeWitt	Dickens	Dimmit
Donley	Eastland	Ector	Edwards	El Paso	Ellis
Erath	Fannin	Fisher	Floyd	Foard	Frio
Gaines	Garza	Gillespie	Goliad	Gonzales	Gray
Grayson	Hale	Hall	Hamilton	Hansford	Hardeman
Hartley	Haskell	Hemphill	Hidalgo	Hill	Hockley
Hood	Howard	Hutchinson	Irion	Jack	Jackson
Jim Wells	Johnson	Jones	Karnes	Kaufman	Kendall
Kent	Kerr	Kimble	King	Kinney	Knox
La Salle	Lamb	Lampasas	Lipscomb	Llano	Lubbock
Lynn	Martin	Mason	Matagorda	McCulloch	McLennan
Medina	Menard	Midland	Mills	Mitchell	Montague
Moore	Motley	Navarro	Nolan	Nueces	Ochiltree
Oldham	Palo Pinto	Parker	Parmer	Potter	Randall
Reagan	Real	Refugio	Roberts	Rockwall	Runnels
San Patricio	San Saba	Schleicher	Scurry	Shackelford	Sherman
Starr	Stephens	Sterling	Stonewall	Sutton	Swisher
Tarrant	Taylor	Terrell	Terry	Throckmorton	Tom Green
Upton	Uvalde	Val Verde	Victoria	Wheeler	Wichita
Wilbarger	Williamson	Wise	Yoakum	Young	Zavala

Neighboring Texas counties:

Atascosa	Bastrop	Brazoria	Brewster	Brooks	Caldwell
Cameron	Colorado	Comal	Crane	Delta	Duval
Falls	Fayette	Freestone	Glasscock	Guadalupe	Hays
Henderson	Hudspeth	Hunt	Jim Hogg	Kenedy	Kleberg
Lamar	Lavaca	Lee	Limestone	Live Oak	Maverick
McMullen	Milam	Pecos	Somervell	Travis	Van Zandt
Ward	Webb	Wharton	Willacy	Wilson	Winkler
Zapata					

(--more--)

Neighboring New Mexico counties:

Curry	Dona Ana	Lea	Otero	Quay
Roosevelt	Union			

Neighboring Oklahoma counties:

Beaver	Beckham	Bryan	Cimarron	Cotton
Ellis	Harmon	Jackson	Jefferson	Love
Marshall	Roger Mills	Texas	Tillman	

“SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disaster and businesses directly impacted by the disaster,” Garfield said.

Small, nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred.

“Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4 percent for businesses and 2.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years, and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship,” Garfield said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Secretary Tom Vilsack declared this disaster on January 7, 2015.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency (FSA) about the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assistance made available by the Secretary’s declaration. However, in drought disasters nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA’s Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955 or e-mailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339. For more information about SBA’s disaster assistance programs, visit <http://www.sba.gov/disaster>.

The deadline to apply for these loans is **September 8, 2015**.