

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

USDA Programs

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

ECP provides funding for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes or other natural disasters, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought. The natural disaster must create new conservation problems, which, if not treated, would: impair or endanger the land; materially affect the productive capacity of the land; represent unusual damage which, except for wind erosion, is not the type likely to recur frequently in the same area; and be so costly to repair that Federal assistance is or will be required to return the land to productive agricultural use.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=copr&topic=ecp>

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE)

SURE was authorized by the 2008 farm bill and covers crop revenue losses from quantity or quality deficiencies only in those counties and contiguous counties declared disaster areas by the agriculture secretary, or in cases where the overall production loss exceeds 50 percent.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=sure>

Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) EWP program helps protect lives and property threatened by natural disasters, such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes and wildfires. The program provides technical and financial assistance to preserve life and property threatened by excessive erosion and flooding. Owners, managers and users of public, private or tribal lands are eligible for EWP assistance if their watershed area has been damaged by a natural disaster.

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ewp/>

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP provides financial assistance to eligible producers affected by drought, flood, hurricane or other natural disasters. NAP covers non-insurable crop losses and planting prevented by disasters. Landowners, tenants or sharecroppers who share in the risk of producing an eligible crop are eligible. Eligible crops include commercial crops and other agricultural commodities produced for food, including livestock feed or fiber, for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is unavailable. Also eligible for NAP coverage are controlled-environment crops (mushroom and floriculture), specialty crops (honey and maple sap) and value loss crops (aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng, ornamental nursery and turf grass sod).

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=nap>

Emergency Watershed Protection Program – Floodplain Easements

The NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program – Floodplain Easements provides for the purchase of floodplain easements as an emergency measure. Floodplain easements restore, protect, maintain and enhance the functions of the floodplain; conserve natural values, including fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, flood water retention, ground water recharge and open space; reduce long-term federal disaster assistance; and safeguard lives and property from floods, drought and the products of erosion.

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ewp/Floodplain/index.html>

Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)

EFRP provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) land in order to carry out emergency measures to restore land damaged by a natural disaster.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=efrp>

Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

TAP was authorized by the 2008 farm bill and provides partial reimbursement to orchardists and nursery tree growers for replanting, salvage, pruning, debris removal and land preparation if losses due to natural disasters exceed 15 percent.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=tap>

Livestock, Honeybees and Farm Raised Fish

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm Raised Fish (ELAP)

ELAP was authorized by the 2008 farm bill to provide emergency relief to producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish, and covers losses from disaster, such as adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires not adequately covered by any other disaster program.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=elap>

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

LIP was authorized by the 2008 farm bill to provide assistance to livestock producers for livestock deaths from disaster events, in excess of normal mortality.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=lip>

Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)

LFP was authorized by the 2008 farm bill to provide assistance to livestock producers for forage losses due to drought and losses due to wildfire on public lands.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=lfp>

Loans

Emergency Loan Program (ELP)

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters or quarantine. Emergency loans may be made to farmers and ranchers who own or operate land located in a county declared by the president as a disaster area or designated by the secretary of agriculture as a disaster or quarantine area (for physical losses only, the FSA administrator may authorize emergency loan assistance). Emergency loan funds 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.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=fmlp&topic=efl>