



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

January 15, 2014

The Honorable Brian Sandoval  
Governor  
State of Nevada  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Governor Sandoval:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating nine Nevada counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought. The primary counties included under this designation are:

Churchill	Lander	Mineral	Pershing
Clark	Lyon	Nye	Washoe
Humboldt			

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), 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).

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, eight counties are named as contiguous disaster counties. The contiguous counties included under this designation are:

Douglas	Esmeralda	Lincoln	White Pine
Elko	Eureka	Storey	Carson City

Also, in accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in adjacent States are named as contiguous disaster areas. Those States, counties, and numbers are:

**Contiguous counties in Adjacent States:**

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>(1)</b>		
Mohave			
<b>California</b>	<b>(8)</b>		
Inyo	Modoc	Nevada	San Bernardino
Lassen	Mono	Placer	Sierra
<b>Idaho</b>	<b>(1)</b>		
Owyhee			
<b>Oregon</b>	<b>(3)</b>		
Harney	Lake	Malheur	

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm, and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary