



# Farm Service Agency (FSA)

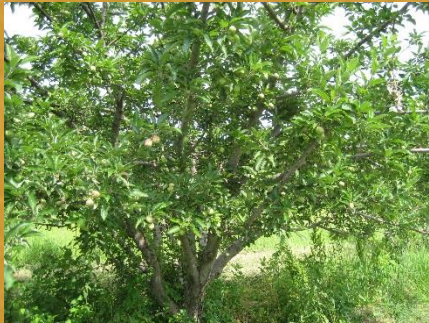
## Emergency Disaster Designation and Declaration Process

July 30, 2015

Small Business Conference  
Contracting in Times of Emergency,  
Disasters and Crisis

# Overview

- Agriculture related disasters and disaster designations are common
- Designations can be by state, county or select areas in a county
- USDA Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to designate counties
- Emergency loans and other state and federal disaster programs may be triggered



# Types of Disaster Designations

1. USDA Secretarial
2. Presidential Major Disaster and Presidential Emergency
3. FSA Administrator's Physical Loss Notification
4. Quarantine Designation by the Secretary under the Plant Protection Act or Animal Quarantine Laws



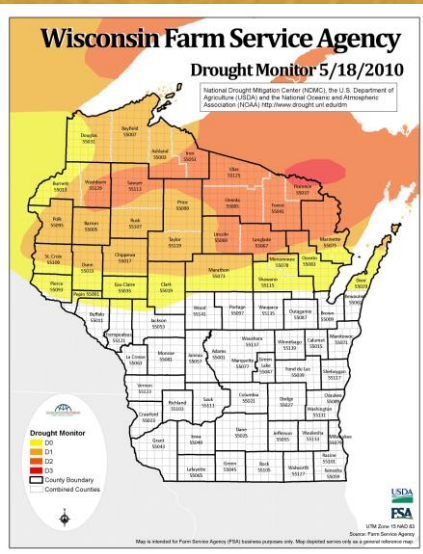
# Disaster Declarations Specifications

- The disaster that resulted in the designation: In Wisconsin this could include drought, flooding, excessive rain/humidity, severe storms, lightning, hail, mudslides, landslides, snow, ice, blizzards, frost, freeze, wind, tornadoes, fire, excessive heat, or pests and disease that result from adverse weather.
- The dates of the disaster
- The specific counties included



# USDA Secretarial Designations

- Requested by USDA Secretary of Agriculture, Governor, Indian Tribal Council Leader, or FSA State Executive Director
- Most widely used and most complicated.
- Streamlined in 2012 to be more efficient and timely for agricultural producers
- Fast Track Secretarial Designation for severe drought as indicated by U.S. Drought Monitor
- For other disasters, counties must have at least a 30% production loss in at least one crop.



# USDA Secretarial Designation Process

## STEP 1:

After a disaster event, farmers, local & state governments and agencies, the Governor, Indian Tribal Leaders or the FSA State Executive Director can make a request to the County or State FSA office for a loss assessment.

## STEP 2:

The FSA county office assembles required agricultural loss information for the Loss Assessment Report (LAR). Reporting the extent of losses to the local FSA is very important – the process depends on the loss assessment.

## STEP 3:

The County Emergency Board (CEB) comprised of local federal and state agricultural agencies, reviews loss information and makes their recommendation to the State Emergency Board (SEB)

## STEP 4:

The State Emergency Board (SEB) reviews the request and submits their recommendation to FSA National Headquarters.

## STEP 5:

FSA National Headquarters reviews loss information and prepares a package with letter of approval or disapproval to the Secretary to be signed.

# FSA Programs Initiated by Designations

- Low Interest Emergency Loans (EM) to eligible producers in the primary county and contiguous counties to help recover their agricultural losses.
- Certain set asides for existing FSA borrowers who are unable to make their scheduled payments for any debt to help allow their operation to continue.
- Additional disaster assistance requiring a designation may also be provided by new programs in the future.





## Farm Service Agency

Questions?

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