



Office of the Secretary  
Washington, DC 20250

March 17, 2023

THE HONORABLE KATIE HOBBS  
*Governor*  
*State of Arizona*  
*State Capitol*  
*1700 West Washington Street*  
*Phoenix, Arizona 85007*

Dear Governor Hobbs:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating two Arizona counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought.

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, additional areas of your state and adjacent states are named as contiguous disaster counties. Enclosed you will find documentation that provides a detailed list of all primary and contiguous counties impacted by this disaster.

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*

Enclosure

DISASTER DESIGNATION AREAS FOR ARIZONA AND CONTIGUOUS STATES

**Primary Counties**

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>(2)</b>
Coconino	Mohave

**Contiguous Counties:**

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>(4)</b>		
Gila	La Paz	Navajo	Yavapai

**Contiguous Counties in Adjacent States:**

<b>California</b>	<b>(1)</b>
San Bernardino	

<b>Nevada</b>	<b>(2)</b>
Clark	Lincoln

<b>Utah</b>	<b>(3)</b>	
Kane	San Juan	Washington