



**TDEM**  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

received  
11-1-19 CLK

October 25, 2019

The Honorable Bret Bray  
Blanco County Judge  
Blanco County Courthouse  
PO Box 387  
Johnson City, TX 78636-0387

Dear Judge Bray:

We have received notice from the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture that your county has been designated eligible to apply for low-interest emergency disaster loans based on drought occurring October 1, 2019 and continuing. Twenty-five Texas counties have been declared primary natural disaster areas. There are an additional fifty-two other Texas counties designated as a contiguous counties.

The Secretary has notified the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to immediately make emergency loans available to eligible applicants in your county. Your local FSA office will have the details on this program.

In addition, the Small Business Administration (SBA), in an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), provides low-interest federal disaster loans to eligible small businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers in counties that have received a disaster declaration from the Secretary of Agriculture.

I have enclosed a copy of the information provided by the USDA. If you have any questions, please call Debra Rivier-Harris at (512) 424-7835.

Sincerely,

W. Nim Kidd, MPA, CEM  
Chief – Texas Division of Emergency Management  
Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services  
Texas A&M University System

WNK:drh  
Enclosures

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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

**TX NOTICE FLP-1217****3-FLP (Rev. 2)****FOR: County Offices****Secretarial Disaster Declaration S4552****Approved by: Acting State Executive Director****1 Overview****A Background**

On **October 15, 2019**, the Secretary of Agriculture designated **25 Texas counties** as primary natural disaster areas. This action is based on damages and losses **caused by drought (fast track)** occurring **October 1, 2019 and continuing**. The primary counties are:

|           |           |            |        |          |          |        |
|-----------|-----------|------------|--------|----------|----------|--------|
| Anderson  | Atascosa  | Bastrop    | Brown  | Burleson | Caldwell | Ellis  |
| Freestone | Gonzales  | Henderson  | Hill   | Johnson  | Kimble   | Lee    |
| Llano     | McCulloch | McLennan   | Mason  | Menard   | Navarro  | Sutton |
| Travis    | Val Verde | Washington | Wilson |          |          |        |

In addition to the above counties, **52 other Texas counties** are named as **contiguous** 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:

|           |            |            |           |         |         |           |
|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Austin    | Bell       | Bexar      | Blanco    | Bosque  | Brazos  | Burnet    |
| Callahan  | Cherokee   | Coleman    | Comanche  | Concho  | Coryell | Crockett  |
| Dallas    | DeWitt     | Eastland   | Edwards   | Falls   | Fayette | Frio      |
| Gillespie | Grimes     | Guadalupe  | Hays      | Hood    | Houston | Karnes    |
| Kaufman   | Kerr       | Kinney     | La Salle  | Lavaca  | Leon    | Limestone |
| Live Oak  | McMullen   | Medina     | Milam     | Mills   | Parker  | Robertson |
| San Saba  | Schleicher | Smith      | Somervell | Tarrant | Terrell | Tom Green |
| Van Zandt | Waller     | Williamson |           |         |         |           |

**Disposal Date**

October 31, 2020

**Distribution (6-RMH/10/17/2019)**

County Offices

10/17/2019

6-RMH

Page 1

### **TX Notice FLP-1217**

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 **June 15, 2020** 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 **October 1, 2019**.

#### **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 S4552**

Please carefully review the notice listing the primary and contiguous counties determined eligible by the Secretary and the Emergency Preparedness and Programs Branch for emergency (EM) loans effective **October 15, 2019**.

This declaration is coded **S4552**, and EM loan applications will be received through **June 15, 2020**. For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **October 1, 2019**.

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