



Office of the Under Secretary
for Farm Production and Conservation
Washington, D.C. 20250

April 6, 2026

THE HONORABLE JARED POLIS
Governor
State of Colorado
State Capitol Building
200 East Colfax Avenue, Room 136
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Polis:

Per 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating 33 Colorado counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought. I am responding on behalf of the Department.

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.

Per 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 Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loan assistance, provided eligibility requirements are met. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BSA", is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Brooke S. Appleton
Deputy Under Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Brooke Rollins, Secretary of Agriculture

Primary Counties:

Colorado	(33)		
Adams	Garfield	Mesa	
Arapahoe	Gilpin	Moffat	
Boulder	Grand	Montrose	
Broomfield	Gunnison	Ouray	
Chaffee	Huerfano	Park	
Clear Creek	Jackson	Pitkin	
Costilla	Jefferson	Rio Blanco	
Delta	Lake	Routt	
Denver	Larimer	Sedgwick	
Douglas	Las Animas	Summit	
Eagle	Logan	Weld	

Contiguous Counties:

Colorado	(20)		
Alamosa	Elbert	Morgan	San Juan
Baca	El Paso	Otero	San Miguel
Bent	Fremont	Phillips	Teller
Conejos	Hinsdale	Pueblo	Washington
Custer	Lincoln	Saguache	Yuma

Contiguous Counties in Adjacent States:

Nebraska	(4)		
Cheyenne	Deuel	Kimball	Perkins
New Mexico	(3)		
Colfax	Taos	Union	
Utah	(4)		
Daggett	Grand	San Juan	Uintah
Wyoming	(4)		
Albany	Carbon	Laramie	Sweetwater