



**USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)
Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs**



Native Resilience Drought Webinar
March 17, 2026



Meet the Presenters

Farm Service Agency



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Agenda and Overview

- Introduction to FSA
- Becoming a Customer
- Federal Tribal Relationship
- FSA Programs
- Additional FSA and USDA Resources



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

What is the Farm Service Agency (FSA)?

- FSA is one of 29 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies and is also the go-to agency for many USDA records.



Purpose

- FSA establishes and administers federal farm program policies and provisions that help farmers, ranchers, landowners, foresters, and Tribal Nations:
 - Manage market risks
 - Recover from natural disasters
 - Protect natural resources
 - And access credit and capital



What customers should bring on their first visit

- 1. Proof of identity:** driver's license,
- Social security number/card, Tribal ID, etc.

- 2. Proof of access to land:**
- Copy of recorded deed, survey plat
 - Rental or Lease Agreement
 - Grazing or Farming Permit
 - BIA Title Status Report (TSR)

**You do NOT have to own property to participate in all FSA programs*

- 3. If you operate as an entity, trust, estate, etc.:**
- Articles of incorporation, estate documents, or trust documents



Registering Your Farm with FSA

- Our staff will work with you one-on-one to review documents and register the farm.
- Registering a farm allows you to apply for FSA and other USDA programs.
- Once program eligibility is determined, our farm program and loan staff can assist you with applications.



What Comes Next?

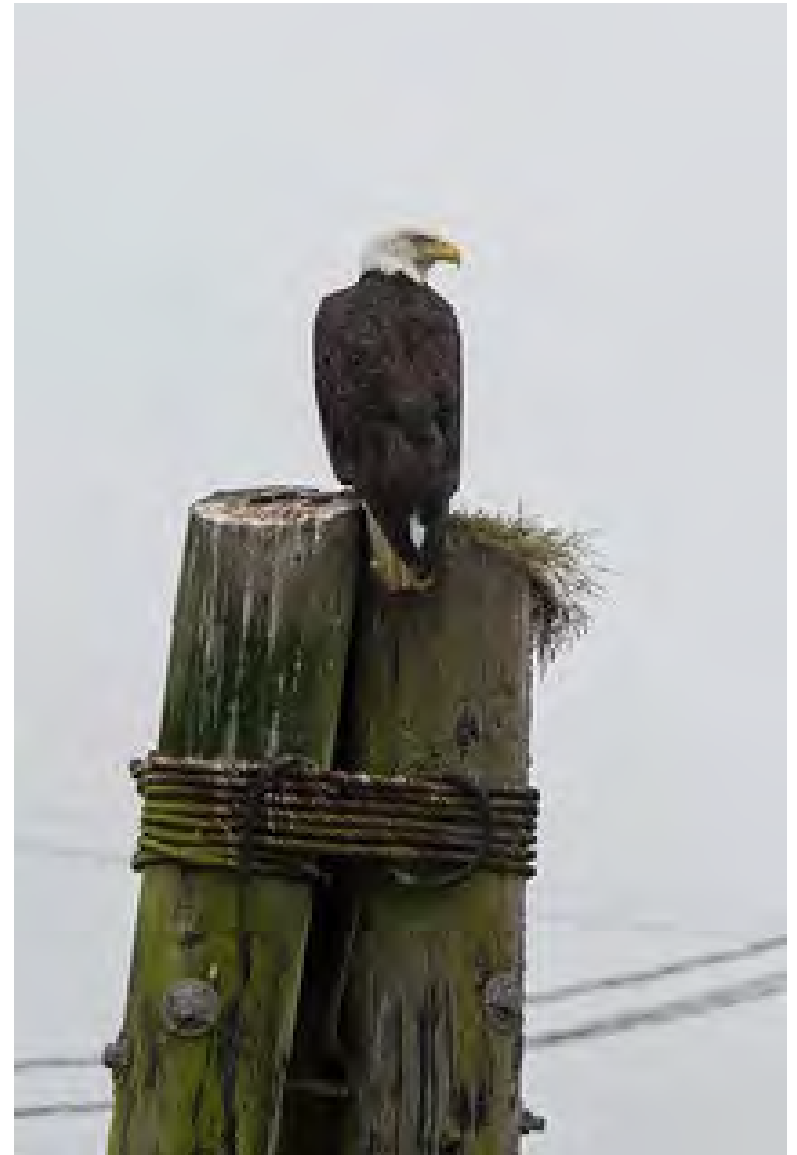
During your first visit, FSA will:

- Assist you in completing an AD-2047 form to establish your customer record with FSA.
- Establish your farm record by determining the land in which you have an interest, identifying parties with interest and creating basic farm data such as field boundaries and acreages.
- Assign you a Farm Serial Number (FSN).
- Provide you with routine program notifications.



Annual Updates

- **Land Documentation**
 - Only if land changes
- **CCC-941 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Disclosure**
 - Individuals or non-tribally chartered entities
- **FSA Acreage/Crop Report**
 - Basis of program eligibility





Working with Tribal Governments

Government to Government Relationship with Tribal Nations

- The United States has a unique government-to-government relationship with Federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), have an active Memorandum of Understanding on communication, collaboration, cooperation, and consultation with Tribal agricultural producers, Indian landowners, and Indian Tribes for the development, conservation, and sustainable use of natural resources on 119 million acres of Indian lands.

farmers.gov/tribal



Tribal Governments as FSA Customers

Federally-recognized Tribal governments and Tribally chartered entities participating in FSA programs need to establish customer and farm records.

1. Tribal Signature Authority Requirements:

Tribal Executive/Chairman Letter of Authorization, Tribal Resolution, etc.

2. Proof of access to land:

- BIA Title Status Report
- Lease agreement, Grazing permit
- Copy of recorded deed, survey plat

**You do NOT have to own property to participate in all FSA programs.*

3. Tribal entity

- corporation, estate, or trust documents



FSA Eligibility for Indian Tribes

7 CFR 1400.4 - Indian tribes and Alaska Native Corporations **are not included** under the definition of “person” or “legal entity” for applying the payment eligibility and payment limitation provisions



IF the farming operation is conducted by...	THEN...
the tribe or tribally chartered entity on land the tribe owns, rents, or otherwise acquires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • payments are not subject to limitation • AGI limitations do not apply • earnings and payments will not be attributed to each individual member of the tribe <p>Note: CCC-902E is required to collect land information for the farming operation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refer to 11-CM, Exhibit 10 for recording the business type code for Indian Tribal Ventures.

No limitations or restrictions are imposed on Federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaska Native Corporations or tribally chartered entities for receiving program payments or benefits

USDA Service to Indian Reservations

- 1990 and 2008 Farm Bills authorized consolidated USDA suboffices (FSA and NRCS) on American Indian reservations
- Tribal Nations can request hosting FSA and NRCS offices or "office days" at the tribal headquarters or a designated location.
- Each suboffice must be staffed using existing staff.
- USDA Department Regulation 1340-002:
[usda.gov/directives/dr-1340-002](https://www.usda.gov/directives/dr-1340-002)
- Contact your USDA service center and/or Tribal Liaison with questions and for assistance
farmers.gov/service-center-locator



PARTNERSHIPS WITH
TRIBAL
NATIONS
& CITIZENS IN AG



PARTNERING WITH TRIBAL NATIONS



Tribal Nations interested in working with USDA: visit farmers.gov/tribal to learn more and contact USDA in your state.



For Farmers, By Farmers

**FSA Apply Now Eligibility Packets
Now Available on Farmers.gov**

for Individuals | Entities | Tribal Nations

What does FSA offer?

Conservation

Grassland Conservation and Maintenance

Improve Wildlife Habitat

Address Soil Erosion and Improve Soil Health

Improve Water and Air Quality

Disaster Relief

Debris Removal and Land Restoration

Financial Relief for Crop and Livestock Losses

Drought & Wildfire Assistance

Emergency Loans

Financing Options

Farm Ownership loans

Farm Operating Loans

Microloans

Youth Loans

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Tribal Land Loans



Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

ECP provides assistance to farmers and ranchers to repair damage to farmlands caused by natural disasters and helps put in place water conservation methods during severe drought.

- Up to 75% of allowable cost to implement emergency conservation practices can be provided. **Per statute, eligible limited resource, socially disadvantaged, and beginning farmers/ranchers may earn up to 90% cost-share.**
- Advanced payments up to 25% are available for all ECP practices
- Eligible practices include debris removal, restoring fences, restoring conservation structures, and providing emergency water during severe periods of drought



Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)

EFRP provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) land to carry out emergency measures to restore land damaged by a natural disaster

- Up to 75% of allowable cost to implement emergency conservation practices can be provided
- Eligible practices include:
 - Debris removal, site preparation, planting materials, and labor to replant forest stand;
 - Restoration of forestland roads, fire lanes, fuel breaks, or erosion control structures;
 - Fencing, tree shelters, and tree tubes to protect trees from wildlife damage; and
 - Wildlife enhancement to provide cover openings and wildlife habitat



Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP)

SDRP provides more than \$16 billion in disaster relief payments to producers who suffered revenue, quality or production losses to crops, trees, bushes, or vines due to qualifying disaster events in calendar years 2023 and 2024.

Stage 1

Stage 1 leverages existing Federal Crop Insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) data as the basis for calculating payments.

The enrollment period for Stage 1 closes **April 30, 2026.**

Stage 2

Stage 2 assists producers with non-indemnified (including shallow losses), uncovered (uninsured), and quality losses. Stage 2 covers eligible crop, tree, bush and vine losses.

The enrollment period for Stage 2 closes **April 30, 2026.**

- fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/supplemental-disaster-relief-program-sdrp

Disaster Assistance Programs

When natural disaster events impact agricultural operations, USDA offers a suite of programs to help producers recover from losses and rebuild.



FSA Disaster Assistance Programs

Livestock Producers

- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Emergency Haying /Grazing



Crop Producers

- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)



General debris removal/ag land restoration

- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

Forestry (Private Lands)

- Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)

Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)

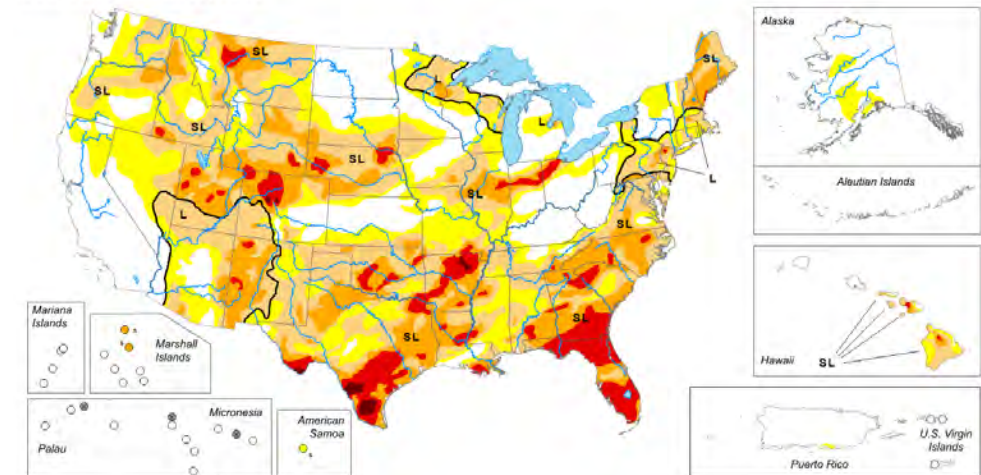
- Assistance for grazing losses due to:
 - **Drought** (US Drought Monitor)
 - **Wildfire** (on federal grazing lands)
- Available to eligible livestock and forage producers
- Up to a 5-month payment for grazing losses due to drought or 180 days due to wildfire
- **Deadline: March 1 after the end of the calendar year in which the loss event occurred.**



Map released: March 12, 2026

Data valid: March 10, 2026

View grayscale version of the map



Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

- LIP provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by eligible adverse weather, eligible disease when vaccination is not available, or injured livestock sold at a reduced price as a direct result of an eligible loss condition.
- Includes m. bovis in Bison
- **Deadline: March 1 after the end of the calendar year in which the loss event occurred. For example, for the 2026 program year, the LIP application deadline is March 1, 2027.**



Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP)

- ELAP provides financial assistance to eligible producers for losses due to disease (cattle tick fever and avian influenza in dairy operations), certain adverse weather events or loss conditions (blizzard, drought), not covered by LFP or LIP.
- Covers feed transportation costs to livestock where grazing and hay resources have been depleted.
- Covers above normal costs for hauling water in drought areas.
- Hauling livestock to forage or grazing.
- Grazing period has been expanded to 365 days for perennial forages nationwide.
- **Deadline: March 1 after the end of the calendar year in which the loss event occurred.**



Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

- NAP provides assistance for crop losses when federal crop insurance is not available.
- Designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a loss of production, loss of value, or prevented planting of an eligible crop.
- Loss must be weather-related.
- **Per statute, producers able to certify SDA/Limited Resource/Beginning or Veteran Farmer status on a CCC-860.**
 - **Service fee waiver (\$325/crop savings); reduced premiums for buy-up coverage levels.**
 - **CCC-860 serves as NAP Application for basic coverage.**
 - **Check with local service center for crop-specific deadlines.**



Disaster Assistance for Aquaculture Producers

- **ELAP helps aquaculture producers mitigate weather-related risk by providing financial assistance for eligible loss of fish/shellfish and feed.**
- Beginning and ending inventories are required to participate.
- Losses covered include those resulting from a qualifying adverse weather event, like excessive heat and wind, floods, freezes, hurricanes, tidal surges, tornadoes, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.
- Eligible aquaculture must be raised in a controlled environment, meaning they are in a managed pond, lake, tank or if in the ocean, cages or bags.



NAP provides a risk management tool for aquacultural species, not covered by RMA, which are:

- any species of aquatic organisms grown as food for human consumption,
- fish raised as feed for fish that are consumed by humans, and
- ornamental fish propagated and reared in an aquatic medium.

Farmer Bridge Assistance Program

Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program provides \$11 billion through a one-time bridge payment to American farmers. This assistance provides producers with a bridge until the benefits of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) are available.

- Pre-filled FBA applications will be available to producers who timely filed their 2025 crop acreage report for eligible commodities.
- Producers who have a secure Login.gov account can access and submit their pre-filled application online as well as track their application and payment status.
- Pre-filled applications are also available at your local service center.

Important Dates

- **Feb. 23 – April 17, 2026** – FBA enrollment period

Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers (ASCF) Program

- USDA's Farm Service Agency is providing \$1 billion through a one-time bridge payment for specialty crops, sugar, and commodities not covered through the previously announced Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program.
- ASCF payments are based on reported 2025 planted acres.

Important Dates

- **March 13, 2026** – deadline to ensure 2025 crop acreage reports are factual and accurate for eligible ASCF crops.

FSA Farm Loans

- FSA offers loans to help farmers and ranchers get the financing they need to start, expand or maintain a family farm or ranch
- Progression Lending
- Emergency Loans



FSA Farm Loan Eligibility

- Designed to help farmers and ranchers start, purchase, or expand operation – when credit cannot be obtained elsewhere
- Eligibility:
 - US Citizen or qualifying national
 - Must be for-profit
 - Acceptable credit
 - No delinquent debt
 - Education and/or farm management experience



Additional Information About FSA and USDA Resources



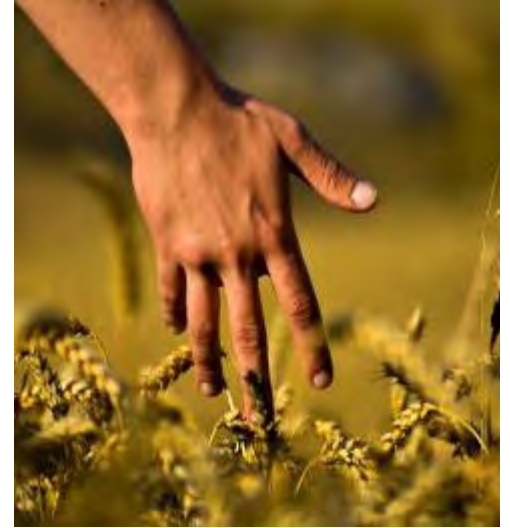
County Committees (COC)

FSA is run by farmers and ranchers locally

- Local election held annually
- 3-year term, can serve up to 9 years consecutively

What does COC member service look like?

- Allows grassroots input,
- Critical component to daily operations of FSA,
- Impacts the way offices are managed,
- Assist with administering program activities,
- Monitor changes in programs,
- Participate in meetings, and
- Inform local agricultural community of programs.



County Committee Elections *Nominate and Vote!*

Tribal Voting Eligibility

- **Nominations:** Tribal Nations and farm and ranch organizations representing tribal members are encouraged to nominate and serve
- **Voting Eligibility:** Every member of an Indian tribe is considered a landowner if the agricultural land in question is tribally owned or held in trust for the tribe by the United States and therefore eligible to participate as an eligible voter.
- **Voting Age:** Individuals 18 years and older
- **Find My LAA** identifies federally recognized tribal lands and the year an election will be held.
- **Resources** such as nomination forms and voter eligibility fact sheets may be found at fsa.usda.gov/elections
- **Registration:** Tribal members can reach out directly to their local FSA Office to register to vote and serve. Tribal leaders are encouraged to share a list of tribal members with their local FSA service center office.





Election Period



**An election calendar can be found at fsa.usda.gov/elections or by contacting your local FSA office.*

fsa.usda.gov/elections

FSA County Committee Elections

Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

- Our agency can help you start or grow your operation!
- How is it defined?
 - According to FSA, a beginning farmer or rancher (BFR) is:
An individual or entity who has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years
- Every state has a BFR Coordinator who can assist
- Visit farmers.gov/newfarmers to get connected



USDA Farm Service Agency Farm Loan Online Tools

fsa.usda.gov/farmloans and farmers.gov/loans

■ About FSA Farm Loans

- fsa.usda.gov/resources/farm-loan-programs

■ Find a Farm Loan

- [Loan Assistance Tool / Portal \(usda.gov\)](https://usda.gov)

■ Apply for a Direct Loan

- [Online Loan Application Tool](#)

■ Make a Direct Farm Loan Payment

- [Pay My Loan Self-Service Tool](#)



Working Online with Farmers.gov

- **Find and connect** with local USDA service centers (*FSA, NRCS, RD*)
- Find **beginning farmer and rancher resources**
- Find **tax guidance**
- Find **tribal partnership opportunities**
- **Use self-service tools** like:
 - *Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool*
 - *H-2A Visa Checklist*
 - *Conservation Concerns Tool*
- **Start the process** to create a **Login.gov account** for access to USDA's online portal and other authenticated applications (e.g., **Pay My Loan, Online Loan Application**)



USDA GovDelivery Email and Text



The screenshot shows the footer of the Farmers.gov website. It is divided into three columns. The first column, titled 'LEGAL', contains links for 'Accessibility Statement', 'FOIA', 'Information Quality', 'Non-Discrimination Statement', and 'Privacy Policy'. The second column, titled 'RESOURCES', contains links for 'Program Deadlines', 'Tools', 'Disaster Resource Center', 'Farm Surveys and Statistics', 'Veterans', 'USDA.gov', and 'WhiteHouse.gov'. The third column, titled 'SUBSCRIBE TO OUR UPDATES', contains the text 'Stay updated on the latest news and stories from farmers.gov and other USDA topics.', an 'Email Address' label, a text input field with the placeholder 'Enter email address', and a blue 'SUBSCRIBE' button.



Text Messages

Subscribe by sending a text message to **372669**. The text message should be the State Postal Identifier (State Abbreviation) and the county name. (SDCounty) (MTCounty) (AZCounty) (NVCounty)

Examples: SDDewey, SDZiebach, MTBlaine, MTGlacier

Questions? Thank you for your time.



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