

FSA Presentation Overview for Climate Meeting May 18,2011

1) FSA offers a few programs designed to provide aid for agricultural producers affected by natural disaster. In 2011 it is anticipated that 2 programs will be the primary ones utilized in response to reported flooding, and above normal snow cover of pasture lands. The programs that may assist producers are as follows:

- **Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP)**

The ELAP Program will reimburse producers for feed that was in the stack but lost by flooding, and it will also reimburse producers for feed that was purchased over and above feed normally used to sustain livestock due to natural disasters. This includes perils such as (but not limited to) flooding and feed needed to sustain livestock during and immediately after a blizzard.

Example: Producer A purchased 75 big round bales of hay on January 15, 2010, to feed his eligible livestock located in the county where the eligible adverse weather or loss condition occurred. The hay cost \$3,000. Producer A indicates he lost 45 of the bales of hay because of flooding that occurred on May 1, 2010. Producer A provides County Office original receipts for the hay purchased. The receipts meet all the requirements in this subparagraph. County Offices determines the value of the lost feed to be \$1,800 as follows: $\$3,000$ (total cost of all hay) divided by 75 (total number of bales purchased) x 45 (number of bales of hay lost) = \$1,800.

Example: ELAP payments for livestock feed losses will be based on 60 percent of the cost of the following, not to exceed 90 calendar days of feed costs for the eligible livestock for which feed losses were incurred:

- purchased and harvested feed or feed stuffs that was lost or destroyed because of an eligible adverse weather or loss condition
 - additional feed purchased above normal quantities required to maintain eligible livestock during an eligible adverse weather or loss condition
 - additional feed expenses incurred because of an eligible adverse weather or loss condition.
- **Flooding Response: Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) Overview**

USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides emergency funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought. Funding for ECP is appropriated by Congress.

Program Administration

ECP is administered by state and county FSA committees. Subject to availability of funds, locally-elected county committees are authorized to implement ECP for all disasters except drought, which is authorized at the national office of FSA.

Land Eligibility

County FSA committees determine land eligibility based on on-site inspections of damage, taking into account the type and extent of damage. For land to be eligible, the natural disaster must create new conservation problems that, if untreated, would:

- impair or endanger the land;
- materially affect the land's productive capacity;
- represent unusual damage which, except for wind erosion, is not the type likely to recur frequently in the same area; and
- be so costly to repair that Federal assistance is or will be required to return the land to productive agricultural use.

Conservation problems existing prior to the applicable disaster are ineligible for ECP assistance.

Payments

ECP program participants receive cost-share assistance of up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved emergency conservation practices, as determined by county FSA committees.

Individual or cumulative requests for cost-sharing of \$50,000 or less per person, per disaster are approved at the county committee level. Cost-sharing from \$50,001 to \$100,000 is approved at the state committee level. Cost-sharing over \$100,000 must be approved by FSA's national office.

Technical assistance may be provided by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Emergency Conservation Practices

To rehabilitate farmland, ECP program participants may implement emergency conservation practices, such as:

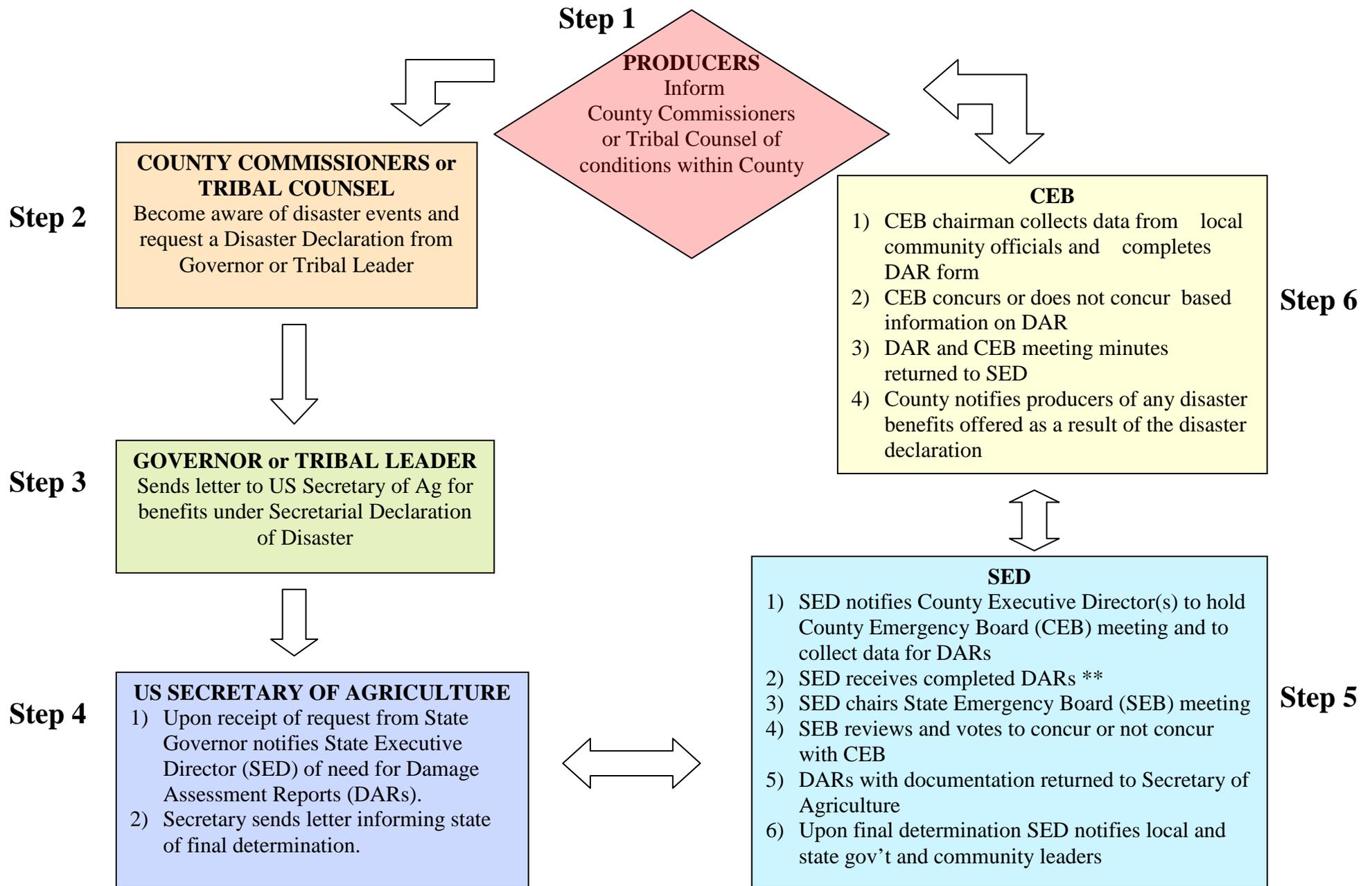
- remove debris;
- restore fences and conservation structures; and
- provide water for livestock in drought situations.

Other conservation measures may be authorized by county FSA committees, with approval from state FSA committees and FSA's national office.

Sign-up Periods

Producers should check with their local county FSA offices regarding ECP sign-up periods, which are set by county FSA committees.

SECRETARIAL DISASTER DECLARATION PROCESS QUICK REFERENCE - 2010



*** For more Disaster Declaration information and information specific to WY please refer to the WY State FSA Office website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/stateoffapp?mystate=wy&area=home&subject=landing&topic=landing> or www.fsa.usda.gov

** The FSA State Office point of contact to receive Flash Reports and DARs is the Secretary to the State Director, alternate is FLP Tech.