



Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

January 13, 2023

THE HONORABLE GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor
State of California
State Capitol
Suite 1173
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

On December 2, 2022, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requested a primary county disaster designation for one California county due to losses caused by excessively high temperatures that occurred from September 1, 2022, through September 9, 2022.

USDA reviewed the Loss Assessment Report and determined that there were sufficient production losses to warrant a Secretarial natural disaster designation; therefore, I am designating Stanislaus County as a primary natural disaster area. In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your state 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 CALIFORNIA

Primary County:

California	(1)
Stanislaus	

Contiguous Counties:

California	(7)		
Alameda	Mariposa	San Joaquin	Tuolumne
Calaveras	Merced	Santa Clara	