

From: Allen, Susan [Susan.Allen@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 16, 2011 3:28 PM
To: Ross, Chuck; LaClair, Jolinda; Lewis, Chelsea; Bothfeld, Diane
CC: MacLean, Alex
Subject: FW: USDA Disaster Declaration - correct attachments
Attachments: Disaster Map_NY_8-16-11.pdf; New York Disaster Letter 8-16-11.pdf

Can you look at this and let me know what we want to do. Assume we want a press release ... does this include everything we asked for? Anything we didn't get? (I'm getting on a conference call ... do you mind e-mailing me and copying Alex).

Sue

From: Yezak, Jennifer [Jennifer.Yezak@osec.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 16, 2011 3:21 PM
To: Yezak, Jennifer; Lofy, Bill; Richards, Alyson; Allen, Susan; MacLean, Alex; Moulton, Carolyn; Ross, Chuck
Cc: Bailey, Kevin; Griffis, Janice
Subject: RE: USDA Disaster Declaration - correct attachments

Hi folks,

In the first message, I had the wrong letter and map. Sorry for any confusion and please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jennifer

From: Yezak, Jennifer
Sent: Tuesday, August 16, 2011 3:14 PM
To: VT-GOVERNOR (bill.lofy@state.vt.us); VT-GOVERNOR (Alyson.Richards@state.vt.us); VT-GOVERNOR (susan.allen@state.vt.us); VT-Governor (Alex.MacLean@state.vt.us); VT-Dept. of Agriculture (Carolyn.Moulton@state.vt.us); VT-Secretary(Chuck.Ross@state.vt.us)
Cc: Bailey, Kevin
Subject: USDA Disaster Declaration

Good afternoon,

Secretary Vilsack declared counties as natural disaster areas in New York. Based on this declaration, the counties of Chittenden and Grand Isle in Vermont have been named as contiguous disaster counties and are available for benefits. A map is attached.

If you have any questions feel free to call me.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Yezak
Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
USDA / 202-205-9994 / 202-720-6643 or 202-255-7061

List of Primary and Contiguous Counties

Primary	STATE	Contiguous	STATE
Allegany	New York	Broome	New York
Cattaraugus	New York	Cayuga	New York
Clinton	New York	Chautauqua	New York
Cortland	New York	Chemung	New York
Ontario	New York	Chenango	New York
Tompkins	New York	Erie	New York
Wayne	New York	Essex	New York
Yates	New York	Franklin	New York
		Livingston	New York
		Madison	New York
		Monroe	New York
		Onondaga	New York
		Schuyler	New York
		Seneca	New York
		Steuben	New York
		Tioga	New York
		Wyoming	New York
		<i>McKean</i>	<i>Pennsylvania</i>
		Potter	Pennsylvania
		Warren	Pennsylvania
		<i>Chittenden</i>	<i>Vermont</i>
		Grand Isle	Vermont

SECRETARIAL DESIGNATION REQUEST

Primary State: New York

Counties: 8-of-19-co

REPORT DATE: Friday August 5, 2011

State	Primary	Contiguous	TOTAL
New York	8	17	25
Pennsylvania	-	3	3
Vermont	-	2	2
TOTALS	8	22	30
TOTAL No. of States	1	3	3



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

AUG 16 2011

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor
State of New York
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

Thank you for your letter of May 23, 2011, requesting a disaster designation for 19 New York counties due to losses caused by several weather events that began in March 2011.

The Department of Agriculture has reviewed the Loss Assessment Reports and has determined that there were sufficient production losses in eight counties to warrant a Secretarial disaster designation. Therefore, I am designating Allegany, Cattaraugus, Clinton, Cortland, Ontario, Tompkins, Wayne, and Yates Counties, New York, as primary natural disaster areas due to losses caused by excessive rain, flash flooding, flooding, high winds, lightning, and cooler than normal temperatures that occurred from March 1 through June 1, 2011.

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. Those counties are:

Broome	Chemung	Essex	Madison	Schuyler	Tioga
Cayuga	Chenango	Franklin	Monroe	Seneca	Wyoming
Chautauqua	Erie	Livingston	Onondaga	Steuben	

None of the 11 remaining counties in your request sustained a 30-percent or greater crop production loss due to this disaster. Therefore, I am unable to approve your request to designate those 11 counties as primary natural disaster areas. Those counties are:

Broome	Chenango	Niagara	Schuyler
Cayuga	Erie	Oneida	Seneca
Chemung	Lewis	Oswego	

However, Broome, Cayuga, Chemung, Chenango, Erie, Schuyler, and Seneca Counties, New York, will be eligible for Farm Service Agency (FSA) loan assistance since they are named as contiguous counties for this disaster, as indicated above.

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo

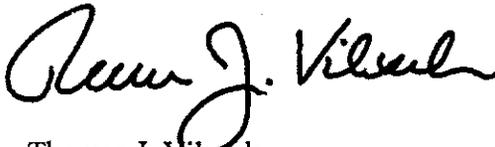
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In addition, Lewis, Niagara, Oneida, and Oswego Counties, New York, will be eligible for other FSA emergency loan assistance since they were approved by FSA Administrator on June 10, 2011, for physical losses caused by excessive rain, flash flooding, flooding, high winds, and lightning that occurred in April 2011. Producers have until February 10, 2012, to apply for an emergency loan. Physical losses include, but are not limited to, dead livestock and collapsed buildings.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from the FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses, security available, and repayment ability. SURE Program applications for 2011 crop losses will be accepted in 2012, when the 2011 farm revenue data required by statute becomes available.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom J. Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary