

WILDFIRE RANCHER RELIEF

What To Do Now

Dear Ranching Partner,

We are so sorry to hear of the impact this year's fire season has had on your property and your family. Your partners at the Rangeland Trust are here to support you during this difficult time. We have prepared the following information sheets to provide you with key details on disaster funding programs that other landowners in similar situations have utilized and found helpful. These offer an overview of each program and list the information you will need to provide in order to participate. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has multiple disaster programs, including the:

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Emergency Farm Loans

The **first step is to contact your local FSA office as soon as possible** to report your loss and begin the application or enrollment process— *the contact information for your local FSA office is provided in the blue box below*. The sooner you get your name on their list, the more likely you are to secure funding.

We are here to help in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to call us. If we cannot assist you directly, we will connect you with the person who can.

Your resilience in the face of this challenge is truly inspiring, and we are honored to stand alongside you as you work toward recovery.

Sincerely,
Robin Hanson
530-219-7512 | rhanson@rangelandtrust.org

[**CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE FSA
DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
WEBPAGE**](#)

Click below to find your local FSA office:
USDA Service Center Locator

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ECP)



HOW TO APPLY

- Contact your local FSA office **immediately** to start the ECP application.
- Ask for the sign-up deadline, a list of required documentation, and if you qualify for an upfront payment to start work.
- Let the FSA office know if you have already begun repairs.

DOCUMENT THE DAMAGE

- Take clear photos/videos of all fire-related damage.
- Record the date and location of the damage.
- Keep receipts for any emergency work already completed.

PAYMENT

- ECP provides cost-share assistance of up to 75% of the cost of approved conservation practices.
- Limited resource producers may be eligible for up to 90% cost-share.

**[CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE
EMERGENCY CONSERVATION
PROGRAM WEBPAGE](#)**

WHAT WILL IT COVER?

- Removing debris from farmland
- Repairing or replacing fences
- Regrading or releveling fire-damaged land
- Restoring water systems, pipelines, or irrigation structures
- Other approved emergency conservation measures

THINGS TO NOTE

- FSA staff will assist with filling out the application.
- Be prepared to provide:
 - Proof of ownership or lease for affected land
 - Documentation of damage
 - Estimated repair costs
- After sign-up: FSA will review your application and may conduct a site inspection.
- All approved work must be completed by the FSA's deadline to qualify for reimbursement.

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)



HOW TO APPLY

- Notify your local FSA office within **30 calendar days** of when the loss becomes apparent.
- Be ready to provide supporting documentation to begin your application, typically including:
 - Photos of the livestock and/or affected area
 - Veterinary records showing cause of death or injury
 - Disposal receipts for carcasses
 - Purchase records or receipts for the livestock (to help establish market value)
 - Any additional records that show the livestock were in your possession and used for commercial purposes

You do not need all of these—submit what you have to clearly show the loss and its cause.

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM WEBPAGE](#)

WHAT IS IT?

The **Livestock Indemnity Program** provides financial assistance for eligible livestock producers for livestock losses caused by adverse weather events or disasters, including wildfires.

ELIGIBILITY

- Must be an eligible livestock producer at the time of the loss.
- Livestock must be in your possession and used for commercial purposes.
- No pre-enrollment required.

PAYMENT

Covers a portion of the market value for eligible livestock deaths caused by eligible adverse weather or events like wildfire.

TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)



HOW TO APPLY

- Contact your local FSA office immediately to begin the application. Losses must be reported within **90 days** of when the damage becomes apparent.
- Provide supporting documentation such as:
 - Photos of damaged trees, bushes, or vines
 - Nursery or planting records
 - Receipts for purchases and replanting

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- You own or lease the eligible orchard, vineyard, or nursery stock at the time of loss.
- The trees, bushes, or vines were used in commercial production (not personal landscaping).
- Losses were caused by a natural disaster like wildfire.

WHAT IS IT?

The **Tree Assistance Program** helps replace or repair income-producing trees, bushes, or vines—like orchards, vineyards, or nursery plants—damaged or lost in a natural disaster such as a wildfire.

PAYMENT

- Covers the cost of replanting or rehabilitating trees, bushes, or vines lost due to wildfire or other eligible natural disasters.
- Payment applies if mortality exceeds 15% of the stand (adjusted for normal mortality).

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WEBPAGE](#)

FSA EMERGENCY FARM LOANS



HOW TO APPLY

- Contact your local FSA office immediately to start the farm loan process, be prepared to provide:
 - Proof of wildfire-related losses (photos, receipts, records)
 - Your farm operating plan or a simple list of needs
 - Basic financial information (taxes, production numbers, debts)

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Farmers and ranchers in a disaster-designated county.
- Must have experienced substantial damage or loss.
- Must be unable to obtain sufficient credit from other lenders.

IMPORTANT DATES

Applications must be submitted within **8 months** of the disaster designation date.

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE FSA
EMERGENCY FARM LOANS
WEBPAGE](#)

WHAT ARE THEY?

FSA Emergency Farm Loans provide critical financial assistance to farmers and ranchers impacted by natural disasters such as wildfires, drought, flooding, storms, earthquakes, and more.

LOAN USES

- Restore or replace essential property (livestock, equipment, farm structures).
- Cover upcoming season production costs.
- Pay essential family living expenses.
- Refinance certain disaster-related debts (excluding real estate).
- Improve profitability and sustainability of operations.

LOAN DETAILS

- Maximum Loan Amount: Up to 100% of actual losses, capped at \$500,000.
- Interest Rates: Set by FSA, generally lower than conventional rates.
- Repayment Terms: Non-realty losses (crops, livestock): repayment term 1–7 years; Real estate or structures: repayment term up to 40 years.