

MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Executive Office (707) 463-4441

TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA

FR: MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Ukiah, California: October 27, 2022

US Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides disaster designation due to agricultural losses caused by the freeze that occurred from February 21, 2022, through February 28, 2022

On **July 1**, **2022**, the U.S. Department of Agriculture granted a Secretarial disaster designation for the primary counties of Butte, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, and Yuba and the contiguous counties of Alameda, Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, Fresno, Glenn, Lake, Mariposa, **Mendocino**, Mono, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Benito, Santa Clara, Shasta, Sierra, Trinity, and Tuolumne.

The designation makes USDA assistance available in the form of emergency farm loans for both physical and crop production losses as a direct result of the disaster, up to a maximum of \$500,000. The application deadline is **March 1**, **2023**, and assistance is available to farmers and ranchers who conduct family-sized farming operations.

To apply: Contact the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office in Ukiah at 707-468-9223.

Hearing-impaired individuals should contact USDA's TARGET Center at **202-720-2600**.

Additional information can be found at the USDA website: <u>https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index</u>

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is also making Economic Injury Disaster Loans available pursuant to the USDA disaster designation. The SBA application deadline is also **March 1**, **2023**, and assistance is available to small, non-farm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, and most private non-profit organizations of any size. Small businesses include those that do business directly with the growers, such as truckers and suppliers of agricultural equipment or services.

To apply: Contact SBA at **1-800-659-2955**, or visit SBA's website at: <u>www.sba.gov/disaster</u>, or email <u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u>

Hearing-impaired individuals may call **1-800-877-8339**.

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