



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

MAY 3 2018

The Honorable David Ige
Governor
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Governor Ige:

On April 24, 2018, the Hawaii State Executive Director of the Farm Service Agency (FSA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), requested a primary county disaster designation for Kauai County, Hawaii, due to damage and losses caused by record-breaking rainfall, excessive flooding, and massive landslides that occurred from April 13 through April 20, 2018.

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 Kauai County, Hawaii, as a primary natural disaster area.

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 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Perdue". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sonny Perdue
Secretary