

Indian Country impacts from USDA final rule on Social Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers

Agency and Program	Overview	Change	Remaining Designations
Pandemic Assistance Program	The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program provides financial assistance to producers, farmers, and ranchers. This support is based on the losses the occurred during the pandemic.	Removes SDFRs from eligibility for additional payments equal to coronavirus food assistance program 2. ¹	Beginning farmers/ranchers; limited resource farmers/ranchers; veteran farmer/rancher.
	The Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program financially helps producers who experienced loss of at least 15% of gross revenue during the COVID19 pandemic.	Alters payment calculations previously set the payment factor to 90% for SDFRs and now they would be put with the “all other producers” at a payment factor of 80%. The payment factor is a part of the mathematical equation for determining how much can be paid to a producer under this program. The equation uses allowable gross income from previous years and multiplies it by the payment factor. ²	Beginning farmer/rancher; limited resource farmer/rancher; veteran farmer/rancher.
General Administrative Regulations	Section 508(h) requires adhering to certain	Alters the private sector crop insurance products, 508(h)	Small, beginning, and limited resource producers.

¹ 7 CFR 9.203

² 7 CFR 9.306

	guidelines, approval processes, and responsibilities of federal crop insurance corporations when submitting their plans.	submissions, which previously had to provide detailed description of the coverage for “target producers.” Language concerning “target producers” has been removed. ³	
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)	WHIP is meant to support habitat development for fish and other wildlife. It is specifically meant for private agricultural land, nonindustrial private forest land, and Indian land.	Removes language discussing historically underserved producers as a cost share participant for conservation activities in WHIP. ⁴	Eligible person, joint operation, legal entity, or Indian Tribe who is a beginning farmer/rancher, limited resource farmer/rancher or a non-industrial private forest landowner who meets the beginning or limited resource qualifications.
Indemnity Payment Programs	The Milk Loss Program helps farmers with contaminated milk by paying them for loss of revenue.	Removes “underserved” from definition eligible producers. ⁵	Beginning farmer/rancher; limited resource farmer/rancher; veteran farmer/rancher.
	The Emergency Relief Program was created to	Removes underserved producers from eligibility of	Beginning farmer/rancher; limited resource

³ 7 CFR 400.705

⁴ 7 CFR 636.7

⁵ 7 CFR 760.1704

	offset eligible crop losses for eligible natural disasters in 2020 and 2021.	payment differential of 15%. ⁶	farmer/rancher; veteran farmer/rancher.
Farm Loan Programs: Down Payment Loan Program	This is an update to the policies regarding the Farm Loan Programs, specifically the down payment loan program. This program helps farmers afford certain payments to purchase a family sized farm or ranch.	Removes socially disadvantaged farmers from eligibility. ⁷	Beginning farmers; Veteran Farmers.
Guaranteed Farm Loans	This program helps farmers secure guaranteed loans for farm ownership and operating.	Removes SDFR from eligibility for exceptions with regards to minimum and maximum loss guarantees. ⁸	Beginning farmers.
		Removes SDFRs as eligible exceptions to fee charges on their loan transactions. ⁹	Beginning and veteran farmers involved in the direction down payment loan program; beginning farmers participating in the qualified state beginner program.
FSA- Inventory Property Management	This program allows for the sale, lease, and management of security property acquired by FSA	Removes SDFRs from eligibility to lease or purchase real estate inventory property from FSA. ¹⁰	Beginning farmers; former owners.

⁶ 7 CFR 760.1905

⁷ 7 CFR 761.221

⁸ 7 CFR 762.129

⁹ 7 CFR 762.130

¹⁰ 7 CFR 767.101, 7 CFR 767.152, 7 CFR 767.153

	from borrowers who failed to repay loans.		
FSA- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	This provides landowners with two additional annual rent payments on the condition the landowner sells or rents to a veteran or beginning farmer.	Removes SDFRs from eligibility for the Transition Incentives Program. ¹¹	Veteran farmers/ranchers; beginning farmers/ ranchers.
	CRP contracts between FSA and a landowner contain the terms for taking environmentally sensitive land out of production and managing it for conservation purposes.	Removes SDFRs from eligibility to modify CRP contracts during the last two years of the contract period to transition land from production to grazing purposes. ¹²	Veteran farmers/rancher; beginning farmers/ ranchers.
	The CCC is authorized to offer incentives to foster opportunities for specific producers to enhance long term environmental goals.	Removes SDFRs from eligibility for these incentives. ¹³	Indian tribes; beginning; limited resources; and veteran farmers.
NRCS- Agriculture Management Assistance	This program provides financial assistance for the cost of conservation practices.	Removes historically underserved producers (HUP) from eligibility for up to 90% federal share. HUP are now limited to a 75% federal share. ¹⁴	Beginning farmers/ranchers; limited resource farmers/ ranchers; nonindustrial private forest landowner who meets the beginning or limited resource qualifications.

¹¹ 7 CFR 1410.5

¹² 7 CFR 1410.62

¹³ 7 CFR 1410.64

¹⁴ 7 CFR 1465.23

NRCS- Wetlands Reserve Program	Provides technical and financial assistance to eligible landowners restoring/protecting wetlands under 30-year, or perpetual easements, or, cost-share agreements.	Removes NRCS authority to allocate funds used to encourage HUP enrollment. ¹⁵	Beginning farmer/rancher; limited resource farmers/ranchers.
NRCS- Agriculture Conservation Easement Program	This program helps landowners permanently protect wetlands, grasslands, and farm/ranchlands on their properties.	Removes NRCS authority to allocate funds to encourage enrollment of SDFR. ¹⁶	Beginning farmers/ranchers; limited resource farmers/ranchers; veteran farmers/ranchers; and Indian Tribes.
Rural Development-Loans and Grants	Provides grants and loans for for purchase and installation of Renewable Energy Systems (RES) and Energy Efficiency Improvements (EEI).	Removes SDFRs from eligibility for State Director and Administration Priority points. This program uses a scoring system of application to decide which application will be chosen. ¹⁷	Veteran farmer/rancher.
Rural Development-Guaranteed Loans	This program guarantees agricultural producers and small rural businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements.	Removes SDFRs as eligible for priority points this program uses in project application reviews and awards. ¹⁸	Veteran farmer/rancher.

¹⁵ 7 CFR 1467.2

¹⁶ 7 CFR 1468.2

¹⁷ 7 CFR 4280.121

¹⁸ 7 CFR 5001.319