



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

JUL 19 2017

The Honorable Doug Burgum  
Governor  
State of North Dakota  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Dear Governor Burgum:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating four North Dakota counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought. The primary counties included under this designation are:

Dickey	Kidder	McHenry	Sheridan
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According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of: 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 14 counties are named as contiguous disaster counties. The contiguous counties included under this designation are:

Bottineau	Logan	Ransom	Stutsman
Burleigh	McIntosh	Renville	Ward
Emmons	McLean	Sargent	Wells
LaMoure	Pierce		

Other counties in North Dakota may have already been designated as natural disaster counties if they had previously met the requirements found under 7 CFR 759.5(a) for the current crop year.

Also, in accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Brown and McPherson Counties, in the adjacent State of South Dakota are named as contiguous disaster areas.

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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 the Farm Service Agency (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.

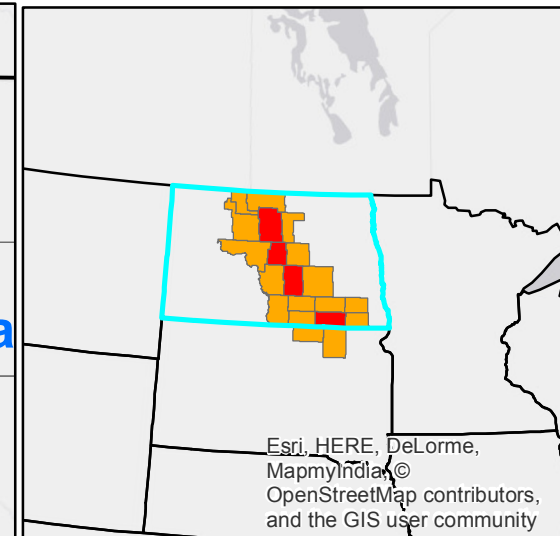
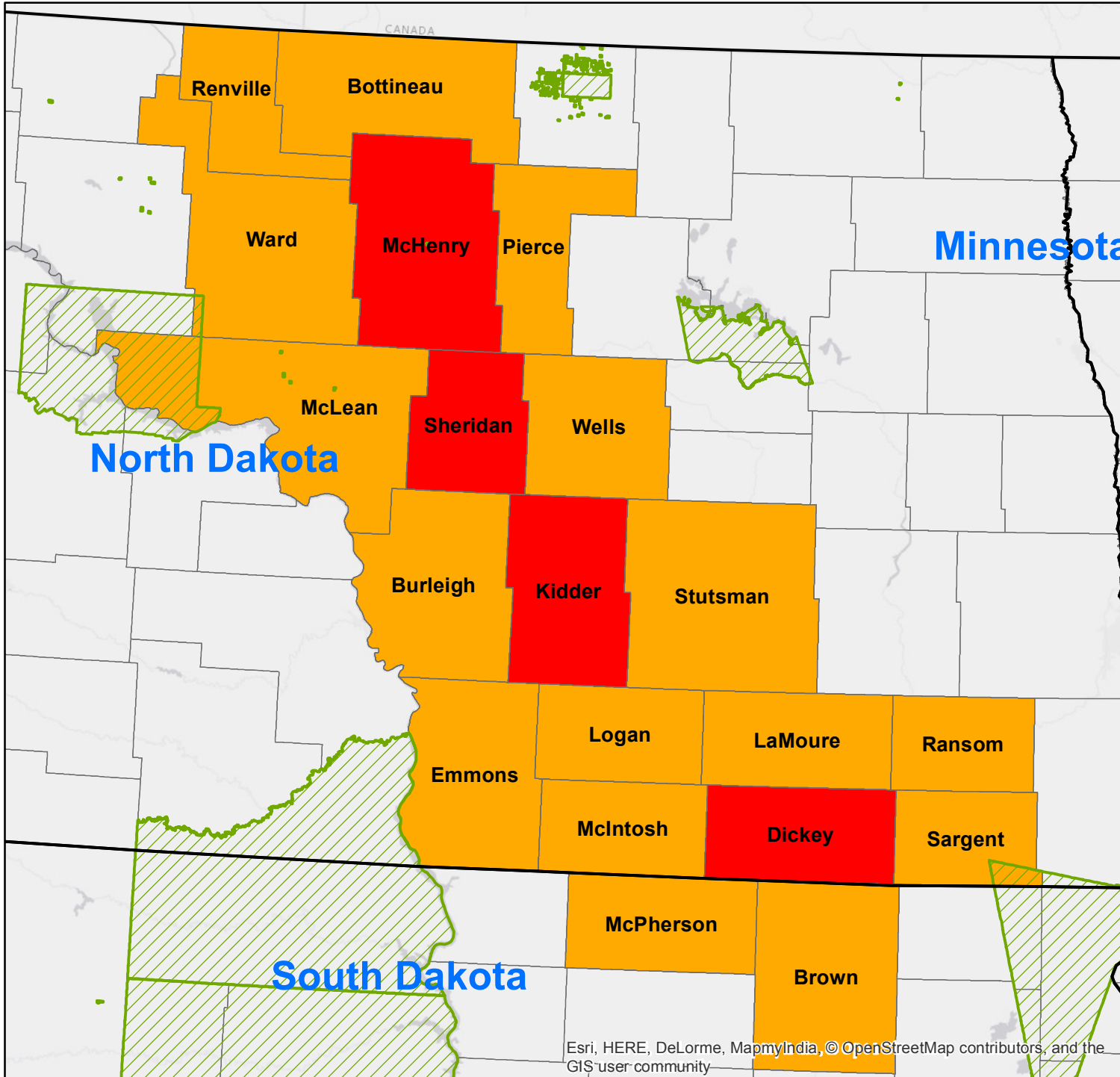
Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

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

Sonny Perdue  
Secretary

# 2017 Fast Track Drought - ND 8337658



- ### Designations
- State Boundary
  - Tribal Lands
  - County Boundary
  - Primary Counties: 4
  - Contiguous Counties: 16