



NEWS RELEASE

North Dakota State Water Commission

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Governor Burgum Holds Emergency Meeting of State Water Commission to Add Additional Funding for Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Program

Governor Doug Burgum and the State Water Commission authorized an additional \$500,000 in funding today for the Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Program. In total, \$825,000 has been allocated to the Program.

Gov. Burgum and the State Water Commission reactivated the Program at the Commission meeting held on June 22, 2017 with \$250,000 available in funding. On July 12, State Engineer Garland Erbele approved an additional \$75,000 in emergency funds at the request of Governor Burgum. (The State Engineer has the authority to authorize up to \$75,000 for projects without State Water Commission approval.)

The Program was originally created in 1991 and was last activated in 2006 following an emergency drought proclamation. The Program is administered by the State Water Commission and provides 50 percent cost-share assistance, of up to \$3,500 per project, with a maximum of three projects per applicant, to eligible livestock producers in designated counties experiencing drought-related impacts to their livestock operations.

Eligible items include: new water wells; rural water system connections; pipeline extensions and pasture taps; and associated works, labor, materials, and equipment rentals for work completed by the producer to develop new water supply projects.

The following counties are eligible to receive cost-share assistance at this time: Adams, Billings, Bottineau, Bowman, Burke, Burleigh, Dickey, Divide, Dunn, Emmons, Golden Valley, Grant, Hettinger, Kidder, LaMoure, Logan, McHenry, McIntosh, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Mountrail, Oliver, Pierce, Ransom, Renville, Sargent, Sheridan, Sioux, Slope, Stark, Stutsman, Ward, Wells, and Williams.

The Water Commission will continue to update eligible counties and drought information on its website at, www.swc.nd.gov. For further details about the program please contact the SWC Planning and Education Division at (701) 328-4989 or email swclivestock@nd.gov.