

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD SEEKS RELEASE OF CRP ACREAGE TO COLORADO RANCHERS FOR EMERGENCY GRAZING SAYS DROUGHT CONDITIONS REQUIRE QUICK ACTION

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) on Wednesday sent a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman requesting that she release certain Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands to Colorado ranchers for emergency grazing due to the extreme drought conditions.

“Colorado is facing its worst drought in the last hundred years,” said Allard. “If we do not take quick action many Colorado ranchers will face disastrous consequences.”

Allard in his letter to Veneman stressed that several Colorado counties have already requested the emergency release of CRP lands for grazing, but no action has been forthcoming.

“Several Colorado counties - already suffering from weather-related natural disasters - have requested that you make available certain Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage for emergency grazing,” wrote Allard. “Colorado producers need relief now, and an expedient decision is required.”

Allard also pointed out that USDA’s release of certain CRP lands for emergency grazing would relieve the impact on over-stressed pasture land.