

HERSETH SANDLIN ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL DISASTER RELIEF ELIGIBILITY

Washington, DC (July 1, 2010)—Today, the Federal Emergency Management Agency amended a disaster declaration for the State of South Dakota, **giving six additional counties eligibility for federal aid**. This declaration releases federal funds to help counties recover from flooding that occurred between March 10, 2010 – June 20, 2010.

Deuel, Douglas, Gregory, Hand, Lake, and Tripp counties were added to the original list of counties eligible for assistance.

“Flooding has become an all-too-familiar occurrence in South Dakota,” Rep. Herseth Sandlin said. “These funds are critical to helping get severely-affected communities back on their feet. I have been working with representatives from FEMA, DOT and other groups on the federal, state and local levels to ensure these communities have the resources they need.”

Rep. Herseth Sandlin, Senators Johnson and Thune wrote the President to support Governor Rounds’ request for the disaster declaration. Herseth Sandlin held eight community meetings in April to hear from South Dakotans and discuss ways to respond to current flooding and mitigate the effects of future flooding. Rep. Herseth Sandlin met with Administrators from both Federal Emergency Management Agency and Federal Highway Administration in June to share constituent input from her meetings and discuss the extent of the damage, the immediate impact on transportation, infrastructure and agriculture, and her concerns about enhancing long-term flood management capabilities.

The full list of counties now eligible for assistance from FEMA includes: Aurora, Beadle, Brown, Brule, Buffalo, Charles Mix, Clark, Clay, Codington, Day, Deuel, Douglas, Edmunds, Faulk, Grant, Gregory, Hamlin, Hand, Hanson, Hutchinson, Hyde, Jerauld, Kingsbury, Lake, Lyman, Marshall, McCook, McPherson, Miner, Moody, Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, Sully, Tripp, Turner, and Union Counties.

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