

From Joe Budd, 6-5-17: Joe asked Cindy Hottel with USDA in Casper for information and this was her response:

In answer to your question about eligible NAP cause of loss, this reference in the 1-NAP handbook indicates wildlife damage is ineligible:

51 NAP Causes of Loss (Continued)

Par. 51

D Ineligible Causes of Loss (Continued)

- drifting herbicide
- prevented planting caused by chemical and herbicide residue
- wildlife damage
- inability of a producer to obtain a market for the crop
- inability of the crop to mature in time to meet a specific market
- except as provided for in Part 12, Section 3, loss of inventory or yield of aquaculture (including ornamental fish), floriculture, or ornamental nursery stemming from drought or any failure to provide water, soil, or growing media to such crop for any reason

With regard to ELAP, the loss conditions are listed in 1-LDAP (Rev. 1) par. 816G (excerpt below). In addition to the cause of loss, the producer must also have and report livestock on the acreage affected during the normal grazing period. To date there have been no causes of loss on grazing land that are approved, other than these conditions listed. To get an additional condition approved, the local FSA County Committee (COC) must first recommend approval for the loss condition. If the COC wants to pursue it they must show 1) the loss condition is related to the eligible weather events listed, and 2) the loss condition is beyond a producers control (not a management issue). If the COC recommends approval, the State FSA Committee must review all the COC's documentation and concur before the request can go to the national office for final review and decision.

G Eligible Adverse Weather or Eligible Loss Conditions for Livestock Grazing Losses

Eligible adverse weather or eligible loss conditions for livestock grazing losses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- blizzards
- eligible winter storms
- floods
- *--hail, according to provisions outlined in subparagraph 830 D--*
- hurricanes
- lightning
- tidal surge
- volcanic eruption
- wildfires on non-Federally managed grazing lands.

DAFP may add additional eligible cause of losses for livestock grazing losses based on a recommendation from STC.

I did find an interesting article from the Colorado Extension Service here <http://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/natural-resources/managing-prairie-dogs-6-506/> . It's educational only but very thorough. It's clear from the research I've done there is too much risk of non-target species death from poisons as well as protection concerns that most federal or state entities are not able to use tax dollars for assistance to producers due to liability. If you find something out there, let me know!