

NEWS RELEASE
GOVERNOR STEVE BULLOCK
STATE OF MONTANA

FOR RELEASE: August 13, 2013

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HELENA – Governor Steve Bullock today sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack (attached) requesting a Natural Disaster Designation due to the severe hail storm in Gallatin County on Thursday, August 1, 2013.

“The impacts of this storm have been devastating to farmers throughout Gallatin County,” Bullock said. “I’ve requested this declaration to ensure producers have the resources they need to recover quickly and continue to build our economy.”

The hail storm caused a minimum of \$44 million in damage to crops in Gallatin County, and significant damage to equipment, vehicles, structures and storage facilities. The storm has had a significant impact on the local economy, specifically on crop and pasture production.

The request from Bullock came after the Commissioners of Gallatin County passed a resolution on Monday seeking this declaration.

Last week, Bullock toured some of the impacted farmland to assess the damage with Senator Jon Tester.