

2/09/2005 Kansas Counties Receive Disaster Designation

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Assistance Available for Ice-stricken Counties

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that First District counties Chase, Greenwood, Lyon, Marion, Morris, Pratt, Reno, Rice and Wabaunsee have qualified for a Presidential disaster declaration due to the severe ice storms that hit the area January 4 through 6, 2005. The declaration qualifies state and local municipalities to receive federal funds to repair or replace disaster-damaged public facilities.

"The heavy snow and ice tore down trees, broke power lines and caused significant damage," Moran said. "Fortunately, this declaration means that some assistance is on the way for Kansans in the area. Hopefully those affected by the storms will quickly receive the assistance they need to get things back in order."

In addition to the immediate assistance that will be provided to these affected counties, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has also announced that these counties will be eligible to apply for the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The program provides assistance to state and local governments for actions taken to prevent or reduce long term risk to life and property from natural or technological hazards.

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