

1/03/2007 Moran Tours Western Kansas Storm Damage

Moran Tours Western Kansas Storm Damage

Delays Return to Washington, D.C., to Visit Storm Areas and Meet with Local Officials

COLBY - Congressman Jerry Moran today will visit western Kansas communities to view storm damage and meet with local officials. Moran will travel with Governor Kathleen Sebelius, Adjutant General Tod Bunting and Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Adrian Polansky.

"Communities in western Kansas were hit hard last week by winter storms," Moran said. "Many are without power and livestock producers have stranded cattle and are facing feed shortages. Today's visits will allow us to hear directly from local officials, utility service providers and agriculture producers about the situation and what we can do to help those who have been affected by the storm."

Moran is working to have affected counties designated as a federal disaster area. A Presidential Disaster Designation would provide assistance with clean up and the restoration of utility services through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Today, Moran will also visit with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Mike Johanns to explain the situation of Kansas livestock producers and explore opportunities for assistance from USDA. One such possibility is a USDA natural disaster designation that would provide relief for farmers and ranchers through emergency loan programs.

###