Exigency Preparedness in West Virginia

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Mon CD – Marion, Monongahela & Preston

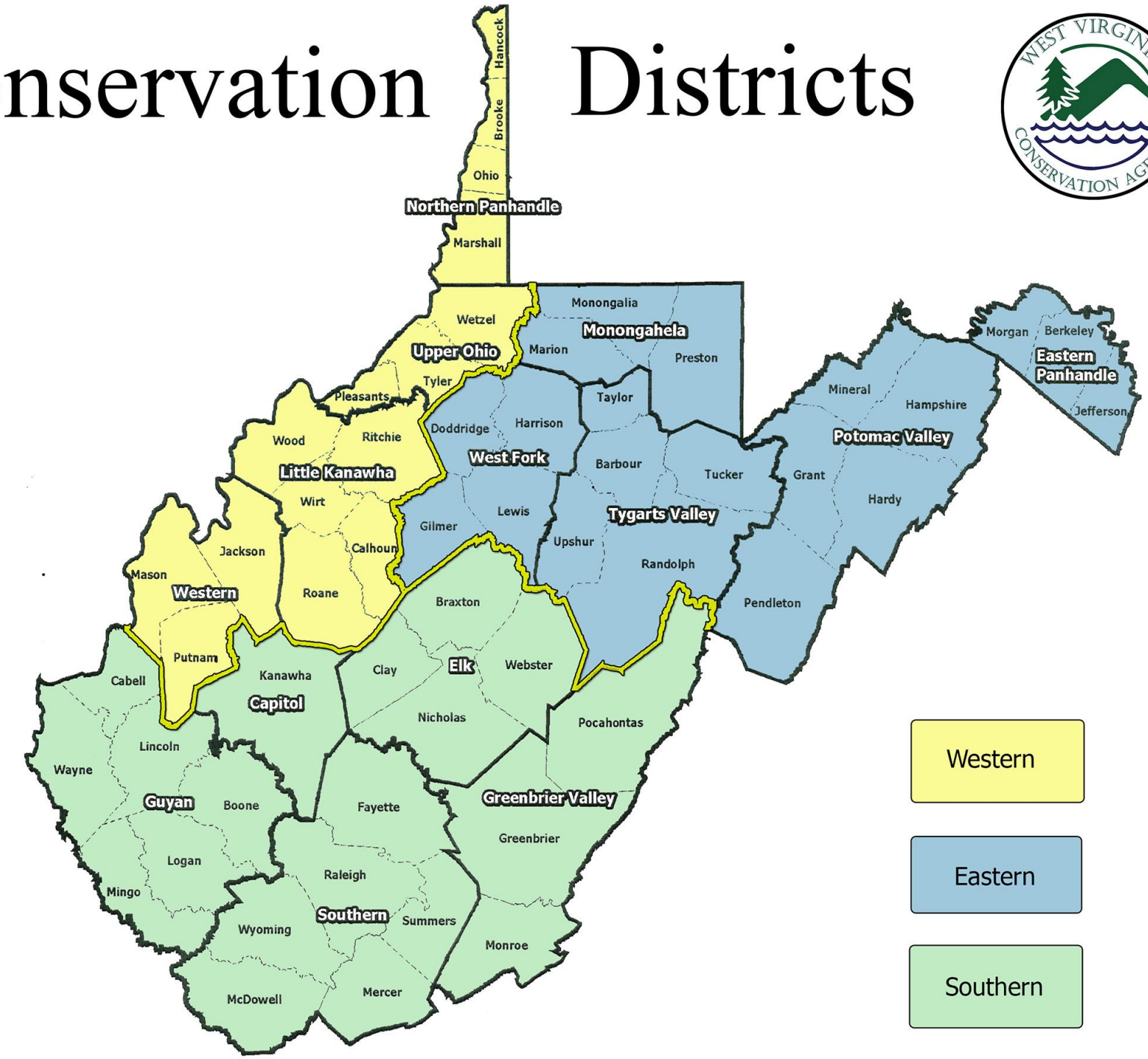
West Fork CD - Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison & Lewis

Conservation Districts

Western
- Northern Panhandle
- Upper Ohio
- Little Kanawha
- Western

Eastern
- *Monongahela*
- *West Fork*
- Tygarts Valley
- Potomac Valley
- Eastern Pan

Southern
- Guyan
- Capital
- Southern
- Elk
- Greenbrier Valley



History of Events Leading to EWP

Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP)

- West Virginia changed the state law in 2006 to grant WVCA the authority to enter private property and waters of the state during times of declared emergencies to remove flood debris.
- EWP is activated only when the governor issues a disaster/emergency declaration.
- All EWP work shall be conducted within areas covered under the declaration.
- WVCA created this policy to address response to EWP events.

EWP - Assistance, Implementations & Qualifications

- WVCA works with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and DEP.

- WVCA is working to involve county/city governments in recovery process.

- To qualify for WVCA EWP, a project must: Pose an immediate threat to life, public health or safety; or Eliminate a threat to improved public or private property; and restore the waterway to pass a 5-year storm event.

Recent examples include Spring 2019 and Fall 2019

Categories of Exigent Practices

- Exigent Revegetation of Winter-Feeding Areas
- Exigent Cover Crop Establishment
- Exigent Irrigation Water Supply
- Exigent Livestock Water Supply
- Exigent Temporary Fence
- Exigent High Tunnel and Greenhouse Repair

Practices Implemented Within MCD & WFCD Districts

Practice	Payment Rate	Material Cap	Cooperator Cap
Exigency Livestock Water Supply	50%	Any approved material	$500
Exigent Temporary Fence	50%	Any approved material	$500

Livestock Watering Items Eligible for Cost Share

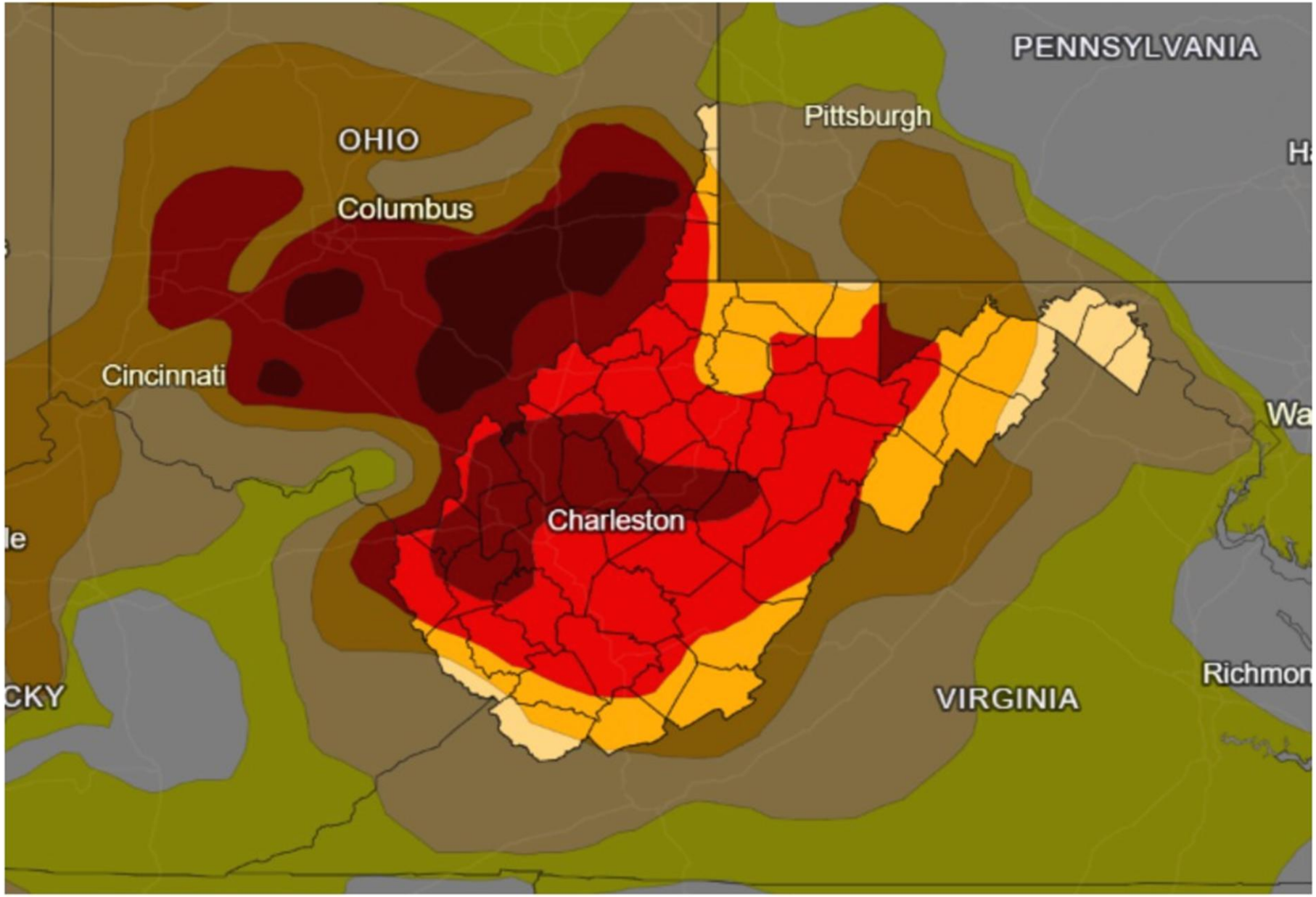
- Portable Water Tank
- Associated Valves and Pipe Fittings
- Water Pump
- Portable Pipeline
- Portable Watering Trough

Temporary Fencing Items Eligible for Cost Share

Materials Eligible for Cost-Share

- Poly Wire
- High Tensile Wire
- Temporary Electric Net Fence
- Insulators
- Tighteners
- Staples
- Step In Posts
- T-Posts
- Corner Bracing Materials
- Wooden Posts
- Fence Chargers/Energizers
- Ground Rods
- Connectors
- Other CD Approved Temporary Fencing Materials

U.S. Drought Monitor: West Virginia



Other State Assistance & Information

- FSA – Water systems, cost shares, hay, cattle, hauling reimbursement.
- NRCS – Guidelines and assistance.

- Meetings in the districts are ongoing state-wide in West Virginia and continue as a popular and priority topic.
- The exigency tracking within WV Conservation Agency allows us to keep record of all drought related assistance provided.











Flood and Drought

- Flood - April 2024
- Drought - July – September 2024













- Upper Ohio district drought and water trough installation through exigency program.
- Cattle in Preston County using a portable tank to get water to trough.
- Horses in Gilmer and cattle in Mon using temporary fence.
- Dry spring in Harrison County due to drought.