

DETERMINATION

1. As provided by the delegation of authority in the Agriculture Acquisition Regulations (AGAR) 401.601(a)(2), the determination below is made to authorize use of the special emergency procurement authority in 41 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 1903.

2. On September 17 and 18, 2017, President Donald J. Trump declared that an emergency exists in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands. The President ordered Federal assistance to supplement commonwealth, territory and local response efforts due to the emergency conditions resulting from Hurricane Maria beginning on September 16, 2017, and continuing.

3. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been tasked with supporting the recovery efforts associated with the hurricane damage.

4. Therefore, as the USDA Senior Procurement Executive, I hereby determine that for USDA contracting actions made in support of the emergency declarations specified above, the increased thresholds and limitations provided in 41 U.S.C. § 1903(b) are effective immediately. This special emergency procurement authority will remain in effect for the remainder of fiscal year 2018 or until such time as the declarations of emergency identified above are rescinded, whichever date is earliest.

This 5th day of October, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George M. Cabaniss Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

George M Cabaniss Jr
Senior Procurement Executive, USDA