

September 2012



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Humboldt/Lander Counties FSA Updates

Winnemucca FSA Office Address:

1200 E. Winnemucca Blvd.
Winnemucca, NV 89445
Phone:775-623-5025
Fax:775-623-1386
Hours:7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

State/County Staff

Katie Nuffer ext. 104

CED

State Program Specialist

Daniel Ferraro ext. 107

Farm Loan Officer

Denise Cerri ext. 121

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Program Technicians

NRCS Staff

Leah Mori ext.102

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Nicole Pennington ext. 109

County Committee (COC):

Chairman:

Fred Wilkinson

Vice-Chair:

Debbie Hummel

Members:

Susan Kern

Theresa Marvel

Tom Reichert

Meetings are held the

second Tuesday of the

month at 10:00 a.m.

(subject to change)

Emergency Farm Loans

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters or quarantine. Emergency loan

Fencing Damage Sign Up for Fire Recovery

Livestock Producers Contact Farm Service Agency by Oct. 26 for Assistance

Farms and ranches in Humboldt and Lander Counties with damage to fences due to the recent fires may be eligible for cost-share assistance under the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). Administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the program applies to restoring or repairing fences damaged by natural disaster.

Fences must be used for agricultural purposes to permit grazing of range, pasture or forage by livestock. Fencing of public land is eligible only if it will directly benefit privately owned land, costs will be borne by the eligible participant and participant has written evidence of right to use the land and maintain the fencing. A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive from 60% to 100% of the cost for fencing replacement, depending on factors including the age of the fencing damaged.

Producers affected by the recent fires who need assistances have until close of business Oct. 26, 2012 to contact the Winnemucca FSA Office to request assistance. Call the Winnemucca Office for an appointment at (775) 623-5025. You can also visit the office at 1200 E. Winnemucca Blvd. in Winnemucca.

Emergency Conservation Sign Up Extended to Help Drought Recovery

Emergency Conservation Sign Up Extended to Help Drought Recovery Livestock Producers Contact Farm Service Agency for Assistance Farms and ranches in Humboldt and Lander Counties experiencing severe drought conditions may be eligible for cost-share assistance under the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). Administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the program applies if water for livestock has been reduced below normal to the extent that livestock cannot survive without additional water.

The program allows for water conservation and enhancement measures to permit grazing of range, pasture or forage by livestock in times of severe

funds may be used to:

- Restore or replace essential property
- Pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year
- Pay essential family living expense
- Reorganize the farming operation
- Refinance certain debts

Further information and applications for the loan programs described are available at local FSA county offices. Contact your nearest office for an appointment.

Youth Loans

FSA makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Stop by the county office for details and help preparing and processing the application forms. The FSA staff can help you with questions you may have about a particular program.

drought. The practices are to be used for livestock on grazing land that does not have access to water because of an extended period of severe drought conditions. It is required that no other means of obtaining water for livestock is available. The practice can be used in areas where there is adequate range or pasture residue for livestock to be served by the water hauled to that area and can be used to contribute to better grazing distribution. The land must have had adequate livestock water prior to the drought.

Producers experiencing severe drought conditions who need assistance to provide supplemental emergency livestock water have until close of business October 30th, 2012 to contact the Winnemucca FSA Office to request assistance. Call the Winnemucca Office for an appointment at (775) 623-5025. You can also visit the office at 1200 E. Winnemucca Blvd. A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive cost shares not to exceed 50% for permanent practice and 75% of the cost of temporary practices.

USDA Makes Changes To Help With Drought Crisis

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) has announced another helpful change that livestock producers will appreciate. For the 2012 crop year, RMA will allow haying and grazing of cover crops without affecting the insurability of planted 2013 spring crops. This means farmers and ranchers can plant a cover crop without foregoing crop insurance coverage in 2013, thus giving producers another opportunity to grow needed forage and feed for this fall and winter. However, before making any plans to plant crop cover, producers should consult with their insurance agent. Another change was the commitment from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to change the emergency loan program so that farmers and ranchers are eligible to apply earlier in the disaster recovery process. With this change, producers are no longer required to wait until the end of the production cycle to obtain a loan. That means livestock producers needing assistance today to offset increased feed costs don't have to wait.

For more information on this program or other issues, just contact the FSA office located in your local USDA Service Center.

NAP Loss Filing

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely submission of a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the

rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department. Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities

For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Dates to Remember

Sept 30th, **2013** NAP Signup Ends-All Grain Crops

Oct. 31st, **2013** NAP Signup Ends-All Other Hay Crops

Dec. 1st, **2013** NAP Signup Ends-Grazing

NOTICE OF LOSS: Must be reported 15 days from date EACH covered loss becomes apparent

AFIDA – Foreign Investor Disclosure

Any foreign person who acquires, transfers or holds any interest, other than a security interest, in agricultural land in the United States is required by law to report the transaction no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction. They must file Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) reports with the FSA county office that maintains reports for the county where the land is located.

For AFIDA purposes, agricultural land is defined as any land used for farming, ranching or timber production, if the tracts total 10 acres or more. For more information regarding AFIDA and FSA programs, contact the FSA office near you or visit the USDA Web site at <http://www.usda.gov>.

Farm Operating - Direct 1.500%

Farm Operating - Direct 1.125%

Farm Ownership - Direct 3.000%

Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher 1.500%

Emergency 2.125%

Farm Storage Facility – 7 year 1.125%

Farm Storage Facility – 10 year 1.625%

Farm Storage Facility – 12 year 1.875%

Hispanic and Women Discrimination Claims

The process to resolve claims of discrimination by USDA asserted by some Hispanic and women farmers is nearing the phase when a claims packet will be made available for potential claimants. A court supervised third-party administrative process is available for claimants to submit claims for independent adjudication and potentially receive compensation for losses they may have incurred as a result of discrimination in loan making and loan services. If you believe you have been discriminated against by USDA between 1981 and 200 because you are Hispanic or female, call the toll-free number or visit the website to receive a claims packet or get further information. You can call **1- 888-508-4429** or visit www.farmerclaims.gov. Once the claims period is announced claimants will have 180 days (6 months) to complete the claim form and submit the claims.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9450, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).