

# April/May 2012



## Yerington/Minden FSA Updates

DEAR PRODUCERS: Welcome to the new GovDelivery bulletins and updates service from your Yerington/Minden FSA office. Note that you are welcome to request to receive bulletins from more than one county and can add or remove individual subscriptions at any time. Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by visiting [www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe). Give it a try right now!

### Yerington/Minden FSA

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Yerington, NV 89447

**Phone:** 775-463-2855

**Fax:** 775-463-3780

**Hours:** 7:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Monday - Friday

[www.fsa.usda.gov/NV](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/NV)

### County Committee

#### Yerington

Louis Scatena

Chairman

Matt Johnson Vice-Chair

Randy Emm

Member

Denise Hunewill

Member

David Giorgi Member

### County Committee

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## IN THIS ISSUE

- DCP / ACRE Signup
- NRCS Innovative Landowner Partnership
- Acreage Certification
- Continuous CRP Initiative
- Disaster Declaration - Primary Natural Disaster
- Compensation for Claims of Discrimination
- Adjusted Gross Income
- Farm Record Changes
- Minority Farm Register
- Tables -- Interest Rates and Dates to Remember

## 2012 DCP/ACRE Program Sign-Up

The 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical

### **Minden FSA Office Proposal of Office Consolidation**

FSA received word from Bruce Nelson, FSA Administrator, that on January 9th, 2012, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced that USDA would move forward with the proposed consolidation of 131 FSA County Offices. This was a direct result of funding reductions by Congress which resulted in staff reductions over the years. Within 30 days of the announcement, effected FSA offices across the nation held public meetings regarding the proposed office closures.

Following the public meetings, USDA issued notification to Congress at least 90 days before any closure would be approved by USDA as required by the 2008 Farm Bill.

On May 28th, 2012, the 90 day period ends. If USDA approves the proposed office closures, this will affect the Minden FSA Office.

The Minden FSA Office and the Yerington FSA Office would be consolidated in the Yerington location. The County Office Committees (COC) representing each office would also be consolidated into one COC. Restructuring of the Local Administrative Areas (LAAs) will take place early in 2013, with elections for the newly restructured COC in the fall of 2013. Newly elected member would take office January 1, 2014.

The Staff will continue to work with the producers in the counties currently administered out of the

**Program (DCP) enrollment runs from January 23, 2012 through June 1, 2012. Here are some IMPORTANT REMINDERS: All producers planting on DCP base acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm. Changes on the farm after June 1, 2012 enrollment in DCP/ACRE must be reported to your local FSA office. Changes may include: (a) Ownership changes, (b) Producer changes (Individuals and Entities), (c) Change in crop shares arrangements. No changes can be made after September 30, 2012.**

## **REMINDER TO NAP PRODUCERS:**

**You are required to file an acreage report on all your acres in the county you have NAP coverage. The deadlines appear under the Acreage Certification article. Also, you have 15 days to file a Notice of Loss on your crops or grazing covered by your NAP coverage. Please contact the FSA Office to request the form if you feel you have suffered any below normal production on your covered crops (including grazed acreage).**

## **Partnership**



Sage Grouse



Southwestern Willow Flycatcher

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and

Minden FSA Office so there is no lapse in service to you if the consolidation takes place as proposed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at (775)463-2855 Ext. 102.

### **New Continuous CRP Initiative**

FSA has announced a new conservation initiative to protect up to 750,000 acres of the nation's most highly erodible croplands by enabling them to plant wildlife-friendly, long-term cover. The initiative will assist producers in targeting their most highly erodible cropland with an erodability index of 20 or greater.

Producers can enroll land on a continuous basis beginning this summer. With the use of soil survey and geographic information system data, local FSA staff can determine a producer's eligibility for the initiative. Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office or visit FSA's website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/crp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/crp) for additional CRP information.

### **NOTICE: Hispanic and/or Women Farmers or Ranchers -- Compensation for Claims of Discrimination**

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. To register your name to

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced a new \$33 million partnership with agricultural producers and Tribes to use innovative approaches to restore and protect wildlife habitat for two at-risk species found in Nevada.

The endangered southwestern willow flycatcher is a small bird that resides along riparian areas on rivers and streams in southern Nevada. Flooding, development and invasive species have reduced the number of native willows that the bird relies on for its habitat and food supply.

The greater sage-grouse, a large chicken-like bird that depends on sagebrush to survive, is declining from loss of habitat caused by wildfire, predation and other factors. It is found throughout northern Nevada.

Landowners will receive incentive payments of 75 to 90 percent of the estimated cost for installing practices identified in a conservation plan developed with the landowner.

There are numerous conservation practices that will make a significant difference toward recovery of these species and assist in protecting riparian habitats, restoring native plant communities, preventing catastrophic fires and applying appropriate range management techniques. These practices also have other benefits including reducing risk of wildfire, helping with flood control and improving water quality.

Producers and landowners can enroll in the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program on a continuous basis at their local NRCS field office. Applications received before April 30 will be considered in the first ranking period. Applications within priority habitat areas will receive highest consideration. Maps are available on the NV NRCS Web site. For more information, visit the Nevada NRCS Web site at [www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov), or contact your local NRCS Yerington Office at 775-463-2265 & Minden at 775-782-3661.

## **Acreage Certification**

Time is nearing for Producers to certify their 2012 acreage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of program benefits. Failed

receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov). The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

### **Adjusted Gross Income**

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have established an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent is required from each producer or payment recipient to initiate the tax review process. No actual data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA.

This ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit from CCC-931 to their local County Office by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. This form may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/main.servlet>.

### **Minority Farm Register Open for Minority**

acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date. Acreage reports are required for many FSA programs. The deadlines to report acreage for the counties administered by this office for **2012** are:

- **California:**

**April 30, 2012:**

Fall or Spring Seeded Small Grains

**July 15, 2012:**

All crops except Small Grains

- **Nevada:**

**June 15, 2012:**

Fall or Spring Seeded Small Grains

**July 15, 2012:**

All crops except Small Grains

### **NEW ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINES FOR 2013:**

- **California:**

**December 15, 2012:**

Perennial Forage, Fall Wheat and all other Fall seeded crops not specified

**March 15, 2013:**

Alfalfa Seed, Fall Barley, Spring Oats (Planted 10/1-2/15), Spring Wheat (11/1-2/15)

**May 15, 2013:**

Spring Oats (3/1-4/20)

**June 15, 2013:**

Forage Seeding

**July 15, 2013:**

Spring Alfalfa Seed, Spring Oats (4/21-5/31), Spring Wheat (3/6-5/31), Spring Barley, and all other Spring seeded crops not specified.

- **Nevada:**

**December 15, 2012:**

Fall Barley, Perennial Forage, Fall Forage Seeding, Fall Wheat and all other fall seeded small grains.

**June 15, 2013:**

Spring Barley, Spring Forage Seeding, Onions and Spring Wheat

**July 15, 2013:**

Spring Alfalfa Seed, Spring Oats and all other

## **Farmers/Ranchers**

Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages minority farmers and ranchers in Nevada to voluntarily join the USDA Minority Farm Register to receive information and opportunities from USDA agencies. The new Minority Farm register is an outreach tool designed to reach underserved farmers and ranchers who are not currently enrolled in USDA loan, farm or conservation programs.

By joining the Register, minority producers may receive outreach materials, newsletters and program announcements from USDA agencies. They may also receive information and assistance from other USDA-approved outreach partners such as community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and minority-serving educational institutions. USDA will carefully control access to and use of the register.

Registration forms are available in Spanish (AD-2035SP) and English (AD-2035) on the FSA website [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) under "Forms."

## **Farm Record Changes**

June 1, 2012, is the deadline to provide changes to your farm records at the local FSA office for the 2011 crop year. If you are changing your operation entity type, adding or dropping cropland or farms, or adding entities to your operation, contact your FSA office by June 1.

## **Selected Interest Rates - May 2012**

Spring seeded crops

Acreage reports on crops covered by NAP are due in the county office by the earlier of the established acreage reporting dates listed above, or 15 days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific acreage being reported. Please call and schedule an appointment in advance of coming in to report your acreage.

# **USDA Designates Elko and Humboldt Counties in Nevada as Primary Natural Disaster Areas**

Washington, March 5, 2012 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has designated Elko and Humboldt counties in Nevada as natural disaster areas due to losses caused by wildfires that occurred from September 30, 2011, through October 5, 2011.

"President Obama and I understand these conditions caused severe damage to pasture and forage, and we want to help," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "This action will provide help to hundreds of farmers who suffered significant production losses."

Farmers and Ranchers in Eureka, Lander, Pershing, Washoe and White Pine counties in Nevada also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous.

All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas March 2, 2012, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the EM loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from

90-Day Treasury  
 Bill  
 0.125%  
 Farm Operating -  
 Direct 1.50%  
 Farm Ownership -  
 Direct 3.50%  
 Farm Ownership -  
 Direct Down Payment,  
 Beginning Farmer or  
 Rancher 1.500%  
 Emergency  
 Loan 3.750%  
 Farm Storage Facility  
 Loan - 7 year 1.500%  
 Farm Storage Facility  
 Loan - 10 year 2.125%  
 Farm Storage Facility  
 Loan - 12 year 2.375%



adversity.

USDA has also made other programs available to assist farmers and ranchers, including the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), which was approved as part of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008; the Emergency Conservation Program; Federal Crop Insurance; and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. Interested farmers may contact their local USDA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/>.

Secretary Vilsack also reminds producers that the department's authority to operate the five disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill expired on September 30, 2011. This includes SURE; the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP); the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). Production losses in the counties listed above are covered because the event triggering the loss occurred prior to the expiration of these programs; however, production losses due to disasters occurring after September 30, 2011, are not eligible for disaster program coverage.

FSA news releases are available on FSA's website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/> via the "News and Events" link.

## Dates to Remember:

- May 24

**Combined COC Meeting – Minden and Yerington**

- May 28

**Memorial Day- Office Closed**

- June 1

**Deadline for DCP Filing**

- Oct 31



## **Deadline - NAP for Forage**

- **Dec 1**

## **Deadline – NAP for Grazing**

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 20250-9410, 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).

For more information on bulletin subjects or details regarding your GovDelivery subscription with the Yerington/Minden FSA Office, contact Betty Hodik, County Executive Director at [betty.hodik@nv.usda.gov](mailto:betty.hodik@nv.usda.gov) or 775-463-2855.

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