



# NEWSLETTER



WASHAKIE-HOT SPRINGS COUNTY FSA

208 SHILOH RD WORLAND, WY 82401

MAY 2015

Phone: 307-347-2456

FAX: 1-855-415-3445

Next meeting:

**June 11, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Staff:**

Bill Morrison, Acting CED

Bill Morrison, FLM

Lisa Bower, PT

Teresa Shelton, PT

**County Committee:**

Everett Jones, Chairperson

Kirk Tolman, Vice-Chairperson

Julie Haun, Member

Arnold Pennoyer, Member

Dave Slover, Member

## **Emergency Livestock Assistance Program Coverage for Livestock & Honeybees (Excluding Farm-Raised Fish)**

Potential Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) Coverage pertaining to livestock and/or honeybees is as follows:

- Loss coverage includes the cost of purchasing livestock feed above normal quantities. The weather event cannot be a drought and the feed consumed by the livestock has to be greater than the normal amount fed the previous two years. The feed does not have to be purchased or fed during the normal grazing period from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>. This loss must be tied to a verifiable weather event.
- Costs and related costs to transport feed to livestock due to a verifiable weather event.
- Loss coverage for grazing losses that were not related to fire during the normal grazing period from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup> due to an eligible weather event. An example of an eligible weather event is as follows: Flood, hail, prolonged snow cover between April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>, etc.
- Loss coverage for purchased or mechanically harvested feed destroyed in the stack by flood, tornado or some other verifiable natural disaster. This feed must be used by the producers for their own livestock. Feed raised for sale to others is not eligible.
- Livestock deaths caused by non-natural events, which led to excessive herd mortality rates. Excessive herd mortality rates must be higher than normal annual losses. Examples of such events are: human caused wildfires, an abnormal disease, etc.

Producers who suffer eligible livestock or honeybee losses must file:

- A notice of loss the earlier of 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent or by November 1, 2015
- An application for payment by November 1, 2015

Eligible honeybee loss includes loss of purchased feed due to an eligible adverse weather event, cost of additional feed purchased above normal quantities due to an eligible adverse weather condition, colony losses in excess of normal mortality due to an eligible weather event or loss condition, including colony collapse disorder (CCD), and hive losses due to eligible adverse weather.

## **2015 CROP REPORTING**

The annual timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs.

Crop reports must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. In Wyoming, the spring reporting deadline is: July 15, 2015 – Spring Seeded Alfalfa, Forage Seeding, and all other spring seeded crops.

## **2015 COC NOMINATIONS**

All farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agriculture issues. Members serve a three-year term.

If you wish to run or want to nominate a fellow producer for the county committee, please contact this office for a nomination form (FSA-669A), also available online at <http://www/fsa/usda/gov>.

## **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, freeze, other natural disasters or quarantine. Emergency loan 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.

## **LOANS FOR THE SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED**

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of socially disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

## **Beginning Farmer Loans**

FSA assists beginning farmers to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size farm.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

## **USDA Reminds Farmers of 2014 Farm Bill Conservation Compliance Changes**

The 2014 Farm bill implements a change that requires farmers to have a Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Certification (AD-1026) on file.

For farmers to be eligible for premium support on their federal crop insurance, a completed and signed AD-1026 certification form must be on file with the FSA. The Risk Management Agency (RMA), through the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), manages the federal crop insurance program that provides the modern farm safety net for American farmers and ranchers.

Since enactment of the 1985 farm bill, eligibility for most commodity, disaster, and conservation programs have been linked to compliance with the highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions. The 2014 Farm Bill continues the requirement that producers adhere to conservation compliance guidelines to be eligible for most programs administered by FSA and NRCS. This includes most financial assistance such as the new price and revenue protection programs, the

Conservation Reserve Program, the Livestock Disaster Assistance programs, Marketing Assistance Loans, and most programs implemented by FSA. It also includes the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Conservation Stewardship Program, and other conservation programs implemented by Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Many FSA and NRCS programs already have implemented this requirement and therefore most producers should already have an AD-1026 on file for their associated lands. If an AD-1026 form has not been filed or is incomplete, then farmers are reminded of the deadline of June 1, 2015.

## **Filing a Notice of Loss**

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 filing 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, Notice of Loss, 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.

## **YOUTH LOANS**

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural 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.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA Office  
208 Shiloh RD  
Worland, WY 82401



PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Farm Service Agency  
PERMIT # G-96

**ATTENTION:**  
**LOOK INSIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE  
EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
AND POTENTIAL LOSS COVERAGE  
FOR LIVESTOCK & HONEYBEES**

<b>IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:</b>	
MONTHLY COC MEETING	JUNE 11, 2015
4 <sup>TH</sup> OF JULY HOLIDAY – OFFICE CLOSED	JULY 3, 2015
LAST DAY FOR CROP REPORTING	JULY 15, 2015
FINAL COC NOMINATIONS DUE	JULY 27, 2015
Office Hours are from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Producers are urged to call for an appointment, so the office staff can assist you in a timely manner.	<b>Selected Interest Rates for May 2015:</b> Farm Operating Loan – Direct - 2.50% Farm Ownership Loan – Direct - 3.625% Farm Ownership – Down Payment – 1.50% Farm Ownership – Joint Financing – 2.50% <b>Farm Storage Facility Loans for May:</b> Grain Bins – 7 year term - 1.75%

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users)

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting/event/function should contact Washakie-Hot Springs County Office at 307-347-2456 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 by June 2, 2015.