

October 2016



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Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA Updates

Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA Office

208 Shiloh Rd
Worland, WY 82401

Phone: 307-347-2456
Fax: 855-415-3445

County Executive Director Trainee:

Lisa Bower

Farm Loan Manager:

Bill Morrison

Program Technicians:

Teresa Shelton
Tracy Neidig

County Committee:

Dave Slover, Chairperson
Kirk Tolman, Vice-Chairperson
Julie Haun, Member
Everett Jones, Member
Arnold Pennoyer, Member

Next County Committee Meeting:

November 3, 2016 2:00 pm

Washakie County Livestock Forage Disaster Program Sign-up

Washakie County livestock producers who have suffered a grazing loss due to drought may be eligible for assistance under the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers equal to 60 percent of the monthly feed cost for a one month period (based on drought severity).

If you have suffered a grazing loss due to drought in 2016, **please call the office to set up an appointment** to file an application at 307-347-2456 ext. 2.

Please be prepared to provide the following information to FSA when you arrive for your appointment to apply for the Livestock Forage Program.

1. New or renewed leases that have not been reported to FSA.
2. Deed or proof of ownership for any purchased land that has not been reported to FSA.
3. Entity paper work, if you are applying as an entity. This must include signature authority for the entity.
4. The number of livestock that normally would graze your pastures.

The deadline to apply for LFP is January 30, 2017.

Upcoming Acreage Reporting Dates

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Washakie-Hot Springs County:

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.
- If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of “cover only,” “green manure,” “left standing,” or “seed,” then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact the Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA office at 307-347-2456 ext. 2.

USDA Expands Microloans to Help Farmers Purchase Farmland and Improve Property

Producers, Including Beginning and Underserved Farmers, Have a New Option to Gain Access to Land

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is offering farm ownership microloans, creating a new financing avenue for farmers to buy and improve property. These microloans are especially helpful to beginning or underserved farmers, U.S. veterans looking for a career in farming, and those who have small and mid-sized farming operations.

The microloan program, which celebrates its third anniversary this week, has been hugely successful, providing more than 16,800 low-interest loans, totaling over \$373 million to producers across the country. Microloans have helped farmers and ranchers with operating costs, such as feed, fertilizer, tools, fencing, equipment, and living expenses since 2013. Seventy percent of loans have gone to new farmers.

Now, microloans will be available to also help with farm land and building purchases, and soil and water conservation improvements. FSA designed the expanded program to simplify the application process, expand eligibility requirements and expedite smaller real estate loans to help farmers strengthen their operations. Microloans provide up to \$50,000 to qualified producers, and can be issued to the applicant directly from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

This microloan announcement is another USDA resource for America’s farmers and ranchers to utilize, especially as [new and beginning farmers and ranchers](#) look for the assistance they need to get started. To learn more about the FSA microloan program visit www.fsa.usda.gov/microloans, or contact your local FSA office. To find your nearest office location, please visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact [Lisa Bower](#) at 307-347-2456 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. 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).