

November 2018



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

# BULLETIN

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## Sweetwater/Sublette-Uinta County FSA Updates

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### Sweetwater/Sublette-Uinta FSA Office

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Rock Springs, WY 82901

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100 E. Sage  
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Lyman, WY 82937

Phone: 307.787.3859 x2  
Fax: 855.415.3435

### County Executive Director:

Jennifer Dutton

### Farm Loan Manager:

Brian Harrell

### Program Technician:

Ashley Simpson (UIN)  
Sadie St. Clair (SWT/SUB)

### From Jen's Desk

Can you believe its almost Thanksgiving already! Hopefully things are slowing down as the fall gather, preg checking and shipping is coming to an end and you will be able to enjoy some time with your families for the holidays.

The County Committees have requested assistance for the multiple fires that we experienced in Sweetwater and Sublette counties this summer. We are waiting for approval and/or funding from the National Office. Once we are notified, we will let you know, so keep an eye on your newsletters for more info. In the mean time, please keep these upcoming deadlines in mind.

- **December 1 - 2019 NAP purchase deadline**
- **December 3 - 2018 ELAP deadline**
- **December 3 - Ballots must be delivered or postmarked**
- **January 30 - 2018 LFP deadline**
- **March 1 - 2018 LIP deadline**

### Livestock Forage Program

Livestock Forage Program (LFP) is available eligible ranchers who have non-irrigated grazing land physically located in Sweetwater, WY (1 month), Carbon, WY (3 months), Moffat, CO (4 months), Daggett, UT (1 month),

**County Committee:**

Pete Arambel (SUB)  
Penny Chrisman (SUB)  
Kaye Goicolea (SWT)  
Bob Slagowski (SWT)

Wes Lupher (UIN)  
Dustin Condos (UIN)  
Steve Sims (UIN)  
L'Nette Iorg (UIN)

**Next County Committee Meeting:**

TBA

Summit, UT (1 month), Rich (3 months). Our office will be processing applications this fall at crop reporting appointments. You will need to bring the following types of documentation to complete your application:

- livestock numbers by class (cows, bulls, yearlings, ewes, bucks, yearling ewes etc)
- documentation to support livestock numbers (BLM or FS on/off dates and numbers report, vaccines, preg check, loan documents etc)
- copies of deeded property leases, copies of BLM and/or FS 10 year permits (verbal leases may be written out or call for a copy of FSA-855
- checkbook (if FSA-578, annual crop reports, weren't timely filed there is a fee to late file. All late filed crop reports must be filed by November 15, 2018.

**2019 Fall Crop Reporting**

In order to maintain program eligibility and benefits, producers must timely file acreage reports. Failure to file an acreage report by the crop acreage reporting deadline may result in ineligibility for future program benefits. FSA will not accept acreage reports provided more than a year after the acreage reporting deadline. Ranchers may report at either the Lyman or Rock Springs office.

**2018 Fires**

Sweetwater, Sublette and Uinta counties have been impacted by several fires, both large and small. If you have been affected by any fire, please call the office and let us know.

The County Committee, along with office staff, are exploring which programs will be available to assist with livestock death loss (LIP), fence/structure loss (ECP), grazing losses or other losses (LFP and/or ELAP) due to fires. Please keep us informed of what types and extent of losses you are experiencing as they become apparent. For most of these programs we have to request special permission and funding from the National Office, so we need to know the extent of damage so that we can request an adequate amount of assistance.

## FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections

The 2018 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections began on November 5, when ballots were mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return the ballots to local FSA offices is December 3, 2018.

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm, may also be eligible to vote.

December 3, 2018, is the last day for voters to submit ballots in person to local USDA Service Centers. Ballots returned by mail must also be postmarked no later than December 3. Newly elected committee members will take office January 1, 2019.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2018 fact sheet, can be found on the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections) or at a local USDA Service Center.

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## Payment Limitations by Program

The 2014 Farm Bill established a maximum dollar amount for each program that can be received annually, directly or indirectly, by each person or legal entity. Payment limitations vary by program for 2014 through 2018.

Below is an overview of payment limitations by program.

**Commodity and Price Support Programs** The annual limitation for the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) and Market Loan Gains is \$125,000 total.

**Conservation Programs** The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) annual rental payment and incentive payment is limited to \$50,000. CRP contracts approved before Oct. 1, 2008, may exceed the limitation, subject to payment limitation rules in effect on the date of contract approval.

The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) has an annual limit of \$200,000 per disaster event. The Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) has an annual limit of \$500,000 per disaster event.

### Disaster Assistance Programs – 2017 & Subsequent Years

The Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) and Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) have a \$125,000 per person and legal entity single payment limitation that applies to the total amount of program year payments received.

Program payments under the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and Tree Assistance Program (TAP) no longer have payment limits.

Payment limitations also apply to Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs. Contact your local NRCS office more information.

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## Submit Loan Requests for Financing Early

The Farm Loan team in Fremont County(serving Sweetwater, Sublette and Uinta) is already working on loans for 2019 so it is important that potential borrowers submit their requests early so they can be timely processed. The farm loan team can help determine which loan programs are best for applicants.

FSA offers a wide range of low-interest loans that can meet the financial needs of any farm operation for just about any purpose. The traditional **farm operating and farm ownership loans** can help large and small

farm operations take advantage of early purchasing discounts for spring inputs as well expenses throughout the year.

**Microloans** are a simplified loan program that will provide up to \$50,000 to eligible applicants. These loans, targeted for smaller operations and non-traditional operations, can be used for operating expenses, starting a new agricultural enterprise, purchasing equipment, and other needs associated with a farming operation. The staff at the Fremont County FSA office can provide more details on farm operating and microloans and provide loan applications. Loans to beginning farmers and members of underserved groups are a priority.

Other types of loans available include:

**Marketing Assistance Loans** allow producers to use eligible commodities as loan collateral and obtain a 9-month loan while the crop is in storage. These loans provide cash flow to the producer and allow them to market the crop when prices may be more advantageous.

**Farm Storage Facility Loans** can be used to build permanent structures used to store eligible commodities, or for storage and handling trucks, or portable or permanent handling equipment. A variety of structures are eligible under this loan, including bunker silos, grain bins, hay storage structures and refrigerated structures for vegetables and fruit. A producer may borrow up to \$500,000 per loan.

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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Jennifer Dutton at 307-362-3062 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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