

February 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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Big Horn County FSA Updates

Big Horn County FSA Office

408 Greybull Ave.
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County Executive

Director: Brenda Miller

Farm Loan:

Bill Morrison- Worland
Tom Schambow- Powell

Program Technician:

Connie Werbelow

County Committee:

Michael Rasmussen- Chairman
Spencer Ellis- Vice-Chairman
Martin Mercer- Member

Next County Committee

Meeting: April 7, 1:30PM

County Office Notes

Happy February! Big Horn County FSA has been busy working on getting the 2019 Agricultural Risk Coverage County option and Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC) signups completed prior to the March 15, 2020 deadline. If you have not completed your signups, please contact our office as soon as possible to discuss your options. We then have until June 30, 2020 to complete the 2020 ARC/PLC signups so as soon as you know what you will be farming this year stop by and we will complete that paperwork.

Any of our sheep producers need to be aware that there is currently a \$0.02 Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) for ungraded wool right now and if your micros test 29 or over there is a \$0.06 payment. Please stop by our office and sign page 1 of form CCC-633 EZ prior to loss of beneficial interest in your wool. Once you have delivered your wool to market or have a weight, we can complete your LDP and if there is still a payment.

Big Horn County has been designated a Primary Natural Disaster Area. This designation makes producers who suffered losses due to the disaster eligible for emergency loans. Contact our farm loan team, Bill Morrison at 347-2456 or Tom Schambow at 754-9411 with questions.

Wool Triggers Loan Deficiency Payment in Big Horn County

Wool producers in Big Horn County may be eligible for loan deficiency payments (LDPs) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), which help producers under certain market conditions.

Marketing assistance loans (MALs) and LDPs are marketing tools available to producers beginning upon shearing. MALs help producers meet cash flow needs without selling commodities when market prices are at harvest-time lows.

Producers who are eligible for marketing loans, but choose to forgo the loan, are eligible for LDPs if the posted county price falls below the county loan rate. Producers also can purchase a commodity certificate that may be exchanged for the outstanding loan collateral. Producers can check their daily LDP rates online at fsa.usda.gov.

LDPs are no longer subject to payment limitations, actively engaged in farming and cash-rent tenant rules.

Eligibility Requirements

For a commodity to be eligible for a loan, LDP, or certificate, the producer must have beneficial interest in the commodity, defined as having title, possession and control of the commodity, and responsible for loss of or damage to the commodity. All related application forms must be completed at the local FSA office prior to loss of beneficial interest. Other eligibility requirements may apply; consult your local FSA office for more information.

Marketing assistance loans are available for the following commodities: wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, extra-long staple cotton, long grain rice, medium grain rice, soybeans and other oilseeds (including sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe and sesame seed), dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas, large chickpeas, graded and non-graded wool, mohair, unshorn pelts, honey and peanuts.

More Information

For more information, visit fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport. To find your local USDA service center, visit farmers.gov/service-locator

USDA Designates Two Wyoming Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue designated two Wyoming counties as primary natural disaster areas. Producers who suffered losses caused by two separate disaster events may be eligible for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) [emergency loans](#).

This natural disaster designation allows FSA to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters. Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation or the refinancing of certain debts.

Freeze

Producers in Park County, who suffered losses due to a freeze that occurred between Oct. 9 and Nov. 6, 2019, are eligible to apply for emergency loans.

Producers in the contiguous Wyoming counties of Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Teton, and Washakie, along with Carbon, Gallatin, and Park counties in Montana, are also eligible to apply for emergency loans.

Excessive Snow and Freeze

Producers in Big Horn County, who suffered losses due to excessive snow and freeze that occurred between Oct. 9 and Nov. 6, 2019, are eligible to apply for emergency loans.

Producers in the contiguous Wyoming counties of Johnson, Park, Sheridan, and Washakie, along with Big Horn and Carbon counties in Montana, are also eligible to apply for emergency loans.

The deadline to apply for these emergency loans is Sept. 30, 2020.

FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

FSA has a variety of additional programs to help farmers recover from the impacts of this disaster. FSA programs that do not require a disaster declaration include: [Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program](#); [Emergency Conservation Program](#); [Livestock Forage Disaster Program](#); [Livestock Indemnity Program](#); [Operating and Farm Ownership Loans](#); and the [Tree Assistance Program](#).

Farmers may contact their local USDA service center for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at farmers.gov/recover.

Big Horn County is Eligible for Emergency Loans

Big Horn County was declared a primary disaster due to excessive snow and freeze that occurred between Oct. 9 and Nov. 6, 2019. Under this designation, producers with operations in any primary or contiguous county are eligible to apply for low interest emergency loans.

Emergency loans help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding and other natural disasters or quarantine.

Producers have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000.

For more information about emergency loans, please contact your local FSA office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Brenda Miller at 307-765-2689 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).