

October 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

GovDelivery

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

- [County Office Notes](#)
- [Crook County FSA is Hiring!](#)
- [FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections](#)
- [Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan and Weston Counties are Eligible for Emergency Loans](#)

Crook County FSA Updates

Crook County Farm Service Agency

Crook County FSA Office:
PO Box 1070
117 South 21st Street
Sundance, WY 82729

Phone: 307-283-2870
Fax: 855-415-3442

County Executive Director:
Sarah Hanlon -
sarah.hanlon@usda.gov

Farm Loan Manager:
Rob Weppner, 307-682-8843

rob.weppner@usda.gov

County Office Notes

Hi, everyone!

Today's update will be mostly focused on the NAP program, and our upcoming acreage reporting deadline. However, please also **remember to apply for the CFAP 2.0** (Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2.0), if you have not done so already.

Also, **we are hiring** for a Program Technician in our office - please see the announcement below, and share the info with others.

Acreage Reporting:

If you have done any fall planting this year, please call and schedule an appointment to complete an acreage report. The deadline to report fall planted crops is November 16, 2020. These acreage amounts are being used more and more often in other programs, so it is to your benefit to complete your reports timely, and avoid late filing fees.

Program Technicians:

Pam Schurman -

pamela.schurman@usda.gov

Anna Schurman -

anna.schurman@usda.gov

County Committee:

Ivan Cranston

Jeanne Habeck

Alan Ista

Colter Ellsbury

Next County Committee**Meeting:**

December 14, 2020 @ 11:00
AM

NAP:

There are a lot of things going on with this program right now, that can impact our ability to pay for a loss if they are not taken care of timely.

If you are a current NAP program participant, have you:

1. Filed a notice of loss?
2. Submitted production for hay crops?
3. Requested an appraisal if you did not harvest your hay crop?
4. Filed an application for payment?

If you answered no to any of these questions, please contact the office.

Production

Even if we are not working on a notice of loss, 2020 production for fall seeded crops is due by November 16th, 2020.

2021 NAP Policies

The sales closing date for NAP Policies on perennial hay, fall seeded crops, grazing, and honey is December 1, 2020. If you have not gotten your 2021 policy, please contact the office.

As always, we would like to remind you to report livestock and crop losses as soon as possible after the loss is apparent. Many programs require this notification within 15 days.

Please remember that our office door remains locked, but we are taking in person appointments, as well as phone and email appointments. We recommend calling ahead for in person appointments.

Crook County FSA is Hiring!

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is hiring a County Program Technician in our Crook County Office located in Sundance, WY. Deadline to apply is Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Responsibilities of the position include:

- Carrying out office activities and functions pertaining to one or more of the program areas administered in the county.
- Interpreting and explaining procedures, program regulations and forms to producers and other agency personnel.

- Utilizing various web-based software applications to maintain producer data and processing automated forms.
- Using a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks and resolving problems encountered.

If you are interested or know of someone who might be interested, please share this information with them. To obtain additional information about this position and to apply, use the below link to take you directly to the Vacancy Announcement in [usajobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov).

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/582862100>

Contact Sarah Hanlon at sarah.hanlon@usda.gov or 307-283-2870, extension 2 if you have any questions, or need additional information.

FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections

The 2020 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections will begin on Nov. 2, 2020, when ballots are mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return ballots to local FSA offices, or to be postmarked, is Dec. 7, 2020.

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.

Eligible voters in local administrative area #2, who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local USDA Service Center. Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2021.

The candidates in this year's election are:

Colter Ellsbury is nominated in LAA #2, Crook County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Colter has been a livestock producer for 12 years. He is currently serving as a member of the Crook County FSA Committee.

Jeanne Habeck is nominated in LAA #2, Crook County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Jeanne and her husband, Philip, have been hay producers and have a cow/calf and backgrounding operation for the past 27 years. She is a member of Crook County Cattlewomen, and has been serving as a non-voting advisory member for the Crook County FSA Committee.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2020 fact sheet, can be found on the FSA website at fsa.usda.gov/elections or at a local USDA Service Center.

Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan and Weston Counties are Eligible for Emergency Loans

These counties were declared a primary/contiguous disaster due to drought and heat using the streamlined Secretarial Disaster Designation process. Under this designation, producers with operations in any primary or contiguous county are eligible to apply for low interest emergency loans.

The streamlined disaster designation process issues a drought disaster declaration when a county has experienced a drought intensity value of at least a D2 (severe drought) level for eight consecutive weeks based on the U.S. Drought Monitor during the crop year.

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, contact your Rob Weppner Farm Loan Manager at 307-682-8843 Ext 2 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Sarah Hanlon at 307-283-2870, 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).