

March 2020



Natrona/Converse County Farm Service Agency:

5880 Enterprise Drive, Ste. 100
Casper, WY 82609

Phone: 307-261-5436, ext. 2
Fax: 855-415-3428

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

County Executive Director:
Deena R. McDaniels
deena.mcdaniels@usda.gov

Program Technician:
Wanda McLean
wanda.mclean@usda.gov

Farm Loan Manager:
Dixie Mount
dixie.mount@usda.gov

County Committee:
Kem Nicolaysen, Chairman
Josh Moore, Vice-Chairman
Lee Moore, Member
Heather Harlan, Member
William Kossert, Member

Next Committee Meeting:
March 31, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

USDA Service Centers Taking Precautionary Measures to Help Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus

U.S. Department of Agriculture Service Centers are encouraging visitors to take proactive protective measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

As part of our commitment to farmers and ranchers, USDA Service Centers will continue to be open for business by phone appointment only and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While our FSA and NRCS program delivery staff at the Service Centers will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our producers by phone, and using online tools whenever possible.

Happy Spring!

Many of you have been asking for a paper newsletter and this is the first of many to come. We will be doing a paper newsletter quarterly. Enclosed in this first newsletter of the year is the annual calendar. This calendar includes farm programs, deadlines, Notice of Loss and Application for Payment information, office closures and contact information. Please place this calendar on your refrigerator or bulletin board for easy reference.

A couple of additional dates for the coming months (Provided we get back to business as usual..)

Workshop Wednesdays! PLEASE CALL AHEAD BEFORE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND 307-261-5436, EXT 2

May 20, 2020	Converse County	10:00 a.m.	LIP 2020, COC Election
	Natrona County	2:00 p.m.	
July 1, 2020	Converse County	10:00 a.m.	ELAP 2020, COC Election
	Natrona County	2:00 p.m.	

The workshops are held at the FSA field offices in each county. Please join us if you can and bring your questions. These are a good opportunity for us to talk about programs.

County Committee is also planning to hold individual Local Administrative Area (LAA) meetings this year. Each County Committee Member will hold a meeting with their respective voting area to

2017, 2018 and 2019 Average Adjusted Gross Income Compliance Reviews

The AGI verification and compliance reviews for 2017, 2018 and 2019 are conducted on producers who the IRS indicated may have exceeded the adjusted gross income limitations described in [7 CFR 1400.500]. Based on this review, producers will receive determinations of eligibility or ineligibility.

If the producer is determined to have exceeded the average AGI limitation of \$900,000, receivables will be established for payments earned directly or indirectly by the producer subject to the \$900,000 limitation. The State FSA Office has begun notifying producers selected for review. If you have any questions about the review process or determinations, please contact the Wyoming FSA Office at 307-261-5436. Producers who receive initial debt notification letters may only appeal the amount of the debt to their local FSA office. Payment eligibility adverse determinations become administratively final 30 days from the date of the payment eligibility adverse determina-

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Deena McDaniels 307-261-5436, extension 2, or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Farm Service Agency

2020 Customer Calendar

www.usda.gov
www.farmers.gov
www.fsa.usda.gov
www.fsa.usda.gov/wy

Farm Programs

- Agricultural Risk & Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC)
- Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)
- Commodity Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
- Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (WHIP)

Farm Loans—No Application Deadlines

- Beginning Farmer & Rancher Loans
- Emergency Loans (Time Sensitive)
- Farm Operating Loans (Direct and Guaranteed)
- Farm Ownership Loans (Direct and Guaranteed)
- Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL)
- EZ Guarantee and Microloans
- SDA (Women/Minority) Farmer & Rancher Loans
- Youth Loans

• Various eligibility requirements are required for both Farm programs and Farm loans

Farm Program Deadlines - (dates below are subject to change) *Contact your local office for more information or to make an appointment.*

Acreage Reports:

- July 15 – Soybeans, corn, and other spring-planted feed grains, CRP, Hemp, and other crops
- November 15 – Apiculture (bees), fall -seeded small grains

• **CRP General Signup:** December 9 through February 28

• **Continuous CRP Signup:** August 21

• **CRP Grasslands:** March 16 to May 15

ARC/PLC:

- July 15 – Final date to report production for the preceding crop year
- June 30 – Election and enrollment end for crop year 2020
- October of each contract year after 2020 – Election and enrollment begin for the applicable year
- March 15 of each contract year after 2020 – Election and enrollment end for the applicable year

LFP:

- Within 30 days after the end of the year in which the grazing loss occurred – submit Application for Payment and supporting documentation

LIP:

- Within 30 days of noticing Livestock loss or injury – Submit Notice of Loss
- Within 60 days after the end the year in which loss or injury occurred— Submit Application for Payment

ELAP:

- Within 30 days of livestock feed or pasture losses/issues due to extreme weather – Submit Notice of Loss
- Within 60 days after the end the year in which loss occurred— Submit Application for Payment

MAL/LDP Availability (from harvest to the below deadline):

- January 31 - Wool, Mohair and LDP only for Unshorn Pelts
- March 31 - Barley, Canola, Flaxseed, Honey, Oats, Rape-seed, Sesame seed and Wheat
- May 31 - Corn, Dry peas, Grain sorghum, Lentils, Mustard seed, Safflower, Small chickpeas, Large chickpeas, Soybeans and Sunflower seed

NAP:

- December 1 – All perennial grasses, alfalfa, clover, mixed forage, and honey
- March 15 – Hemp
- April 1 – All spring seeded crops
- Within 15 days of crop loss – Submit Notice of Loss
- November 15 (varies by crop) – Final day to submit Application for Payment

Farm Service Agency - Natroan/Converse

5880 Enterprise Drive, Suite 100
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307-261-5436

Days USDA Offices Are Closed

- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day Holiday
- Jan. 20 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Feb. 17 - President's Birthday
- May 25 - Memorial Day
- July 4 - Independence Day
- Sept. 7- Labor Day
- Oct. 12- Columbus Day
- Nov. 11 - Veterans Day
- Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving Day
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Holiday

Important Links

• **Farmers.gov** - <https://www.farmers.gov/>
 • **FSA FencePost** - <http://fsa.blog.govdelivery.com/>
 • **USDA Blogs** - <http://blogs.usda.gov/>

Questions?

Contact your local FSA office.
A directory of USDA Service Centers can be found online at offices.usda.gov

GovDelivery Email & SMS Text Updates

Contact your local FSA office ask how you can receive important FSA updates and reminders by email and SMS text subscriptions.

Have you moved?

Changed bank accounts?

Contact your local FSA to update your records.

Stay Connected with USDA:



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Farm Reconstitutions

When changes in farm ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

To be effective for the current Fiscal Year (FY), farm combinations and farm divisions must be requested by **August 1 of the FY** for farms subject to the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program. A reconstitution is considered to be requested when all:

- of the required signatures are on FSA-155

other applicable documentation, such as proof of ownership, is submitted.

Total Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and non-ARC/PLC farms may be reconstituted at any time.

The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon:

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

Reminder to FSA Direct and Guaranteed Borrowers with Real Estate Security

Farm Service Agency would like to remind farm loan borrowers who have pledged real estate as security for their loans, of key items for maintaining loan collateral. It is required that borrowers must obtain prior consent, or approval, by either FSA, for direct loans, or by a guaranteed lender, for any transaction affecting real estate security. Examples of these transactions include, but are not limited to:

- Leases of any kind;
- Easements of any kind;
- Subordinations;
- Partial releases, and

Sales

Failure to meet or follow the requirements set forth in the loan agreement, promissory note, and other security instruments could lead to nonmonetary default which could jeopardize your current and future loans.

It is critical that borrowers keep an open line of communication with their FSA loan staff or guaranteed lender when it comes to changes in their operation. For more information on borrower responsibilities, read [Your FSA Farm Loan Compass](#).

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Update Your Records

FSA is cleaning up our producer record database. If you have any unreported changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address or an incorrect name or business name on file they need to be reported to our office. Changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase, need to be reported to our office as well. Producers participating in FSA and NRCS programs are required to timely report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and update their CCC-902 Farm Operating Plan.

If you have any updates or corrections, please call your local FSA office to update your records.

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).