

October
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 Di-
rector:**

Deena R. McDaniels
deena.mcdaniels@usda.gov
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Program Technician:

Wanda McLean
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Temp PT:

Jessica. Caves
Jessica.caves@usda.gov
Kim Furnival
Kim.furnival@usda.gov

Farm Loan Manager:

Dixie Mount
dixie.mount@usda.gov

County Committee:

Kem Nicolaysen, Chair-
man
Josh Moore, Vice-
Chairman
Lee Moore, Member
Heather Harlan, Member
William Kossert, Member

Next Committee Meeting:

October 27, 2020

The programs keep rolling in!

Our office is managing several programs all at once this year. I can honestly say, it's busier than we have ever been since I have worked here!

I have hired full time temporary staff to help with the workload. I am happy to welcome Jessica Caves and Kimberly Furnival to the Natrona/Converse office. If you get the opportunity to work with either of these ladies, please join me in thanking them for all their hard work.

Livestock Forage Program (LFP)

Natrona and Converse Counties have both reached D3 Extreme Drought in drought status on the Drought Monitor. This has triggered the Livestock Forage Program (LFP). LFP is a permanent part of the farm bill. Participating producers certify that an eligible grazing loss occurred because of a qualifying drought or fire on federally managed grazing land.

We are actively taking applications for LFP. Due to the Coronavirus, our office is in Phase 3 re-opening status. That means we are closed to the public without an appointment. Please call to make an appointment at 307-261-5436, ext 2.

All producers applying for the Livestock Forage Program must have established farm records, a timely filed acreage report, payment eligibility documentation and any additional documentation as requested by the County Committee. Eligible livestock are livestock owned, leased or purchased livestock, 60 calendar days before the beginning day of the qualifying event. Natrona has qualified on July 28, 2020 and Converse qualified on August 31, 2020.

Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Please continue to call with your Notices of Loss for drought under NAP if you feel the situation warrants. Our Independent Assessors are monitoring the situation. They will report to the County Committee with their recommendations for grazing loss percentages at the end of the grazing period. That will be September 30 for Converse and October 15 for Natrona.

Should the State and County Committees determine that there are losses due to drought based on recommendation from the Independent Assessors, payments on those losses should begin by December. Producers can be paid for both NAP and LFP.

CFAP 2

CFAP 2 provides direct assistance to producers of agricultural commodities marketed in 2020 impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic who face market disruptions, low farm-level prices and significant marketing costs.

There are a few changes from the original CFAP 1 program. Livestock eligible for CFAP 2 include: beef cattle, hogs and pigs, lambs and sheep. Breeding stock is not eligible. Also, now eligible for CFAP 2 are: wool, alfalfa, grain, barley, corn, honey, and eggs, PLUS MORE. Please contact our office to see what commodities may apply to you.

We are handling a high volume of work in our office right now. Thank you in advance for your continued patience and cooperation as we work to serve the producers of Natrona and Converse Counties.

As always, if you need anything, we are but a phone call away!

Sincerely,
Deena R. McDaniels
County Executive Director

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 areas 3 (Natrona) and 4 (Converse) 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:

Brandi Forgey is nominated in LAA 3 in Natrona County and Josh Moore is nominated in LAA 4 in Converse County.

NAP Sign up 2021

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to review available USDA crop risk protections options, including federal crop insurance and noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, before the crop deadline of December 1, 2020.

Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought,, hail, and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy, and industrial crops.

Producers can determine if crops are eligible for federal crop insurance or NAP by visiting

<https://webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/actuarialinformationbrowser2018/cropcriteria.aspx>

For all coverage levels the NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

Federal crop insurance coverage is sold and delivered solely through private insurance agents. Agent lists are available at all USDA Service Centers or at USDA's online Agent Locator:

<https://prodwebnlb.rma.usda.gov/apps/AgentLocator/#>

<https://ewebapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/costestimator/Default.aspx> , to predict insurance premium costs.

For more information on NAP, service fees, or sales deadlines, contact the Natrona/Converse FSA office at 307-261-5436 or visit the web at www.fsa.usda.gov/nap.

Stay Connected with USDA:



Upcoming Deadlines

CFAP 2:

- Applications must be in by December 11, 2020.

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

LFP:

- Within 30 days after the end of the year in which the grazing loss occurred – submit Application for Payment and supporting documentation. (January 30, 2021)

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

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).

**USDA Farm Service Agency
Natrona/Converse CO FSA
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Suite 100
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