



2020 Fourth Quarter

Sweetwater-Sublette – Uinta County

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Rock Springs, WY 82901
307.362.3062 x2
FAX: 855.415.3440

100 E. Sage
PO Box 1529
Lyman, WY 82937
307.787.3859 x2
FAX: 855.415.3435

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

County Committee
Shelby Arambel - Sublette
David Pape - Sublette
Bob Slagowski - Sweetwater
Bonnie Hueckstaedt – Sweetwater
Dustin Condos – Uinta
Steve Sims - Uinta
Carl Hickey - Uinta
Chrissy Larson – Uinta

Office Personnel
Jennifer Dutton, County Director
Ashley Simpson, Program Technician
Sadie Valdez, Program Technician
Sherri Harvey, District Director



MOLES:

Machinery, Operating, Livestock, Expansion and Starting Out Loans

Questions regarding obtaining credit to start or enlarge a farming or ranching operation; financing agricultural operating expenses; livestock and machinery purchases call:

Brian Harrell, Farm Loan Manager
Carol Zogata, Program Technician
307.856.7524

FROM JEN'S DESK.....

The only alien movie I could ever really get into was the 1986 "hit classic" *Flight of the Navigator*. I mean, to come back in a shiny, silver flying saucer, not aging a bit in 8 years. Surreal. Kinda like 2020 surreal. It's been one for the books to say the least, we even accepted a Seafood Trade Relief Program application in the middle of the desert. As we slowly return to our pre-flight life, our office is now open to in-person appointments, provided you do not feel ill, been exposed to COVID, or have any symptoms. Please call the office to make an appointment to complete any FSA business if you want to meet in person. We are also still accepting applications by phone, fax, email and pigeon.

We have several deadlines that are approaching that are applicable to ranchers and farmers in our tri-county area. **CFAP (Coronavirus) – Round 2** if you have sustained a loss due to COVID, please all the office to apply for assistance. The deadline to apply is December 11, 2020. Commodities that are most likely to be eligible in our counties are cattle, sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas, bison, barley, oats, alfalfa and honey. Please take the time to review basic information about the program at the CFAP website, it contains some pretty useful information to get you started, including forms (all may not be needed), fact sheets, eligible commodities, livestock classes, important dates and payment rates.

[Click HERE for CFAP information](#)

Drought is upon us in some areas, please contact the office if you are seeing drought influencing your operation. NAP Participants - remember to file notice of losses within 15 days, this can be done by email or phone to make it super easy. Sweetwater, Daggett, Moffat, Carbon and Fremont counties have qualified for LFP payments. This is based on physical location of the land, eligible livestock and general eligibility requirements such as having filed an annual crop report (CCC-578). Deadline to apply for LFP benefits is January 30, 2021

You can call 307-362-3062 (Sweetwater/Sublette) or 307-787-3859 x2(Uinta) to make an appointment to conduct business by phone.

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) 2

USDA announced up to an additional \$14 billion for agricultural producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. Signup for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP 2) will begin September 21 and run through December 11, 2020.

Background:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will use funds being made available from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and CARES Act to support row crops, livestock, specialty crops, dairy, aquaculture and many additional commodities. USDA has incorporated improvements in CFAP 2 based from stakeholder engagement and public feedback to better meet the needs of impacted farmers and ranchers.

Producers can apply for CFAP 2 at USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices. This program provides financial assistance that gives producers the ability to absorb increased marketing costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Producers will be compensated for ongoing market disruptions and assisted with the associated marketing costs.

CFAP 2 payments will be made for three categories of commodities – Price Trigger Commodities, Flat-rate Crops and Sales Commodities.

Price Trigger Commodities Price trigger commodities are major commodities that meet a minimum 5-percent price decline over a specified period of time. Eligible price trigger crops include barley, corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, upland cotton, and all classes of wheat. Payments will be based on 2020 planted acres of the crop, excluding prevented planting and experimental acres. Payments for price trigger crops will be the greater of: 1) the eligible acres multiplied by a payment rate of \$15 per acre; or 2) the eligible acres multiplied by a nationwide crop marketing percentage, multiplied by a crop-specific payment rate, and then by the producer's weighted 2020 Actual Production History (APH) approved yield. If the APH is not available, 85

percent of the 2019 Agriculture Risk Coverage-County Option (ARC-CO) benchmark yield for that crop will be used.

Eligible beef cattle, hogs and pigs, and lambs and sheep payments will be based on the maximum owned inventory of eligible livestock, excluding breeding stock, on a date selected by the producer, between Apr. 16, 2020, and Aug. 31, 2020.

Flat-rate Crops Crops that either do not meet the 5-percent price decline trigger or do not have data available to calculate a price change will have payments calculated based on eligible 2020 acres multiplied by \$15 per acre. These crops include alfalfa, extra long staple (ELS) cotton, oats, peanuts, rice, hemp, millet, mustard, safflower, sesame, triticale, rapeseed, and several others.

Sales Commodities Sales commodities include specialty crops; aquaculture; nursery crops and floriculture; other commodities not included in the price trigger and flat-rate categories, including tobacco; goat milk; mink (including pelts); mohair; wool; and other livestock (excluding breeding stock) not included under the price trigger category that were grown for food, fiber, fur, or feathers. Payment calculations will use a sales-based approach, where producers are paid based on five payment gradations associated with their 2019 sales.

Additional commodities are eligible in CFAP 2 that weren't eligible in the first iteration of the program. If your agricultural operation has been impacted by the pandemic since April 2020, we encourage you to apply for CFAP 2. A complete list of eligible commodities, payment rates and calculations can be found on farmers.gov/cfap.

Eligibility There is a payment limitation of \$250,000 per person or entity for all commodities combined. Applicants who are corporations, limited liability companies, limited partnerships may qualify for additional payment limits when members actively provide personal labor or personal management for the farming operation. In addition, this special payment limitation provision has been expanded to include trusts and estates for both CFAP 1 and 2.

Producers will also have to certify they meet the Adjusted Gross Income limitation of \$900,000 unless at least 75

percent or more of their income is derived from farming, ranching or forestry-related activities. Producers must also be in compliance with Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation provisions.

Applying for Assistance Producers can apply for assistance beginning Sept. 21, 2020. Applications will be accepted through Dec. 11, 2020.

Additional information and application forms can be found at farmers.gov/cfap. Documentation to support the producer's application and certification may be requested. All other eligibility forms, such as those related to adjusted gross income and payment information, can be downloaded from farmers.gov/cfap/apply. For existing FSA customers, including those who participated in CFAP 1, many documents are likely already on file. Producers should check with FSA county office to see if any of the forms need to be updated.

Customers seeking one-on-one support with the CFAP 2 application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance. This is a recommended first step before a producer engages with the team at the FSA county office.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including some that are open to visitors to conduct business in person by appointment only. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors are also required to wear a face covering during their appointment. Our program delivery staff will be in the office, and they will be working with our producers in the office, by phone and using online tools. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Livestock Forage Program

Producers in Sweetwater County are eligible to apply for 2020 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on native pasture.

LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP applications after notification is received by the National Office of qualifying drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due to qualifying fire. You must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than January 30, 2021, for 2020 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact the Sweetwater/Sublette County USDA Service Center or visit fsa.usda.gov.

NAP

Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must file a CCC-576 in the County FSA Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. This means if you are feel you have a loss due to drought or other eligible conditions, call the office and file and notice of loss on your NAP hay and/or grazing crops.

If you plan on grazing acreage that you normally hay, **you must contact the county office for an appraisal prior to grazing those hay meadows.** Failure to obtain an appraisal prior to grazing hay meadows will affect your potential payment and could possibly make you ineligible for payment.

Even if you believe your losses are less than 50%, you can still file a notice of loss as there may be other programs available to provide loss assistance, at a later date. Our grazing season (as determined by National Office) ends September 30, please file your grazing notice of loss no later than **October 15, 2018.**

**Sweetwater/Sublette/Uinta
Farm Service Agency**
79 Winston Dr. Ste. 110
Rock Springs, WY 82901



United States
Department of
Agriculture

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WHAT'S AROUND THE CORNER

From Jen's desk

Coronavirus Food Assistance

Program (CFAP) 2

Livestock Forage Program

2020 NAP

- **December 11** – CFAP 2 application deadline
- **January 30** – LFP application deadline
- **Immediately** – Weather and loss conditions, including livestock losses
- **15 days after apparent** – Deadline to file NAP losses (hay & grazing)