

September 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

GovDelivery

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

- [CED Comments](#)
- [Washakie and Hot Springs County Producers May be Eligible for Emergency Conservation Program](#)
- [ELAP Covers Losses from Additional Cost of Transporting Water to Livestock](#)
- [Communication is Key in Lending](#)

Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA Updates

Washakie-Hot Springs County Farm Service Agency

208 Shiloh RD
Worland, WY 82401

Phone: 307-347-2456
Fax: 855-415-3445

County Executive Director:
Lisa Bower

Farm Loan Manager:
Bill Morrison
Tracy Neidig, FLOT

Program Technicians:
Teresa Shelton
Kelli Emmett

CED Comments

The office is currently accepting applications for the following programs:

- Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) 2 – applications are open until 12/11/2020
- Livestock Forage Program for drought – applications are open until 1/30/2021
- Emergency Conservation Program for drought – applications are open from 9/21/2020 to 10/23/2020
- Emergency Livestock Assistance Program for water hauling - applications are open until 1/30/2021

Please call and make an appointment before visiting the office.

Best wishes for a successful fall,

Lisa Bower, CED

County Committee:

Julie Haun, Chairperson
Kirk Tolman, Vice
Chairperson
Jim Butterfield, Member
Everett Jones, Member
Arnold Pennoyer, Member

Next County Committee**Meeting: TBD**

Washakie and Hot Springs County Producers May be Eligible for Emergency Conservation Program

A drought has caused severe damage in Washakie and Hot Springs Counties.

If you've suffered severe damage, you may be eligible for assistance under the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) administered by the Washakie-Hot Springs County Farm Service Agency (FSA)

For land to be eligible, the natural disaster must create new conservation problems that, if untreated, would:

- be so costly to rehabilitate that Federal assistance is or will be needed to return the land to productive agricultural use
- is unusual and is not the type that would recur frequently in the same area
- affect the productive capacity of the farmland
- impair or endanger the land

If you qualify for ECP assistance, you may receive cost-share levels not to exceed 75 percent of the eligible cost of restoration measures. Eligible socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers and ranchers can receive up to 90 percent of the eligible cost of restoration. No one is eligible for more than \$500,000 cost sharing per natural disaster occurrence.

If you've suffered a loss from a natural disaster may contact the local FSA County Office and request assistance from September 21, 2020 to October 23, 2020.

To be eligible for assistance, practices must not be started until all of the following are met:

- an application for cost-share assistance has been filed
- the local FSA County Committee (COC) or its representative has conducted an onsite inspection of the damaged area
- the Agency responsible for technical assistance, such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), has made a needs determination, which may include cubic yards of earthmoving, etc., required for rehabilitation

For more information about ECP, contact your Washakie-Hot Springs County USDA Service Center at 307-347-2456 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

ELAP Covers Losses from Additional Cost of Transporting Water to Livestock

If you've incurred additional operating costs for transporting water to livestock due to an eligible drought, assistance may be available to you through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP).

An eligible drought means that part or all of your county is designated D3 (extreme drought) or higher as indicated by the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#).

Eligible livestock must be adult or non-adult dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo and beefalo, as well as alpacas, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, reindeer, or sheep. Additionally, the livestock must have been owned 60 calendar days prior to the beginning of the drought and be physically located in the county designated as a disaster area due to drought. Adequate livestock watering systems or facilities must have existed before the drought occurred and producers are only eligible if they do not normally transport water to the livestock.

Livestock that were or would have been in a feedlot are not eligible for transporting water. ELAP covers the additional cost of transporting water and does not cover the cost of the water itself.

You must file a notice of loss on form CCC-851 the earlier of 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent to you or by Jan. 30, 2020. Additionally, the deadline to submit an application for payment for 2020 ELAP assistance is Jan. 30, 2021.

You'll have to provide documentation to FSA that shows the method used to transport the water, the number of gallons of water transported and the number of eligible livestock to which water was transported.

To make an appointment to sign up for ELAP and to learn more about eligibility, application and documentation requirements, contact your Washakie-Hot Springs County USDA Service Center at 307-347-2456 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

Communication is Key in Lending

Farm Service Agency (FSA) is committed to providing our farm loan borrowers the tools necessary to be successful. FSA staff will provide guidance and counsel from the loan application process through the borrower's graduation to commercial credit. While it is FSA's commitment to advise borrowers as they identify goals and evaluate progress, it is crucial for borrowers to communicate with their farm loan staff when changes occur. It is the borrower's responsibility to alert FSA to any of the following:

- Any proposed or significant changes in the farming operation
- Any significant changes to family income or expenses
- The development of problem situations
- Any losses or proposed significant changes in security

If a farm loan borrower can't make payments to suppliers, other creditors, or FSA on time, contact your farm loan staff immediately to discuss loan servicing options. For more information on FSA farm

loan programs, contact your Washakie-Hot Springs County USDA Service Center at 307-347-2456 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Lisa Bower at 307-347-2456 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).