

November  
2020



**Washakie County Farm Service Agency (FSA):**

208 Shiloh RD  
Worland, WY 82401

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

**County Executive Director:**

Lisa Bower

**Program Technicians:**

Teresa Shelton  
Kelli Emmett  
Sarah Sinn, Temp

**Farm Loan Manager:**

Bill Morrison  
Tracy Neidig, FLOT

**County Committee:**

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

**Next Committee Meeting:**

TBA

**Message From the County Executive Director**

Greetings:

This fall has been extremely busy for our office. The lingering pandemic and drought conditions continue to burden our producers. I am proud to say that FSA administers numerous programs specifically designed to help our producers during these challenging times. Please keep in contact with our office to continue receiving important program updates and assistance.

The Washakie-Hot Springs County Office is currently accepting applications for the following programs:

- Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) 2 – applications are open until December 11, 2020
- Livestock Forage Program for drought – applications are open until January 30, 2021
- Emergency Livestock Assistance Program for water hauling - applications are open until January 30, 2021
- Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) – to sign up for 2021 - applications open until December 1, 2020
- 2021 ARCPLC enrollment began October 13, 2020 and ends on March 15, 2021

Please call and make an appointment before visiting the office.

Best wishes,

Lisa Bower, CED

**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 will be 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. (cont'd)**

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact (local CED name and phone number), extension 2, or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

## FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee

### Elections (cont'd)

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 which is everything east of the Big Horn River, not including Ten Sleep, 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:

Julie Haun is nominated in LAA 2, Washakie County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Haun resides outside of Worland, Wyoming and has produced crops and livestock for over thirty-five years.

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

### Disaster Assistance for 2020 Livestock Forage Losses

Producers in Washakie and Hot Springs 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 30th, 2021, for 2020 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact the Washakie-Hot Springs County USDA Service Center at 307-347-2456 or visit [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

### Washakie-Hot Springs County Producers Urged to Consider NAP Risk Protection Coverage Before Crop Sales Deadlines

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages you to review available USDA crop risk protection 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.

The following crops in Washakie and Hot Springs County has a NAP application deadline of December 1, 2020, Native grazing land and/or grass forage crops; and on April 1, 2021 for Dry Beans in Hot Springs County. You can determine if crops are eligible for federal crop insurance or NAP by visiting the RMA website.(cond't)

## Washakie-Hot Springs County Producers Urged to Consider NAP Risk Protection Coverage Before Crop Sales Deadlines (cond't)

NAP offers higher levels of coverage, from 50 to 65 percent of expected production in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price. Producers of organics and crops marketed directly to consumers also may exercise the "buy-up" option to obtain NAP coverage of 100 percent of the average market price at the coverage levels of between 50 and 65 percent of expected production. NAP basic coverage is available at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production.

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

Beginning, underserved, veterans and limited resource farmers are now eligible for free catastrophic level coverage.

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. You can use the USDA Cost Estimator to predict insurance premium costs.

For more information on NAP, service fees, sales deadlines, contact your Washakie-Hot Springs County USDA Service Center at 307-347-2456 or visit [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

Qualified veteran farmers or ranchers are eligible for a service fee waiver and premium reduction, if the NAP applicant meets certain eligibility criteria.

## 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](http://fsa.usda.gov).

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### Applying for Beginning Farmer Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) assists beginning farmers to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size farm.

For more information contact, contact your Washakie-Hot Springs County USDA Service Center at 307-347-2456 or visit [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

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).