Drought persists across the western U.S. and it appears that Campbell County is headed towards a third year of unfavorable growing conditions. The U.S. Drought Monitor provides a weekly drought “snapshot” of conditions based on six levels of drought intensity categories. The Drought Monitor serves as a trigger for multiple forms of federal disaster relief for agricultural producers.

Assuming that present drought conditions persist Campbell County producers may be eligible for the Livestock Forage Program (LFP) and the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) in early April.

LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on land that is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or that is planted specifically for grazing. Drought related current and prior year eligible livestock sales will potentially be eligible for payments. Documentation of these sales, such as invoices or cancelled checks, is needed, so be certain to keep verifiable records.

ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock due to adverse weather and other conditions. In 2021 over 200 Campbell County producers participated in feed transportation and livestock water hauling under ELAP. Feed transportation eligibility extends well beyond just hay to include all types of livestock feed and feedstuffs, such as cakes, minerals licks, and corn. The 2021 rate per mile was either 60% or 90% of $6.60/mile. Documentation of the dates and mileage related to feed purchases will be needed to determine payments.

More program details will be available on April 1, 2022. Please call the office with questions.

FSA Reminds Producers to File Crop Acreage Reports

Campbell County producers have until July 15, 2022, to report spring plantings. An acreage report documents a crop grown on a farm or ranch and its intended uses. Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planted acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits. A timely filed acreage report is required for disaster program eligibility. Failure to file an acreage report by the crop acreage reporting deadline may result in ineligibility for future program benefits. FSA will not accept acreage reports provided more than a year after the acreage reporting deadline.

Permitted Revision of Intended use After Acreage Reporting Date

New operators or owners who pick up a farm after the acreage reporting deadline has passed and the crop has already been reported on the farm, have 30 calendar days from the date when the new operator or owner acquired the lease on land, control of the land or ownership and new producer crop share interest in the previously reported crop acreage. Under this policy, appropriate documentation must be provided to the County
Committee’s satisfaction to determine that a legitimate operator or ownership and producer crop share interest change occurred to permit the revision.

From the Campbell County FSA Staff

**Vacancy Announcement**

The Campbell County FSA office is hiring a Temporary Program Technician to assist with clerical work and farm program administration for up to 40 hours per week. Prior office experience is helpful, and an agricultural background is preferred but not essential. A high school diploma or GED, along with computer and phone skills are required. Contact Pam Smith at 307-696-4450 or pamela.s.smith@usda.gov for more details.

**NRCS Welcomes New Private Lands Wildlife Biologist**

A Wyoming native, Jackie comes to us from the eastern side of South Dakota where she worked the past two years as a biologist for Pheasants Forever in the Mitchell area. She received her Bachelor’s degree from Dakota State University and is currently completing her Master’s degree in Natural Resource Management from South Dakota State University. Jackie will be serving private landowners and producers in the Gillette, Wyoming area by promoting habitat conservation efforts. Jackie enjoys spending her free time with her husband and children in the great outdoors.

**Attention all Buyers of Agricultural Products**

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the Seller of the product. If a lien is found, you are required to place the lien holder’s name on the check as well as that of the Seller. Ag Products include but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment and all other crops. Failure to place the lien holder’s name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the Buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a Buyer! You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at 1-307-777-7311.

**Important Deadlines**

April 1st- Deadline to Purchase NAP for Spring Planted Grain for Hay/Buy-Up  
May 30th- Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day  
July 15th- Spring Acreage Reporting Deadline

---

Campbell County USDA Service Center  
601 4J Court Suite B  
Gillette, WY 82716
Phone: 307-682-8843
Fax: 855-4415-3431

**FSA Staff**

**County Executive Director:**
Pamela Smith 307-696-4450
pamela.s.smith@usda.gov

**Farm Loan Manager:**
Rob Weppner 307-696-4451
rob.weppner@usda.gov

**Farm Loan Office Manager In Training:**
Eilish Hanson 307-696-4459
eilish.hanson@usda.gov

**Key Farm Loan Program Technician:**
Amber Fowlkes 307-696-4447
amber.fowlkes@usda.gov

**Program Technicians:**
Judy Bishop 307-696-4452
judy.bishop@usda.gov

Shelby Cooper 307-696-4445
shelby.cooper@usda.gov

**FSA County Committee:**
Gwen Geis, Chairperson
Jody Cheser, Vice-Chairperson
Jake Boller, Member

**NRCS Staff**

**District Conservationist:**
Tim Kellogg 307-696-4446
tim.kellogg@usda.gov

**Rangeland Management Specialist:**
Brandon Elkins 307-696-4456
brandon.elkins@usda.gov

**Soil Conservation Technician:**
Della Elliott 307-696-4462
della.elloitt@usda.gov

**Private Lands Wildlife Biologist:**
Jackie Krakow 307-696-4453
jacquelyn.krakow@usda.gov

**Next County Committee Meeting**
April 22nd, 2022