

# USDA

United States Dept.  
of Agriculture

# FSA

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Flagstaff, Arizona  
USDA Service Center

1585 S. Plaza Way, Ste 120  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001-7156

### Phone Number

(928) 774-2401 Ext. 2

### Fax Number

(928) 774-2780

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (MST)

### County Committee

Marilyn Savoini - Chair  
Anita M. Waite – Vice  
Diana Kessler - Member  
Joel J. Querta - Member  
Jonathan Haskie - Member

### County Executive Director

Arnie Schlittenhart  
(928) 774-2401 Ext. 105

### County Office Staff

Rose Gene, PT  
Calvin Johnson, PT

### Farm Loan Manager

Mike Miller  
(928) 524-3214 Ext. 104

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2011 LFP Program
- 2012 NAP Program
- Direct Deposits
- Navajo Chapters Signup
- more

### Website

www.fsa.usda.gov



USDA FSA  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

# Newsletter

Sept  
2011

Flagstaff Service Center - Farm Service Agency - Servicing Coconino, Mohave and Yavapai Counties



## Livestock Forage Disaster Program

### 2011 LFP Payments Triggered For Coconino County!

Applications are now being accepted from eligible livestock producers in **Coconino county** for the **Livestock Forage Disaster Program** or **LFP**.

Under LFP, livestock producers who maintain control of grazing or pasture land physically located within a county that has a drought designation as determined by the U.S. Drought Monitor, are eligible to apply for benefits.

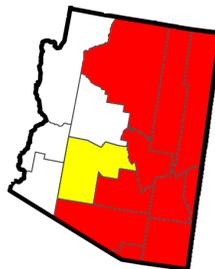
According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, **Coconino County** began experiencing a **D3 intensity drought**.

Eligible producers can now apply for a payment equal to a three month feed cost\*.

LFP benefits are paid according to the intensity rating of the drought and are based on the **lesser of: Grazing Land Value or Feed Cost**

\*The monthly feed cost is calculated using the corn equivalent cost to feed an animal for one month. So for a drought designation of:

- ▶ D2 - for 8 consecutive weeks, producers can receive a payment equal to a **one month** feed cost
- ▶ D3 - at any time, producers can receive a payment equal to a **two month** feed cost
- ▶ D3 - for 4 weeks producers can receive a payment equal to a **three month** feed cost
- ▶ D4 - at any time, producers can receive a payment equal to a **three month** feed cost



### Eligible Livestock

**Beef cattle, Sheep, Goats, Equine, Alpacas, Buffalo, Beefalo, Dairy cattle, Deer, Elk, Emus, Llamas, Poultry, Reindeer, Swine**

### Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for LFP benefits, livestock producers are required to have purchased risk management insurance, or "NAP" insurance for their rangeland. A waiver of this requirement applies to those producers who are considered,

- Socially disadvantaged
- Limited resource
- Beginning farmer/rancher

Contact the FSA office for further details regarding these classifications.

### Control Of Land

All applicants must possess valid grazing permits from any of the following;

- Arizona State Land Department Permit
- Forest Service Permit
- Bureau of Land Management Permit
- Private Grazing Leases
- **Navajo Nation Grazing Permits**

**NOTE: All land control documents must be in the same name as the applicant.**

### Sign-up

FSA representatives will be at the local Navajo Chapters to accept applications. See schedule on page 4 of this newsletter. Signup schedule is on **Mountain Standard Time (MST) - Flagstaff time**. Please bring a copy of your grazing permits.

### Deadline

**January 31, 2012**



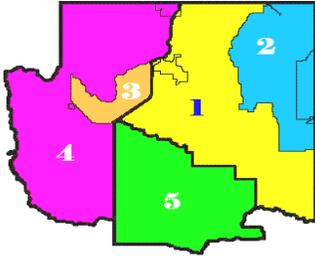


# VOTE!



## UPCOMING COC ELECTIONS LAA 3 & LAA 4

LAA



The Flagstaff FSA Service Center administers the three county area of Coconino, Mohave and Yavapai counties.

This area is represented by a five-member County Committee (COC), each member representing a specific area within the three counties. In

2011, the representative seats from Local Administrative Areas (LAA) 3 & 4 are up for election. LAA 3 covers the Hualapai Reservation portion of Mohave County and LAA 4 covers all other portions of Mohave County. The slate of candidates for the 2011 election is as follows:

**LAA 3 - Joel Querta (Incumbent)**



**LAA 4 - Anita Waite (Incumbent)**



Write-in candidates are also accepted as long as the candidate meets eligibility requirements.

COC members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers. COC members are elected by and represent agricultural producers of legal voting age that participate or cooperate in any FSA program. **It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).**

### Election Timeline:

**November 4, 2011** Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters.



**December 5, 2011** Voters must return completed ballots to the local FSA Service Center.

**December 9, 2011** ballots to be counted at Flagstaff Service Center.



**Your vote counts!** So please make every effort to complete and return your ballot. For more information on County Committee Elections you can go online at: [www.fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections) or visit the Flagstaff FSA Service Center.

# Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program



**2012 NAP Coverage Deadline is October 31, 2011**

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production of 50% or more. This includes native forage (rangeland).

Producers who *already have* coverage on 2011 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2011, if the applicable \*service fee of \$250 is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops.

## **\*NO SERVICE FEE FOR LIMITED RESOURCE PRODUCERS**

If your **Gross Farm Sales** for the past two years is equal to or less than **\$146,400** per year;

**AND**

If you live in **Coconino County** and your household Adjusted Gross Income is **\$24,017** or less, or

If you live in **Mohave County** and your household Adjusted Gross Income is **\$22,050** or less, or

If you live in **Yavapai County** and your household Adjusted Gross Income is **\$25,050** or less,

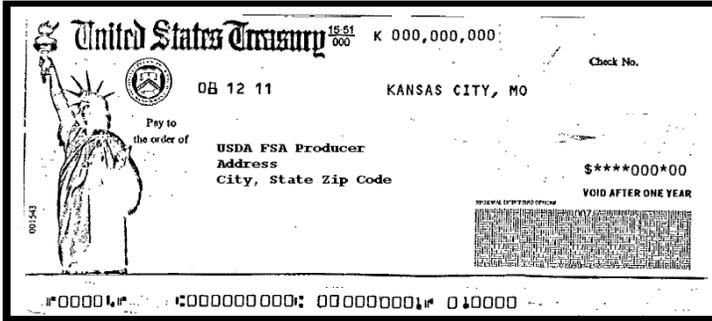
**you qualify as a "Limited Resource Producer" and NO service Fee is required.**

## **NAP Notice of Loss Filing**

For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 (Notice of Loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. The CCC-576 is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

# Notice Regarding Direct Deposits



The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires that most Federal payments be made by electronic funds transfer after January 2, 1999.

If you are currently receiving your Farm Service Agency/Commodity Credit Corporation (FSA/CCC) payment by Treasury check, or if you have just become eligible to begin receiving an FSA/CCC payment, you have several choices:

- **Receive your payment by Direct Deposit through the financial institution of your choice.**

FSA/CCC makes payments electronically through a program called Direct Deposit. Direct Deposit is a safe, convenient, and reliable way to receive your FSA/CCC payment through a financial institution. A financial institution can be a bank, credit union, savings bank, or thrift account. Many financial institutions offer basic, low-cost accounts in addition to full-service checking or savings accounts.

- **Receive your payment through a basic, low-cost account called an ETA<sup>SM</sup>.**

If you receive a Federal benefit, wage, salary, or retirement payment, you are eligible to open an ETA<sup>SM</sup>. This account is available for a low monthly fee at many financial institutions. Like Direct Deposit, the ETA<sup>SM</sup> (which stands for Electronic Transfer Account) is a safe, convenient, and reliable way to receive your FSA/CCC payment through a financial institution. Please visit the Department of Treasury's web site at "<http://www.eta-find.gov>" or call the number listed below to find out which financial institutions in your area offer the ETA<sup>SM</sup>.

- **Continue to receive a check.**

If receiving your payment electronically would cause you a hardship because you have a physical or mental disability, or because of a geographic, language, or literacy barrier, or if receiving your payment electronically would cause you a financial hardship, you may receive your payment by check by filing a hardship certification form.

Please call the Flagstaff FSA Office at (928) 774-2401 if you would like more information on Direct Deposit, EFT<sup>SM</sup>, or hardship waivers.

## Reasonable Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the Farm Service Agency county office staff, and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are necessary.



## Foreign Buyer Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign investors who buy, sell or hold an interest in U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings and transactions by submitting a completed FSA-153 to the Secretary of Agriculture not later than 90 calendar days after the date of acquisition or transfer.



### Who must report:

- Foreign Individuals
- Foreign organizations
- Foreign Governments
- U.S. Organizations if a significant interest or substantial control is directly or indirectly held by foreign individuals, organizations or governments

Failure to submit the AFIDA form FSA-153 could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.



## Have There Been Changes to Your Farming Operation?

Producers are reminded to notify the FSA county office regarding any changes to their farming operations. This includes, but is not limited to, adding or removing a member of the operation, adding or subtracting land, or changing the signature authority for the operation.

All changes must be timely reported to your FSA office in order to properly maintain farm records and eligibility documents. Without this properly updated information, program eligibility and payments could be delayed or disallowed.

**United States Department of Agriculture**

Farm Service Agency  
Coconino, Mohave, Yavapai County  
1585 S. Plaza Way, Suite 120  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001-7156



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Outreach Schedule for October 2011**

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Gap	October 5, 2011	10:30 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
Cameron	October 6, 2011	10:30 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
Kaibeto	October 12, 2011	11:00 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
LeChee	October 13, 2011	11:00 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
Leupp	October 19, 2011	10:30 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
Tonalea	October 20, 2011	11:00 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
Coppermine	October 25, 2011	11:00 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
Coalmine	October 26, 2011	10:30 am - 2:00 pm (MST)
Tolani Lake	October 27, 2011	11:00 am - 2:00 pm (MST)

**All times are Mountain Stand Time (MST) - Flagstaff Time.  
This schedule is dependent upon weather & road conditions.**

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.