



**Elko/Eureka  
County FSA**

555 W. Silver St.  
Suite 101  
Elko, NV 89801

Ph: 775-738-6445  
Fax: 775-778-9712

**Hours**

Monday—Friday  
8:00 am—4:30 pm

**County Office Staff**

Clayre Moiola  
CED

Micki Wines  
Farm Loan Officer

Maria Murillo  
Program Technician  
Farm Loan/Program

Jacque Fender  
Program Technician  
Farm Program

Claire Nuemann  
County Office Trainee

**County Committee**

Patsy Tomera-  
Chairperson  
Mitch Heguy-  
Vice Chairperson  
Mark Damele-  
Member  
Clayton Cota-  
Member  
Ira J Wines-  
Member

[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

## CRP Signup Ends April 15

Farmers and ranchers have until April 15 to enroll eligible land into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) during the general sign-up period, which opened earlier this month.

Contracts awarded under this sign-up are scheduled to become effective Oct. 1, 2011. Additionally, current CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall may make new contract offers.

FSA will evaluate and rank eligible CRP offers using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) that shows the wildlife, water, soil, and air benefits of enrolling the land in CRP. Decisions on the EBI cutoff will be made after the sign-up ends and after analyzing the EBI data of all the offers.

In addition to the general sign-up, CRP's continuous sign-up program will be ongoing. Continuous acres represent the most environmentally desirable and sensitive land. More information can be found online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/crp>

## SNOW PACK REPORT

The Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) snow surveyors recently completed the April 1<sup>st</sup> snow measurements. High elevation snow pack is abundant so don't put your muck boots away just yet.

The water content contained in the snow is still above or around average for the Upper Humboldt River drainage basin. For example at Lamoille Canyon # 1 snow course, at an elevation of 7100 feet is currently 160% of average, and measuring 45 inches of snow. Lamoille Canyon #5 snow course with an elevation of 8700 feet is at 125% of average with 98 inches of snow.

## 2011 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through June 1, 2011. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up,

or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2011 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, eligible producers may request advanced direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

For more information on this or other FSA programs, contact the nearest FSA office.

## Acreage Certification

Time is nearing for producers to certify their 2011 acreage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops enrolled in programs other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by the (date ) deadline on small grains and a (date) deadline on all other crops.

Acreage reports on crops covered by NAP are due in the county office by the earlier of (June 15) for small grains and (July 15) for all other crops, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported.

**NOTICE  
TO HISPANIC  
AND/OR  
WOMEN  
FARMERS OR  
RANCHERS  
COMPENSATION  
FOR CLAIMS OF  
DISCRIMINATION**

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have established an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent is required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA.

This ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainseervlet>.

## Conservation Loan Program

The Conservation Loan (CL) program provides farmers with the funding necessary to implement approved conservation measures on their land. The available limit for a direct CL is \$300,000, and the limit for a guaranteed CL is \$1,119,000.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will work with applicants to develop a conservation plan containing approved conservation practices, such as water conservation structures, forest cover, permanent pastures, manure digesters and other installations.

For more information on a potential Conservation Loan, call the local FSA office and make an appointment with a farm loan officer.

## Direct and Guaranteed Loans

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,119,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so a loan can be processed in a timely manner.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

## Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established.

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible for compensation.

To register for a claims package or for additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

### Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:

[www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov) or call 1-888-508-4429

### Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:

[www.blackfarmercase.com](http://www.blackfarmercase.com) or call 1-866-950-5547

### Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:

[www.IndianFarmClass.com](http://www.IndianFarmClass.com) or call 1-888-233-5506.

## Beginning and Limited Resource Loans

FSA has a program to assist beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups 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 that 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 median size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed.

Additional program information is available at the local USDA Service Center or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) and [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov).

## Farm Safety

Flowing grain in a storage bin or gravity-flow wagon is like quicksand, it can kill quickly. It takes less than five seconds for a person caught in flowing grain to be trapped.

The mechanical aspects of grain handling equipment, also presents a real danger. Augers, power take offs, and other moving parts can grab people or clothing.

These hazards, along with pinch points and missing shields, are dangerous enough for adults; not to mention children. It is always advisable to keep children a safe distance from operating farm equipment. Always use extra caution when backing or maneuvering farm machinery. Ensure everyone is visibly clear and accounted for before machinery is engaged. FSA wants all farmers to have a productive crop year, that begins with putting safety first.

## Join USDA and FSA in celebrating Earth Day 2011

April 22 marks Earth Day 2011. In recognition of the power of millions of individual actions, Earth Day 2011 will be organized around A Billion Acts of Green®: Personal, organizational and corporate pledges to live and act sustainably. The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970. The passage

of the landmark Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and many other groundbreaking environmental laws soon followed. The Earth Day Network (EDN) works with over 22,000 partners in 192 countries and more than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day activities each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world. For more information about Earth Day, visit [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org)

## SURE

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster through Sept. 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP). Grazed acreage is not eligible for the SURE program. Crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10 percent of the value of the coverage. See the local FSA office for details.

## Farm Record Changes

June 1, 2011 is the deadline to provide changes to your farm records at the local FSA office for the 2011 crop year. If you are changing your operation entity type, adding or dropping cropland or farms, or adding entities to your operation, contact the FSA county office by June 1.

## Farm Storage Facility Loan

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Farm Storage facility Loan Program (FSFL) provides low-interest financing for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The FSA is authorized to implement the program through USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Loan applications should be filed in the Administrative FSA Office that maintains the farm Records. For more information contact your local FSA office or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

<b>Selected Interest Rates for April 2011</b>	
<b>Farm Operating - Direct</b>	<b>2.750%</b>
<b>Farm Ownership - Direct</b>	<b>5.000%</b>
<b>Conservation Loan</b>	<b>5.000%</b>
<b>Farm Storage Facility-7YR</b>	<b>2.750%</b>
<b>Farm Storage Facility-10YR</b>	<b>3.375%</b>
<b>Farm Storage Facility-12YR</b>	<b>3.625%</b>
<b>Commodity Loans 1996 - Present</b>	<b>1.250%</b>

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
<b>April 15</b>	<b>CRP General Signup Ends</b>
<b>May 30</b>	<b>Office Closed-Memorial Day</b>
<b>June 1</b>	<b>Deadline - Farm Record Changes</b>
<b>June 1</b>	<b>2011 DCP Enrollment Ends</b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b>Deadline for Acreage Reporting- Small Grain Crops</b>
<b>July 15</b>	<b>Deadline For Acreage Reporting-All crops which includes Grazing</b>
	<b>COC-meets second Tues. of the month "as needed"</b>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). 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.