



November 2009

# Humboldt/Lander FSA News

**Humboldt/Lander County  
USDA Service Center**  
1200 E. Wmca. Blvd.  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
Phone: (775) 623-5025  
Fax: (775) 623-1386  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/nv](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nv)

### Hours

Monday - Thursday  
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Friday  
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### County Staff

#### County Executive

##### Director:

MaryAnn McDermett

##### Program Specialist:

Katie Nuffer

##### Program Technicians:

Donna Harrer

Denise Cerri

##### Farm Loan Manager:

Carolyn Persinger  
(775) 423-5124 x 106

##### Farm Loan Officer:

Micki Wines  
(775) 738-6445 x 105  
Phyllis Dowd  
(775) 423-5124 x 107

### County Committee

#### Chairman:

Fred Wilkinson

#### Vice-Chairman:

Debbie Hummel

#### Members:

Bob Buckingham  
Theresa Marvel  
Christina Wohle

#### Minority Advisor:

Arlo Crutcher



## Livestock Forage Disaster Program

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought conditions or fire on federally managed land.

Eligible livestock producers may receive assistance for eligible livestock grazing losses that occur due to drought or fire on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011, during the calendar year in which the loss occurs.

County committees can only accept applications after being notified by the National Office of qualifying drought as signified by a Drought Monitor level of D2 or higher, or if a Federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normally permitted livestock on Federal managed lands due to a qualifying fire. FSA began accepting 2008 calendar year applications September 14, 2009. **The applications for 2008 must be filed by December 10, 2009. Late filed applications for LFP cannot be approved.**

For 2009 and subsequent years, signup applications must be filed no later than **30 calendar days** (January 30, 2010 for 2009 calendar year), after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing losses occurred. Losses must occur in the calendar year the application is being filed.

The monthly payment rate will be an amount equal to 60 percent of the lesser of:

- the monthly feed cost for all covered livestock, using a feed grain equivalent (for example, the feed grain equivalent for an adult beef cow is 15.7 pounds of corn per day)
- the monthly feed cost calculated using the normal carrying capacity for the grazing land.

Drought eligibility criteria require that the drought must have occurred on:

- native or improved permanent vegetative cover
- small grains or forage sorghum planted specifically for grazing

Losses due to drought must occur during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land.

Additional Information about LFP including eligible livestock and fire criteria is available at county FSA offices or on line at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

## Acresage Reports Needed For SURE

Because of the delay in announcing the provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, producers enrolling in the Supplemental

Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) are reminded that 2008 crop reports are required for SURE participation. This includes crops planted on cropland and/or non-cropland, including native pasture or improved grass that will be hayed.

Physical evidence of the crop in the field is not required for Farm Service Agency (FSA) to accept late-filed 2008 acreage reports. However, evidence of existence or disposition, is required.

The following requirements for 2008 SURE include:

- producers **must** report all crops, in all counties, in which they have an interest
- late filed fees shall be waived for late-filed 2008 acreage reports and physical evidence in the field is not required
- if the actual use of a crop is different from the intended use reported, the producer may report the final use to the County Office; however, the intended use shall **not** be changed.

The provisions noted are for 2008 only. For 2009 and 2010, normal acreage reporting requirements will be applied.

More details on the 2008 SURE Program are available at county FSA offices or on line at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

## Attention NAP Producers

**The application deadline date for the 2010 NAP grazing crops (with the exception of grain which has already passed) is December 1, 2009.**

Producers are also reminded to submit all 2009 production records to the office as soon as possible.

For more information on NAP coverage please contact Donna Harrer at (775) 623-5025 ext. 100.



## Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

In the 2008 Farm Bill, in general, the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of aquaculture, the term "farm" means all fish being produced in all counties that are intended to be harvested for sale by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers who meet the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.

## Voting for County Committee Begins

Ballots for this year's County Committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 6, 2009. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on **December 7, 2009. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 7, 2009.**

The candidates in this year's election are Susan Kern and Christina Wohle.

Eligible voters in local administrative areas 3 and 5 who do not receive a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

**Voter Requirements:** Persons meeting requirements in 1 or 2, plus 3, below, are eligible to vote:

1. Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following:
  - an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper, or a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; or
2. Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; *and*
3. Eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

**Discrimination Prohibited:** No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

## LFP Maps

Weekly Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) Payment Eligibility maps that depict the weekly LFP payment eligibility by county for the US and Puerto Rico, based on grazing periods, drought intensity, and forage types can now be found on FSA's internet Web site at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=lfp>.

The four most current county level LFP maps will be:

- posted in the Disaster Assistance Program section on the FSA Internet web site
- updated on a weekly basis
- provided for each year and each eligible grazing type.

## Farm Loan Year End Reviews

Producers that have a farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End Analysis (YEA) to their loan officer each year. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so that their files can be maintained. The office will contact you for the data you will need to provide us.

### Applications for FSA Farm Loan Assistance

Farmers and ranchers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Filing early will help ensure that your loan is processed and approved as early as possible so that planting decisions can be made. Failure to apply early can result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications that must be processed in date order. Humboldt County farmers and ranchers should contact their FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer at (775) 423-5124 and those in Lander County should call (775) 738-6445 for more details and assistance in applying.

### Operating Loan Applications Needed Now

Farmers that plan to apply to the FSA for annual operating loan assistance this year are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. The earlier an application for loan assistance is filed, the quicker the FSA staff can process your request. In addition, due to budget constraints, farmers that wait until later in the year to apply run the risk of finding out that our funding allocations have been utilized already. Humboldt County farmers and ranchers should contact their FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer at (775) 423-5124 and those in Lander County should call (775) 738-6445 for information as to what is required in order to have a complete loan application on file. Decisions on loans cannot be made until a complete application is received.



## Online Services

Producers, if you have Internet access you can electronically log on, fill out and print a variety of FSA paper forms in the comfort of your home as your schedule allows. You can also register for secure

electronic access that will allow you to electronically sign and transmit some forms directly to the county office staff. If you are new to the website, first you will want to obtain a Level 2 USDA Service Center Customer ID and password at: <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> and then click on "Create an Account Page" link.

USDA eAuthentication is the system used by USDA agencies to enable customers to obtain accounts that will allow them to access USDA Web applications and services via the Internet. This includes things such as submitting forms electronically, completing surveys online, and checking the status of your USDA accounts.

If you already have a Customer ID and password, then click on the following eForms website at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainervlet> and then click on the "Sign In" button. A disclaimer window will open and after you read the "Warning message" click on the "Continue" button.

Then the USDA Web services page will open to the eAuthentication login page. Enter your login User ID and password and then click on the "Login" button. To sign and transmit forms electronically, you must sign-up and get a User ID and password.

Submitting an e-Form is convenient. You can access information anytime day or night seven days a week. It's faster and forms and applications can be submitted and received in the county office in a matter of minutes, not days or weeks.

## Changing Banks

Almost all FSA payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

## NRCS News!

### Applications due Nov. 27 for Conservation Funding

Nevada agricultural landowners and operators are encouraged to submit 2010 applications by Nov. 27 to USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service for participation in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. EQIP is offered through a

continuous signup but NRCS periodically makes funding selections as program dollars allow.

EQIP was originally established under the 1996 Farm Bill and is reauthorized in the 2008 Farm Bill. It provides technical and financial assistance to landowners to voluntarily address soil, water and related natural resource concerns on agricultural lands. Congress included new provisions in the 2008 Farm Bill setting aside 5 percent of EQIP financial assistance dollars to assist beginning farmers and another 5 percent to assist socially disadvantaged farmers.

Nevada's payment rates for all conservation practices in this year's signup have increased from 50 to 75 percent of the average cost of the practice. Historically underserved producers, such as a member of a Socially Disadvantaged Group (American Indians, Blacks, Asians, Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders, and Hispanics), Beginning or Limited Resource Farmers, and Indian tribes may be eligible for up to 90 percent of the average cost of practices.

For more information about EQIP, visit your local USDA Service Center or go online to <http://www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov>.

NRCS provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain and improve our natural resources and environment.

## Congratulations to Denise Adkins!

Denise Adkins, NRCS District Conservationist has accepted a position in Cascade, Idaho, and her last day in Nevada will be November 20<sup>th</sup>. We would like to offer our congratulations and wish her much happiness in her new position.

# Thanksgiving



Dates to Remember	
Nov. 6	County Committee ballots mailed.
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 1	Final Date 2010 NAP Application for Coverage—all grazing crops excluding grain
Dec. 7	County Committee Ballots due in Office
Dec. 10	2008 LFP Signup Deadline

Selected Interest Rates for October 2009	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.875%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.750%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility (7 year)	3.000%
Commodity Loans	1.375%



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