

**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**

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 McDermott
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

Fred Wilkinson--Chairman

Debbie Hummel—Vice
Chairman

Theresa Marvel—Member

Christina Wohle—Member

Susan Kern—Member

Arlo Crutcher—Minority
Advisor

Meetings held second
Tuesday of the month at
10:00 a.m. (subject to
change)

SURE

Currently SURE Program sign ups are being taken for the 2008 Crop Year. The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that incurred starting in the crop year 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops of economic significance in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage.

Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition
- the crop of economic significance must be a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm
- the farm experiencing the loss must be in a county declared a disaster county by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties. Those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are also eligible to receive SURE payments for production losses or crop quality losses.

Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

A SURE calculator is available at:

http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/sure_calculator_2008.xls. The calculator is not official, but is intended for educational use. A fact sheet and Q & A are also available online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

2010 Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's)

Producers will need to complete page 1 of form CCC-633EZ as soon as possible to indicate their intention to receive an LDP. Page 1 must

be filed before producers lose beneficial interest in 2010 crop year wool, mohair or unshorn pelts.

By signing the first page of the CCC-633EZ form, producers indicate their intentions to request LDP benefits. This page covers all counties and all eligible harvested commodities for the entire crop year for the individual, joint operation or entity identified on the form. After completing page 1, producers can request benefits any time during the period that loans or LDP's are available, before or after losing beneficial interest.

To request a payment for shorn wool/mohair, the producer will then complete page 4 of Form CCC-633 EZ. You have the option of self-certifying to the weight or waiting until the wool/mohair is sold and providing the sales receipt. The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 raised the loan rate for graded wool from \$1.00/lb. to \$1.15/lb. for crop years 2010-2012. The ungraded wool loan rate is \$.40/lb. Additionally, there will no longer be regional loan rate differentials for 2010-2012 graded and ungraded wool; rather a national posted price will be announced weekly. The ungraded wool premium and discount schedule for Region 2 will be used as the nation's 2010 crop year schedule.

Actively Engaged

USDA has amended the rules that govern the requirements to be 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by the FSA.

Every stockholder or member of a legal entity, such as a corporation, does not have to contribute labor or management if both of the following apply:

- At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management that altogether qualifies as a significant contribution to the farming operation;
- The total direct payments received, both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members can not exceed \$40,000.



NAP Coverage Deadlines

Any producer that has not turned in their 2009 production records to the office should do so as soon as possible. For more information, contact Donna at (775) 623-5025 ext. 100.



Nevada FSA Web Page

The Nevada FSA State Office has been working on the State FSA Website. This site is the window into programs and information that apply to the state of Nevada and is available for your viewing. If you have any requests for additional information or links on this site, please let the State Office know at (775) 784-5411 ext. 100.

The address to access the site is: www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/stateoffapp?mystate=nv. Once there, click on the Home tab at the top of the page.

2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through **June 1, 2010**. 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 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program 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 2010, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

Adjusted Gross Income

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

The agreement 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/mainservlet>.

BCAP

The Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) provides financial assistance to producers or entities that sell and deliver eligible biomass material to qualified biomass conversion facilities (BCF) for use as heat, power, bio-based products or bio-fuels. Initial assistance will be for the collection, harvest, storage and transportation (CHST) costs associated with the delivery of eligible materials. Producers or entities who sell and deliver these materials can apply for FSA matching payments up to \$45 per dry ton.

An application must be submitted before the eligible material is sold and delivered to a BCF. After the product is delivered, a producer must provide FSA with documentation of product quantity, quality and payment rate. County offices will validate payment requests with information in the county office. For more information, find the BCAP page of details at www.fsa.usda.gov.

1099-G: Note Changes

Producers who have received payments in 2009 from FSA should have received a CCC-1099-G. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to producers during the previous calendar year. The CCC-1099-G is to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.

When the CCC-1099-G is received, it should be checked with your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based database. Program participants with an eAuthentication user ID and password may access their refund information at FSA-FI and select "Inquiry Type 1099/Refund Reports". Refund amounts are displayed on the Producer's Year-to-Date Activity web page.

If you have questions concerning the 1099-G refund information, contact your local FSA office for assistance locating the correct payment data.

Farm Loan Programs

The FSA offers loans for eligible farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit.

In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

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 \$1,112,000. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available.

For details please contact Carolyn Persinger or Phyllis Dowd at (775) 423-5124 (Lander and Pershing County producers) or Micki Wines at (775) 738-6445 (Humboldt County producers) to schedule an appointment with a farm loan officer.

Nevada State Committee

The Obama Administration announced the individuals who will serve on the Nevada Farm Service Agency State Committee. The State Committee members will oversee the activities of the agency, including carrying out the state agricultural conservation programs, resolving appeals from the agriculture community and helping to keep producers informed about FSA programs.

The individuals appointed to serve on this committee include:

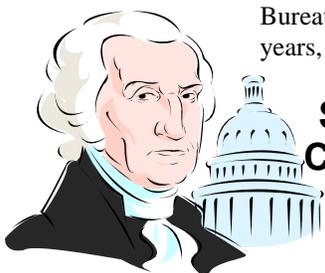
Karen Wesner (Chairperson)—Ms. Wesner has a farm in Lovelock where she raises hay and cattle. She has served for 10 years on the Pershing County FSA Committee and has been the Pershing County Representative to the Community Development Block Grant Program for over 15 years.

Jim Christison—Mr. Christison lives on a ranch in Golconda that has been in his family for 120 years. He raises cattle and hay and shows/trains western stock horses. He is also an accomplished artist.

Vince Garcia—Mr. Garcia is from Spring Creek and is a former Vocational Agriculture Instructor in the Elko County School District. His ranching business is in the South Fork Indian Reservation and his Angus cross cattle utilize Tribal and BLM lands.

Marcia Litsinger—Ms. Litsinger's operation uses hoop houses year-round with bio-intensive methods on a solar powered site. She is certified by the Nevada Department of Agriculture in Organic Programs and is a trained organic farm inspector.

David Perazzo—Mr. Perazzo was raised on the same dairy farm that he now runs with his brother and son in Fallon. He served on the Nevada Farm Bureau Dairy Producers Committee for over ten years, including a period as Chairman.



Sign-up Now for the New Conservation Stewardship Program

Offered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service

Agricultural producers can receive financial and technical assistance to conserve and enhance soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land. The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) encourages agricultural producers to maintain existing conservation activities and adopt additional ones on their operations. CSP provides opportunities to both recognize excellent stewards and deliver valuable new conservation.

The program provides equitable access to all producers, regardless of operation size, crops produced, or geographic location. Individual producers, legal entities, corporations, and Indian Tribes

may be eligible for the program. Some eligible lands include private cropland, improved pasture, and rangeland.

CSP participants can receive an annual payment for installing and maintaining existing activities and a supplemental payment if they adopt a resource-conserving crop rotation. CSP payments to a person or legal entity may not exceed \$40,000 in any year and \$200,000 during any 5-year period.

Producers interested in CSP are encouraged to begin the application process by completing a producer self-screening checklist. The checklist helps potential applicants decide for themselves whether CSP is the right program for them. The level of environmental benefit to be achieved will be estimated to determine eligibility, rank applications, and establish payments. Applicants will be required to provide information about their operations and select at least one enhancement activity for each land use. This information will determine land use performance points which are part of the formula for determining the land use annual payment.

The land use payment rate per performance point is \$0.0605 for cropland, \$0.0329 for improved pasture, and \$0.0120 for rangeland. The formula for determining the land use annual payment is as follows.

Land Use Annual Payment = Land Use Performance Points x Land Use Payment Rate per Performance Point x Land Use Acres.

Using this formula, a producer with 350 land use performance points and 1,500 acres of cropland would earn \$31,762 per year and \$158,810 over the 5-year contract period.

The NRCS will request conservation activity records from pre-approved applicants and conduct on-site field verification to ensure that information provided by the applicant is accurate prior to contract approval. Activity records would include information about an applicant's normal farming activities such as crop rotations, irrigation methods, nutrient and pest management, livestock grazing, and habitat management for wildlife.

Please call Craig Plummer at (775) 623-5025 ext. 101 if you are interested in applying for the new Conservation Stewardship Program or need more information.

NRCS Snow - Precipitation Update Humboldt and Lander Counties, NV

Data Site Name	Total Precipitation Percent of Average		Snow Depth (in.)	Data Site Elevation (ft.)
	2/5/2010	2/5/2009		
Disaster Peak	90	117	21	6,500
Big Creek Summit	81	97	28	8,685
Buckskin Lower	87	97	33	6,915
Granite Peak	82	77	42	8,543
Lamance Creek	81	84	32	6,000

Idt/Lander County FSA Office
 1200 E. Winnemucca Blvd.
 Winnemucca, NV 89445



**PRESORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 DAVIS, CA
 PERMIT #22**

Selected Interest Rates for February 2010	
90-Day Treasury Bill	.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.625%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.875%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility—7 year	3.250%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.375%

Dates to Remember	
February 9	COC Meeting
Feb. 9 - 11	World Ag Expo - Tulare, CA
February 15	Presidents' Day - USDA Office Closed
March 9	Tentative COC Meeting
May 20	Final planting date for spring grains
June 1	2010 DCP Sign up Deadline
June 15	Deadline for filing acreage report on all grain crops
June 15	Final planting date for corn

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all 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, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."