



# September 2010 Humboldt/Lander County FSA News

## September 30<sup>th</sup> Deadline for SURE Applications

**The deadline to submit USDA Farm Service Agency 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) program payment applications is close of business on September 30, 2010. Applications not filed by September 30, 2010, will not receive a payment.**

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

## ELAP Assistance Available

Aid from the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) is available to those producers who suffered losses in 2010 because of disease, adverse weather or other conditions.

For 2010 and subsequent year losses, sign-up will end no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the loss occurred. See program details for other Notice of

Loss deadlines. Under ELAP, producers will be compensated for losses that are not covered under other Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Payment programs established by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

## NAP Coverage

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 or prevented planting of an eligible crop. NAP provides coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statutes limit NAP coverage to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

Application deadlines for 2011 NAP coverage for a variety of crops are coming up in the next few months. Application for coverage deadlines are as follows:

- September 30, 2010**—All grain crops, whether intended for hay or grazing
- October 31, 2010**—All other hay crops
- December 1, 2010**—All other grazing crops

Producers who already have coverage on 2010 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2011, if the applicable service fee 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.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail and other natural causes.

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

### 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.

#### Staff

##### County Executive

##### Director:

MaryAnn McDermett

##### State Program Specialist:

Katie Nuffer

##### Program Technicians:

Denise Cerri

Donna Harrer

##### Farm Loan Officers:

Micki Wines

(775) 738-6445 x 105

##### County Committee

Fred Wilkinson—Chairman

Debbie Hummel—Vice  
Chairman

Susan Kern—Member

Theresa Marvel—Member

Christina Wohle—Member

Arlo Crutcher—Minority  
Advisor

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



## Kids & Farm Safety

The need for farm safety awareness for children does not diminish after they return to school. Fall harvest and work with livestock still exposes kids to risks on evenings and weekends. Farm Safety 4 Just Kids recommends the following protection when dealing with grain, ATVs and livestock:

- Always lock access doors to grain storage structures.
- Lock out power to all types of grain-handling equipment.
- Always use the buddy system when you are unloading or loading grain, notifying a second person where you are.
- Never permit children to ride in grain wagons or enter grain storage areas.
- Always know where ALL family members are (especially children) at all times when grain is being loaded, unloaded, moved or otherwise handled.

ATV drivers: No matter what function the ATV performs, remember that it is only as capable as the operator.

Chores involving livestock care and handling are often one of the first responsibilities given to children, increasing their exposure to the dangers at an early age.

When working around animals encourage your children to:

- Be calm, move slowly, and avoid loud noises
- Wear steel toed shoes
- Avoid the hind legs of the animal
- Approach large animals at the shoulder
- Children should avoid animals with newborns
- Children should avoid stallions, bulls, rams, and boars
- Always have an escape route when working with animals in close quarters
- Wear helmets when riding horses.

### Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment.

New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities

For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000. Loan requirements are:

- US citizenship or legal resident alien status
- 10 to 20 years of age
- Compliance with FSA general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town (population 50,000 or less)
- Inability to obtain a loan from other sources
- Ability to conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work.



- Demonstrate a capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms. The FSA staff can help answer questions about eligibility for projects you may propose and about general program requirements.



## FSA Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for 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 through FSA.

For more information on loan eligibility or the different loan programs available, just contact the county office staff for an appointment with a farm loan officer.

## NRCS NEWS



## ATTENTION PRODUCERS

### Your Program Payment May Be Delayed

Changing the way you participate in Farm Bill programs can cause lengthy delays in paying for conservation practices that you have applied or installed through Farm Bill programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). For example, a producer who is participating as an individual in the EQIP but changes later to a Limited Liability Company before the contract is completed can experience eligibility issues and lengthy delays in program payments.

Most producers contact the Farm Service Agency (FSA) first when making changes to their farm records which may include a change in how they participate in USDA programs. **If you don't tell the FSA that you have a contract with the NRCS the changes they make in their software applications can cause a participant in NRCS programs to become ineligible for payments.** Some program participants have had to wait up to one year to receive substantial payments for practices that they applied or installed. They had to make other arrangements to pay their bills. You don't want this to happen to you.

You can participate in Farm Bill programs as an individual, entity such as a Corporation, Limited Partnership, Trust, Estate, Limited Liability Company or a joint operation such as a General Partnership or Joint Venture. What's important is making sure that you inform the **FSA and NRCS in advance** that you are making a change in how you participate in Farm Bill programs and particularly the EQIP.

Together the NRCS, FSA and program participant can complete the required forms that document changes to their farm records and how they participate in USDA programs. Normally, in NRCS, this would be a simple transfer agreement that transfers a contract from an individual to an entity or joint operation or from one type of entity or joint operation to another. Another use for a transfer agreement would be any change in control of the land (all or part). A change to a bank account can cause another delay in payments. If you make a change please submit a new SF-1199A Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form to the FSA and NRCS. This will ensure that program payments are deposited in the correct account.

Please contact the NRCS at (775) 623-5025 ext. 101 or the Farm Service Agency at (775) 623-5025 ext. 100 if you have any questions or are contemplating a change in your farm records or in how you participate in USDA programs.

Selected Interest Rates for September 2010	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.375%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.375%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency – Actual Loss	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility (7 year)	2.250%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%

Dates to Remember	
Sept. 30	SURE Application Deadline
Sept 30	NAP Application for Coverage Deadline—All Grain Crops
Oct. 11	Office Closed in Observance of Columbus Day
Oct. 31	NAP Application for Coverage Deadline—All Other Hay Crops
Nov. 11	Office Closed in Observance of Veterans Day
Nov. 25	Office Closed for Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 1	NAP Application for Coverage Deadline—All Other Grazing Crops

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 9410 Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 977-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay ) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."