



Big Horn County  
Farm Service Center  
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Office Hours:  
8:00 – 12:00 & 12:30 –  
4:30  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
[www.nrcs.wy.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.wy.usda.gov)

April 2009

**Farm Service Agency  
County Committee**

Shawn Bullinger- Chairman  
Jan Barnett- Vice Chairman  
Wilford Tippetts- Regular  
Member

**Farm Service Agency  
Office Staff**

Bryan Schoenfelder – CED  
Brenda Miller – PT  
Connie Anson-PT

**Farm Loan Staff**

Bill Morrison-FLM  
Worland (307)347-2456  
Kathy Palazollo-FLO  
Powell (307)754-9411

**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**

Monte Bush – Greybull – DC  
Dave Preator – Greybull – SCT  
Ben Bonella - Greybull - RMS  
John Richards – Lovell – DC

**South Big Horn  
Conservation District**

Linda Hamilton – Chairman  
Walter Hibbert – Vice Chair  
George Kelso -Treasurer  
Nancy Joyce – Secretary  
Ted Zier – Member

Janet Hallsted – District Manager  
**Shoshone**

**Conservation District**

Russell Boardman – Chairman  
Spencer Ellis – Vice Chair  
Reed Williams– Sec/Treas  
Allen Clark – Member  
George Estes – Member

Kristin Tilley – District Manager



# The Big Horn Bulletin

## DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL SIGNUP ANNOUNCED

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act) was enacted on June 18, 2008. The 2008 Act provided for the continuation of DCP for 2008 through 2012. Signup for the 2009 DCP has been extended until **August 14, 2009**.

Direct payments will be computed by multiplying 83.3 percent of the covered commodity base acres times, the payment yield, times the payment rate for that commodity, times the producers share of the commodity. Advance payments may be made any month throughout the year prior to October 1, 2009, at 22 percent of the total payment.

Farms that were previously enrolled in the DCP program with 10.0 base acres or less **will not be eligible for the 2009-2012 enrollments**. However, the prohibition does not apply to a farm that is wholly owned by a socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmer or rancher.

**The same Fruits and Vegetable planting flexibility provisions apply as before.** If you have a history of planting beans on your farm, then your farm payment will have an acre for acre payment reduction. If you don't have a history on your farm of planting beans you could be facing a contract violation. **It is best to plan ahead and check with this office before enrolling your farm if you are planning to plant beans**, so we can advise you of your eligible acres and options.

## FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including small grains, course grains, and oilseeds. The seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities. Eligible facilities include new conventional-type cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures.

All Farm Storage Facility Loans are secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost of the storage or handling equipment, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A minimum down payment is also required and multi peril crop insurance coverage for all crops. For details and a current interest rate contact this FSA office.

The 2008 Farm Bill made changes to this program and the new regulations are scheduled to be out in July of 2009. Watch future newsletters for updated information on these loans.

## NEW ELIGIBILITY PAPERWORK FOR PRODUCERS

**All producers** receiving payments will be required to fill out new payment eligibility forms for 2009 programs and provide current information for FSA to verify ownership and signature authority for all entities requesting program benefits. The paperwork includes the CCC-926 – Average Adjusted Gross Income; CCC-902 – Farm Operating Plan for an Individual or Entity; and AD-1026 – Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Certification. Please keep in mind that all paperwork must be completed prior to receiving payments for the 2009 crop year.

## LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP)

Loan deficiency payments are available if the posted county price goes below the loan rate. To date only wool and unshorn pelt LDP's are available. CCC 633 EZ forms need to be filed for the 2009 program year should LDP's become available. These forms will be available for your signature at the time of crop reporting. Wool and unshorn pelt LDP's can be paid as soon as the necessary paperwork is filed.

## LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

The Livestock Indemnity Program enacted the 2008 Farm Bill covers livestock losses in excess of normal mortality from January 1, 2008 and before October 1, 2011. Livestock losses due to adverse weather including blizzards, disease, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, and wildfires are eligible for LIP. If you have any livestock losses due to a disaster event, keep track of your losses. Records must be verifiable and reliable. If you have any questions about record keeping requirements, please contact the office.



## FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, with large or small operations. 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).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. 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.

County committees provide local input on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs
- Payment eligibility

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

June 15, 2009 – The nomination period begins.  
Request nomination forms from the local USDA

Service Center or obtain online at:  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov> under News & Events/County Committee Elections.

Aug. 3, 2009 - Last day to file nomination forms at the local USDA Service Center

### Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote. More information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled "FSA County Committee Election - Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member." Producers may contact their local USDA Service Center for more information.

### Nominations

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> under News & Events/County Committee Elections.

Nomination forms for the 2009 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 3, 2009. See the attached FSA-669A for your convenience.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records.

### Don't Miss Out on Voting

Ballots will be mailed to voters by Nov. 6, 2009, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 7, 2009. Eligible voters must contact their local FSA county office before the final date if they did not receive a ballot.

### For More Information

For more information about FSA county committees, visit a local FSA or USDA Service Center or the Web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE  
Big Horn County FSC  
408 Greybull Ave.  
Greybull, WY 82426-2037

Return Service Requested

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Special Accommodations will be made for the physically handicapped, vision- or hearing-impaired person upon request. If accommodations are required, please call Bryan Schoenfelder, CED at (307)765-2689.

### Important Dates

April 27, 2009 – ACRE Signup Begins  
June 15-Aug 3, 2009 – Nomination Period  
July 1, 2009 – Acreage Reporting Deadline  
July 4, 2009 – Office Closed Independence Day  
Aug 14, 2009-DCP/ACRE Signup Deadline