



**Big Horn County  
Farm Service Center  
408 Greybull Ave.  
Greybull, WY 82426  
Phone: (307)765-2689  
FAX: (307)765-9243**

**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)

### **November 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 Palazzolo-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

## **2010 Direct and Counter Cyclical/ACRE Signup**

Signup for the 2010 DCP and ACRE has started. Signup will run from October 1, 2009-June 1, 2010. Advance payment of 22 percent will be available upon completion of all signup paperwork. Stop by this office and complete your signups as soon as you are sure of your 2010 farming intentions.

## **Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)**

The Big Horn County Commissioners have started the process necessary to get Big Horn County a primary Secretarial disaster declaration. If a declaration is granted, Big Horn County producers will be eligible for the new SURE program for the 2009 crop losses, and emergency loans.

The signup for the 2009 SURE program will not be until next fall since the program runs off of the marketing cycle for the crops which will not end until later next summer, or early fall. Producers were required to carry either crop insurance or NAP coverage, for non-insurable crops, on all crops of economic significance, to be eligible for the SURE payments.

We are currently waiting for the 2008 SURE Signup to be announced. We will get the signup date out to eligible producers when the information is received. If you had a loss in 2008 and had all of your crop covered by crop insurance or NAP please watch for further information.

Watch future newsletters for further information on this designation and program availability.

## **New Farm Storage Facility Loan Regulations**

We have received the new regulations for the Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL). These new regulations have made major changes to this program. If you are interested in constructing a facility for your grains and now even your hay please stop by or call this office for further details.

## **FARM LOAN PROGRAMS “Lender of First Opportunity”**

Farm Service Agency has programs that can help farmers and ranchers get started and keep going! Loan assistance for eligible: Beginning farmers and ranchers • Rural Youths • Socially disadvantaged producers • Established farmers suffering setbacks • Farmers with limited resources. All loans must meet qualifying criteria to be eligible. Maximum loan amounts are \$300,000 for Direct Farm Ownership and Operating loans; \$1,112,000 for Guaranteed Farm Ownership and Operating loans. Youth loans are available for up to \$5,000 to individual youths to establish and operate income producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H Clubs, FFA and similar organizations.

Each fiscal year the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed loan funds to beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers. A beginning farmer is someone who has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years. A socially disadvantaged applicant is someone who is one of a group whose members have been subject to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice.

If you have questions regarding the Farm Loan Program or wish to make an appointment, please contact Bill Morrison at 347-2456 Ext. 2 or Kathy Palazzolo at 754-9411, Ext 2.

## **Non-Insurable Assistance Program (NAP) Deadlines Approaching December 1, 2009**

FSA can provide coverage for non insurable forage crops including your grazing under **NAP**. FSA's NAP coverage is for crops not covered by RMA. The deadline to purchase NAP coverage for hay and grazing losses is **December 1, 2009**. An important reminder is all of your crops excluding grazing must be covered by either Crop Insurance or NAP to be eligible for the crop disaster program known as SURE (Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program). The NAP application fee is \$250 per crop per county with a maximum of \$750. If you have multiple counties, the fee cannot exceed \$1,875.

## **Commodity Loans Available For 2009 Commodities in Storage**

Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) provide financing and marketing assistance for wheat, feed grains (Barley, corn, oats), honey, wool and mohair. This assistance is available to eligible producers beginning with harvest season and extending through the program year.

The 2008 Farm Bill included several changes to the Marketing Assistance Loan and Loan Deficiency Payment program. Some of the changes include: 1) Beginning with the 2009 crop year, marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments will no longer be subject to a per person payment limit; 2) Loan rates will no longer be adjusted on warehouse-stored loans by premiums and discounts at loan making time; 3) Beginning with the 2009 crop year, warehouse-stored loans will be adjusted by premiums and discounts only at loan settlement, if the commodity is either farm-stored delivered or warehouse-stored forfeited; and 4) The Commodity Credit Corporation will no longer require the execution of a storage agreement in storage facilities that are either 1) federally-licensed or 2) in compliance with applicable state laws and issue warehouse receipts. This provision also begins with the 2009 crop year.

MAL's are nine month loans. The current interest rate for October is 1.375 percent. The 2009 loan rate for each commodity is as follows:

Corn \$2.11/bu   Barley \$1.80/bu   Oats \$1.25/bu   Wheat(Spring) \$3.26/bu   Wheat(Winter) \$2.43/bu

The final date to request a commodity loan for barley, oats, and wheat is March 31, 2010, and for corn May 31, 2010. If you plan on holding your crop for awhile and need some operating money until the commodity is sold, a MAL might just be a good option to look at. For further information on the Commodity Loans please contact this office.

## **LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS**

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides financial assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from natural disaster. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality. This is an ongoing program through 2011.

The losses must be a direct result of an adverse weather condition. Eligible adverse weather events include but are not limited to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat or cold, tornados, lightning, and earthquakes. Note that drought is not a qualifying event.

Payment rates are per head by livestock kind/type and weight range. Owners will be paid 75% of fair market value of the livestock as determined by FSA. All calculations will be performed separately by eligible livestock (kind, type, and weight range)

Livestock losses need to be reported within 30 days of the loss becoming apparent. The final date to submit an application for 2009 losses is January 30, 2010. For more information or to file an application please contact the Big Horn County Farm Service Agency.

## **LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP)**

Loan deficiency payments are available if the posted county price goes below the loan rate. Barley sold between August 26 and September 25 is eligible for a payment. Payments are made based on the date you lose beneficial interest in a commodity. If your barley was sold during that time frame you will need to have a CCC 633 EZ page 1 on file and sign a page 2 and submit your settlement sheet or weight tickets to request payment. The deadline for requesting LDP's for barley is March 31, 2010. As of today there are no other crops eligible for LDP's.

Wool and unshorn pelt LDP's can be paid as soon as the necessary paperwork is filed with a January 31, 2010 deadline for wool produced in 2009.

## **THE CHALLENGE GROUP**

### **A Course Teaching Business and Financial management to Farmers**

The Challenge Group 2009, an eight-session program for new and beginning producers, will build a set of finance, legal, risk management and strategic skills in a highly participatory environment. The Challenge Group is especially targeted to the young or new agricultural producer and is open to any Big Horn Basin agricultural producer. The course will be offered at the Washakie County Extension Office, 1200 Culbertson Ave, Suite G, Worland, Wyoming, starting November 2, 2009 and continuing thru Jan 19, 2010.

Pre-registration for the course is required and application forms are available from the Washakie and Park County Extension Service offices in Worland, Powell, and Cody. The fee for the course is \$150.00 per operation with \$100.00 refunded by completing the sessions and associated work. If you are interested in this course or need further information please contact Jim Gill, UW Extension Educator at (307)347-3431 or 3430 or Sandra Frost, UW-CES Extension Educator-Crops, Northwest Area at (307)754-8836.

## **MEET JAN BARNETT**

Jan Barnett is nominated in Local Administrative Area #3 (LAA-3), Big Horn County, to serve as County Committee member for a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2010. Jan resides in the Shell Area with her husband Fred, and they have produced sheep, cattle, forage, and corn crops for the past 15 years.

Jan is currently an active member of the Big Horn County FSA committee serving as the vice chairman, a member of the Big Horn County Farm Bureau, a member of the advisory committee for the Big Horn REA, chief election judge for the shell area, and an active member of the Hands Across the Saddle organization. Jan is willing to serve if elected. Ballots for the LAA-3 election will be sent out November 6, 2009 and must be returned to the Big Horn County office or postmarked by December 7, 2009.

## **ANNUAL TREE PROGRAM UNDERWAY**

The 2010 South Big Horn Conservation District tree program is underway. The District is selling seedlings for early spring plantings. The District will have many varieties of deciduous and conifers available to choose from. Some of these varieties sell out quickly, early orders are encouraged.

Tree plantings benefit both the land and people:

- Property and livestock protection from the elements.
- Restoring or enhancing natural beauty.
- Reducing soil erosion and improving crop yields.
- Providing food and cover for wildlife.
- Increasing property values.
- Reduce water evaporation, preserve winter moisture, and protect water quality.
- Control drifting snow.
- Reduce heating and cooling costs. By protection from wind and sun. Trees can reduce energy costs by as much as 30 percent.

The trees will be here in late April. The tree orders need to be placed by March 30<sup>th</sup>. Tree applications and planting information are available at the District office. If interested in specific trees, order early quantities are limited and going fast. If you have any questions contact Natural Resources Conservation Service/South Big Horn Conservation District at 765-2483 or stop by at 408 Greybull Avenue in Greybull.

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:**

**November 11, 2009 – Office Closed Veterans Day**  
**November 26, 2009 – Office Closed Thanksgiving**  
**December 1, 2009 – NAP Fall Crop Deadline**  
**December 7, 2009 – Election Day LAA-3**  
**December 25, 2009 – Office Closed Christmas**  
**January 1, 2010- Office Closed Happy New Year!**  
**Anytime before June 1, 2010 – DCP/ACRE Signup**