



**PARK COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY**  
1017 Highway 14A  
POWELL, WY 82435  
PHONE: (307) 754-9411, Ext. 2  
FAX (307) 754-2761  
Hours: M-F, 8-4:30 Closed Holidays

July 15, 2011

**COUNTY COMMITTEE**

Jerry Denney, Chairperson  
Michael Hogg, Vice-chairperson  
Teddy Jones, Member  
Sandra Frost, Extension Service, Ex-officio member

**OFFICE STAFF**

Lee Craig, County Executive Director  
Kathleen Palazzolo, Farm Loan Officer  
Marjorie Parker, Program Technician  
Marcia Shuler, Program Technician  
Lorrie Tate, Program Technician

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**LATE ACREAGE REPORTS**

The final date for filing a 2011 crop report was July 1, 2011. If you did not file an acreage report by the deadline, you may still do so by paying a late filing fee. If you are a sugar beet grower, are enrolled in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Payment Program (DCP), the Conservation Reserve Program, purchase multi-peril or catastrophic crop insurance or participate in other USDA farm programs, you must file an acreage report to remain eligible for benefits. Crop reports are also used in calculating benefits if you suffer a crop loss on a noninsurable crop and apply for benefits under the Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP). DCP and ACRE program participants must file an acreage report of fruits and vegetables for farms with DCP and ACRE contracts. Dry beans are considered a vegetable under DCP and ACRE rules. **FAILURE TO FILE AN ACREAGE REPORT WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF USDA BENEFITS.**

**DIRECT DEPOSIT OF PROGRAM PAYMENTS & ACCOUNT CHANGES**

Farm program payments earned through this office are required to be paid by direct deposit into a bank account selected by the program participant. If you have completed a direct deposit agreement and had a bank account change, you must notify us of account changes for your payment to be properly deposited.

**EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

**Cost-share funds to help repair flood damaged agricultural land**

Park County has been approved for the USDA Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to help with the cost of repairing flood damaged agricultural land and associated eligible structures. ECP provides up to 75% of the cost to repair damage to agricultural land, structures, canals, fences, etc. Eligible agricultural producers who suffered flood damage may request cost-share at the Park County Farm Service Agency at 1017 Highway 14A in Powell from July 18 – August 19. If work has already been completed, an application for cost-share funds may still be submitted for consideration. We have not received ECP funds and because of ongoing emergency programs around the country, funds are very limited. At this time, we are not certain if funds will be received for Park County. However, if you have suffered damage to agricultural land or agricultural related structures, you may complete an application for cost-shares. If ECP funds are received for Park County, requests for cost-share will be reviewed by the FSA County Committee with applications being prioritized and approved based on the highest priority of conservation need until funds are depleted.

**SURE SIGNUP & ELIGIBILITY**

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) began on January 10, 2011 and continues through July 29, 2011. To be eligible for 2009 SURE, you must have suffered weather related crop losses during crop year 2009. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. Producers with a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. Producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by having obtained a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage for all economically significant crops. If there is no Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For more information on the SURE program, please visit this office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



**OFFICE CLOSED**

The Park County USDA Service Center in Powell will be closed September 5, 2011 for Labor Day.

## COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 2011 Park County FSA committee election will be accepted through August 1. FSA county committees are elected by local agriculture producers to administer USDA farm programs at the county level. There are three Local Administrative Areas (LAA) in Park County with one LAA holding an election each year to elect a person to a three-year term. Park County's LAA's consist of Powell/Clarksfork, Cody/Heart Mountain and Meeteetse. The committee election for this year will be held for Local Administrative Area 2, the Cody/Heart Mountain LAA, which currently is represented by Teddy Jones. A list of persons who are eligible to run for the county committee is available from this office. If you wish to run or want to nominate a fellow producer for the county committee, please contact this office for a nominating petition. If no nominations are received, the Secretary of Agriculture will complete the slate of nominees.

## REPORTING CROP LOSSES FOR NAP

Producers are reminded that they must report losses on NAP crops no later than 15 days after the date of a disaster occurrence or date that damage to the crops is apparent. Notices of loss that are filed after 15 days (late-filed) can still be approved by the county committee if verification of the specific crop and acreage can be made and if it can be determined that the cause of loss is due to an eligible disaster condition. If a positive verification of both of the above requirements cannot be made, the late filed Notice of Loss will be disapproved and the producer will not be eligible for a loss payment.

## FARM LOAN PROGRAMS "Lender of First Opportunity"

Farm Service Agency has farm loan programs that are designed to help farmers and ranchers get started and keep going! FSA farm loan programs provide assistance for eligible producers including Beginning farmers and ranchers, Rural Youths, Socially Disadvantaged producers, established farmers suffering setbacks and producers with Limited Resources. FSA provides loans for Direct Farm Ownership and Operating loans and 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. If you have questions regarding the Farm Loan Program or wish to make an appointment, please contact Kathy Palazzolo at 754-9411, Ext 2.

## County Committee Meetings

The Park County FSA committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. when there is business to be conducted. This month's committee meeting will be July 20 in the conference room of the Powell USDA service center.



## LOW INTEREST GRAIN BIN LOAN PROGRAM

Commodity Credit Corporation, acting through Farm Service Agency, has reauthorized the farm storage facility loan program. Basic provisions of this loan program are:

- Loans may be made for grain storage structures, grain handling equipment and drying equipment
- Loans will be for new storage or expansion or upgrades of existing storage
- The term of approved loans is 7, 10 or 12 years
- The interest rate is equivalent to the rate of interest charged on Treasury Securities of comparable maturity
- The July 2011 interest rate is 2.375 for 7 year loans, 3.0% for 10 year loans and 3.25% for 12 year loans

Producers with approved loans will be required to insure the facility against loss and to have crop insurance, either multi-peril crop insurance or federal crop insurance, until the loan is paid in full.

## BUYERS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the seller of the product. If a lien is found, the buyer is required to place both the lien holder's and seller's names on the check. Ag products include but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc...), machinery, equipment and all other crops. Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the Buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a Buyer! You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at (307)777-7311.

# DON'T MISS OUT

## IMPORTANT DATES

- July 20** County Committee Meeting at 10 a.m.
- July 29** Deadline to sign-up for 2009 SURE
- Aug 1** DCP sign-up ends
- Sept 5** Office closed for Labor Day
- Oct 10** Office closed for Columbus Day
- Prior to selling wool** – Sign-up for Wool LDP
- Prior to selling unshorn lambs** – Sign-up for Lamb Pelt LDP
- Prior to selling or feeding crop**-Sign-up for farm stored LDP
- Anytime** Continuous CRP

# NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS AND RANCHERS

## COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. This means you may be eligible if:

- 1.** You sought a farm loan or farm-loan servicing during that period;
- 2.** The loan was denied, provided late, approved for a lesser amount than requested, approved with restrictive conditions, or USDA failed to provide an appropriate loan service; and
- 3.** You believe these actions were based on your being Hispanic or your being female.

In 2011, a claims administrator will begin mailing claims packages to those who have requested one through the Call Center or website. The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

**If you want to register your name to receive a claims package, access the Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Call Center or website:**

**Call Center: 1-888-508-4429**

**Website: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)**

For guidance, you may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider in your community. **USDA cannot provide legal advice to you.**

If you are currently represented by counsel regarding allegations of discrimination or in a lawsuit claiming discrimination, you should contact your counsel regarding this claims process.

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June 2011





## READ ALL ABOUT IT!!



Late filed acreage reports accepted  
2011 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) enrollment  
Reporting crop losses  
Emergency Conservation Program  
FSA County Committee Election  
Grain bin loan program  
Conservation Reserve Program (continuous sign-up)  
And much more. . .

### DCP SIGN-UP

August 1, 2011 is the final date to enroll in the 2011 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program. Payments under DCP are based on the acreage base of the program crops on the farm and are paid whether or not you plant the respective crop. For 2011, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below the crop's target price. Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program are also eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program or the Counter-cyclical Program.

### FARM CHANGES

In order for us to properly and accurately administer farm programs, it is very important that we have current records of the owners and operators of farms. Farm owners and operators are asked to report changes in their farming or ranching operations to us. This may include the purchase or sale of a farm or the rental of a farm which you did not have an interest in last year. Please report these changes so that we can process applications for program participation in a timely manner and so we can keep you informed of programs.

### LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The 2008 Farm Bill makes available several Livestock Disaster Assistance Programs (LDAP). Under the umbrella of LDAP, monetary assistance may be provided as follows:

- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** Assistance for above normal livestock losses due to adverse weather.
- **Livestock Feed Program (LFP)** Assistance for grazing loss due to drought or fire on native or improved pastureland.
- **Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP)** Assistance for losses not covered under LIP, LFP or SURE because of disease, adverse weather or other conditions as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, including but not limited to; losses to livestock, honey bees or farm raised fish, loss of purchased and harvested forage or feed, above normal costs associated with providing or transporting feed and for eligible grazing losses that are not eligible under LFP. Wolf depredation has been determined to be a qualifying loss condition under ELAP for livestock death losses that occur after January 1, 2008 and before October 1, 2011.

**For each of these programs, you must file a Notice of Loss no later than 30 days after the loss is apparent.** Producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by obtaining a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act for insurable crops and by purchasing NAP coverage for uninsurable crops for all crops of economic significance, excluding grazing land. Applications for payment must be filed no later than January 31 of the year following the loss.