



PARK COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

1017 Highway 14A

POWELL, WY 82435

PHONE: (307) 754-9411, Ext. 2

FAX (855) 415-3438

Hours: M-F, 8-4:30 Closed Holidays

July 8, 2014

COUNTY COMMITTEE

Klodette Stroh, Chairperson
Teddy Jones, Vice-chairperson
Michael Hogg, Member

OFFICE STAFF

Kathleen Palazzolo, Acting County Executive Director
Farm Loan Officer
Marcia Shuler, Program Technician
Lorrie Tate, Program Technician

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) 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, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Nominations of candidates for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in Local Administrative Area (LAA) #2 will be accepted through **August 1, 2014**. Producers who are eligible to vote in LAA 2 and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates. Beginning farmer and ranchers are encouraged to nominate themselves and participate in the election process

Park County FSA will be holding an election for a person to represent LAA 2. That position is currently held by Teddy Jones. LAA 2 includes Cody, Heart Mtn, Northfork and Southfork areas.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 3, 2014 and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by December 1, 2014.

All farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agriculture issues. Members serve a three-year term.

If you wish to run or want to nominate a fellow producer for the county committee, please contact this office for a nomination form (FSA-669A), also available online at <http://www.fsa/usda.gov>.

LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS

The 2014 Farm Bill makes the Livestock Indemnity Payments (LIP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP), permanent programs. **SIGN-UP FOR THESE PROGRAMS STARTED APRIL 15, 2014.**

LIP, LFP, & ELAP provides retroactive authority to cover eligible losses back to Oct. 1, 2011.

LIP LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves and avian predators. LIP payments are equal to 75% of the market value of the applicable livestock on the day before the date of death of the livestock as determined by the Secretary.

Deadline to apply for losses that occurred between October 1, 2011 and December 31, 2014 is January 30 2015.

LFP LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire. LFP payments for drought are equal to 60 % of the monthly feed cost for up to five months. LFP payments for fire on federally managed rangeland are equal to 50% of the monthly feed cost for the number of days the producer is prohibited from grazing the managed rangeland, not to exceed 180 calendar days. The grazing losses must have occurred on or after Oct. 1, 2011.

Deadline to apply for 2012 and 2013 losses is January 30, 2015.

ELAP provides payments to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish to help to compensate for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

Deadline to apply for losses that occurred between October 1, 2011 and September 30, 2013 is August 1, 2014.
Deadline to apply for losses that occurred between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014 is November 1, 2014.

Please contact the local FSA office for additional details on the types of information required for an application. Some eligibility restrictions may apply.

2014 CROP REPORTING

The annual timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs.

Crop reports must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. In Wyoming, producers need to file their 2014 acres reports for spring seeded crops by July 15, 2014.

Prevented planting needs to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Crop reporting deadlines: July 15, 2014 for spring planted crops and November 15, 2014 for Perennial Forage, PRF,

PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Before payments can be earned, producers must satisfy all program and payment eligibility requirements including, but not limited to, filing the necessary forms relating to Payment Limitation, Adjusted Gross Income and Highly Erodible Land/Wetland conservation regulations. Producers are reminded to accurately file the necessary forms in a timely manner or risk delay or loss of program benefits. Based on the information provided, the FSA county committee will make "actively engaged" in farming and other eligibility determinations for program participants.

NAP PRODUCTION REPORTING

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable and need to show crop disposition. All production records must be submitted by **July 15, 2014**.

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 farming or ranching operations to this office. This may include the purchase or sale of a farm or the rental of a farm that you did not have an interest in last year.

2014 FARM BILL

Under the new farm bill, there are significant changes in crop disaster programs administered by USDA. Unfortunately, we do not know the rules of the programs or when sign-up begins. At this time, the only information we have is there will be 2 options available under the farm program:

1. Price Loss Coverage (PLC)
2. Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC)

As soon as we know more, we will get the information out to producers as soon as possible.

HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLAND CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

Landowners and operators are reminded that in order to receive payments from USDA, compliance with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions are required. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue, and rotation requirements as specified per their conservation plan. Producers are to notify the USDA Farm Service Agency prior to conducting land clearing or drainage projects to insure compliance. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in the loss of eligibility and all Federal payments.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

Farm Service Agency is providing a cost effective option for delivering news, deadlines and program information to agriculture producers and others interested in programs administered by FSA. Interested producers now have the option of receiving information electronically from your state or county FSA office. FSA's electronic system of delivering program information, known as GovDelivery, allows you to receive up-to-the-minute federal farm program information directly to your home or farm office email account or smart phone. GovDelivery electronic news service is free and convenient. Contact this office to find out how you can subscribe to GovDelivery today or subscribe online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>.

FARM DIVISIONS and DIVISION OF ACREAGE BASES

When a portion of a farm is sold or otherwise becomes owned by 2 or more persons, we are required to divide the crop contract acres among the resulting farms using one of several options. The designation by landowner method is the method of dividing the parent farm's crop acreage bases in a manner agreed to by the resulting owners. This method may be used when any of the following apply:

- Part of a farm is sold or ownership transferred
- An entire farm is sold to 2 or more persons
- Farm ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons
- Part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred
- A tract is sold to 2 or more persons
- Tract ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons

If you have sold or bought a part of a farm, please notify this office so we can begin the process of dividing the farm and crop acreage bases. You may use the designation by landowner method of distributing the crop acreage bases among the resulting farms if all owners agree in writing.



COMMODITY STORAGE LOAN PROGRAM

Farm Service Agency continues to administer the Farm Storage Facility Loan Program. Basic provisions are as follows:

- Loans may be made for grain storage structures, grain handling equipment, drying equipment, forage storage structures or cold storage for fresh fruits and vegetables.
- 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 rates for July, 2014 are 2.125% for a 7 year loan, 2.625% for a 10 year loan and 2.75% for a 12 year loan
- Participants are required to carry crop insurance on crops of economic significance for the term of the loan.

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to start, continue and expand agriculture production. Loans are available for operational needs or to help purchase or improve farms and ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, FSA has provided priority funding for socially disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is an individual who has been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a member of one of the groups described.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

To make an appointment, or if you have questions about the Farm Loan Programs, contact Kathy at 754-9411, Extension 2.

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 name 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
DON'T MISS OUT

IMPORTANT DATES

- Fourth Wednesdays at 10 am** County Committee meets
- July 15** Final date for acreage reporting
- July 15** Final date to submit production records for NAP
- August 1** Final date to submit nominations for County Committee election
- August 1** First deadline to apply for ELAP
- Prior to selling wool** – Sign-up for Wool LDP
- Prior to selling unshorn lambs** – Sign-up for Lamb Pelt LDP

Office Closed September 1, 2014 for Labor Day
October 13, 2014 for Columbus Day



PARK COUNTY FARM SERVICE
AGENCY
1017 HIGHWAY 14A
POWELL, WY 82435

INSIDE

- 2014 FARM BILL PROGRAMS
- PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
- FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS
- FARM LOAN PROGRAMS
- NAP PRODUCTION REPORTING
- SIGN-UP FOR LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS
- FARM CHANGES
- COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION