



# NEWSLETTER



## PARK COUNTY NEWSLETTER November 2014

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### **County Committee**

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Teddy Jones, Vice-Chairperson  
Michael Hogg, Regular Member

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### **County Committee Election**

The Park County FSA Committee will be holding their annual election on December 8, 2014 for LAA #2. Ballots were mailed on November 3, 2014 to producers in LAA #2 which includes the Heart Mountain, Cody, Northfork, and Southfork areas. Ballots must be returned to the County Office or postmarked by December 1<sup>st</sup> to be counted.

We would like to thank Teddy Jones for her service and dedication to the farmers and ranchers of Park County and for serving on the County Committee for nine years.

### **Livestock Disaster Programs**

The 2014 Farm Bill made the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Program (LFP), and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP), permanent programs. LIP, LFP, and ELAP provides retroactive authority to cover eligible losses back to October 1, 2011.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) – LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality, due to adverse weather or 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 determined by the Secretary. The deadline to apply for losses that occurred between October 1, 2011 and December 31, 2014 is January 30, 2015.

Livestock Forage Program (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 depending on the drought monitor. 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 October 1, 2011. The deadline to apply for 2012 and 2013 losses is January 30, 2015.

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) – ELAP provides payments to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees, or farm-raised fish to help compensate for losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

## 2015 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 have three crop reporting deadlines:

- November 15, 2014 – Perennial Forage/PRF, Fall-Seeded Small Grains
- January 15, 2015 – Established Stand Alfalfa Seed, Fall Seeded Alfalfa
- July 15, 2015 – Spring Seeded Alfalfa, Forage Seeding, and all other crops

## Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural 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 \$5000.

### Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

## ARC/PLC

The 2014 Farm Bill came out with some big changes. If you participated in DCP (Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program) and have base acres on your farm, please be aware of these changes. The direct payments that came from DCP are now gone. ARC/PLC has replaced the DCP program.

The 2014 Farm Bill authorized a new safety net approach for farm commodities, known as the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. These programs combine provisions from previous programs delivered by FSA, which were the counter-cyclical portion of the DCP program, the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment Program, and the Average Crop Revenue Election Program with revenue insurance delivered by the Risk Management Agency.

**Updating Yields** – The Farm Bill offers land owners a one-time only opportunity to update their yields. 90% of the 2008-2012 crop production will be used to establish new yields, excluding any year where no acreage was planted to the covered commodity. Please bring your production date to the county office to update your yields.

**Base Reallocation** – The Farm Bill also allows you a one-time opportunity to reallocate your base acres. Your farm base acres can't be increased, but you can reallocate your farm's base acres to the covered commodity crop(s) you have actually grown in the years 2009-2012.

The following is a comparison chart that explains some difference between the three programs:

	<b>PLC</b>	<b>ARC-CO</b>	<b>ARC-IC</b>
Price and Yield Comparison	Uses MYA price and PLC yield	Uses MYA price and "County" Average Yield	Uses MYA price and producer's historical yield on the farm(s)
Base Acre Comparison	Payment determined by individual covered commodity crop base acres	Payment determined by individual covered commodity crop base acres	Payment determined by planted covered commodities combined on the farm(s) in the State
Payment Acre Comparison	Payments made on 85% of specific crop base acres on farm	Payments made on 85% of specific crop base acres on farm	Payments made on 65% of TOTAL base acres on farm
Production Reports	Production report NOT required	Production report NOT required	Requires annual production report of all covered commodities planted
Requirement to Plant?	Planting of covered commodities NOT required	Planting of covered commodities NOT required	Planting of covered commodities REQUIRED
Program Election Comparison	Elect by Covered Commodity Base Acres by farm (May mix ARC-CO and PLC on the same farm by base crop)	Elect by Covered Commodity Base Acres by farm (May mix ARC-CO and PLC on the same farm by base crop)	Elect on ALL Covered Commodities on the farm (ARC-CO & PLC not eligible on farm)
When do Payments Trigger?	When the effective Price of a base acreage commodity falls below reference price	When the ACTUAL county revenue (per acre) of a base acreage commodity falls below the ARC-CO guarantee for that crop in the county.	When ACTUAL farm revenue from <u>enrolled</u> farms falls below the calculated ARC-IC guarantee for all enrolled farms in the state.

USDA has partnered with Texas A&M and the University of Illinois to create web tools to help producers decide what option would benefit them most. The following are links to websites to help aid in your decision making. The County Office staff will not be able to make this decision for you.

- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=arpl&topic=landing>
- <http://fsa.usapas.com>
- <https://usda.afpc.tamu.edu/>

**Training** – The University of Wyoming will be providing training for this program. It will be **December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the UW Research and Extension Center, 747 Road 9, Powell, WY**. This will be very beneficial for all producers. Please plan on attending.

Park County FSA Office  
1017 Highway 14A  
Powell, WY 82435



**PRESORTED STANDARD**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**Farm Service Agency**  
**PERMIT #G-96**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- December 1<sup>st</sup> – NAP Deadline
- December 5<sup>th</sup> – Enrollment into MPP-Dairy
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – COC Meeting
- December 18<sup>th</sup> – ARC/PLC Producer Training
- January 30, 2015 – LIP/LFP application deadline
- February 27<sup>th</sup> – Deadline to update yields and reallocate base acres for ARC/PLC
- November 17<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> – 1-time election to choose program (producers)
- Mid-April to Summer 2015 – Enrollment for 2014 and 2015 contracts