



PLATTE COUNTY NEWSLETTER

May 2011

Platte County FSA

1502 Progress Court
Wheatland, WY 82201
307-322-4050 phone
307-322-4109 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/WY

Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

David Hinman
E. John Watson
Britt Wilson
Ruth Cundall, advisor

Staff

Mike Hoffland, DD
Rick Carroll CED
Dixie Mount FLO
Mitzi Mudgett PT
Joni Reyes PT
Pammie Rapp PT

COC Meetings

January 6, 2011
March 17, 2011
June 16, 2011
September 15, 2011
November 17, 2011
December 8, 2011

Crop Reporting for 2011 Crop Year

Crop reporting season is fast approaching. Filing an accurate & timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed and prevented planting acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. Crop reports are required for LDP and Loan, DCP and ACRE, CRP, NAP, and Disaster program payments. Crop reports, FSA-578, must account for all **cropland** and **non cropland** on a farm, whether idle or planted. **The deadline to timely file 2011 FSA acreage reports is July 1, 2011.** Crops reports filed after July 1st will be charged a late-filed fee.

High Water Run-Off Notification

Casper Wyoming's continued cool, wet weather increased the state's above-normal Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) and total precipitation rates. All basins gained average SWE over the last week. Last year at this time, the state SWE was 77% with a low of 49% and a high of 99% of average. This year, the state average SWE is 129% with a low of 103% and high of 156% of average.

In the past week (April 11, 2011 to April 18, 2011)

- The Snake River basin went from 129% to 139% of normal for SWE
- The Wind River basin went from 115% to 120% of normal for SWE
- The Bighorn River Basin went from 121% to 128% of normal for SWE
- The Upper North Platte basin went from 143% to 150% of normal for SWE

Emergency Conservation Program

Producers, with the Snowpack in the mountains and warm weather coming soon we could be facing a huge run off which could cause extensive flooding. If that happens FSA program Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) may be able to help with damage to meadows with silt and debris, head gates for irrigation purposes that may be washed out and with fencing or some other types of damage. If you suffer any kind of flood damage to your property you need to contact the Platte County FSA Office as soon as you recognize the damage to see if we can assist you in repairing damages. Assistance for the ECP Program will have to go to WDC for monies so the earlier we know of the damage the sooner the County Office may apply for resources to assist in your needs.

COC Elections

We are currently taking nominations for the County Committee LAA 3 area (northern part of Platte County in the Glendo area) and will continue taking them through August 1, 2011. If you are interested in nominating someone or running yourself, please complete the following FSA-669A form or stop by the Platte County FSA office.

FSA-669A
(03-31-11)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
- B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 3. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.

Note: Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.

- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 1, 2011.
- D. Signed and dated as a write-in candidate if elected as a member and willing to serve on the COC.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who is nominated on this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

This is a non-salary public service position. A small stipend is provided to offset expenses.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer; and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 677-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FSA-669A
(03-31-11)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
	4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	5. COUNTY	
	6. LAA	7. STATE

3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.	8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>
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3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		<i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>	

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<u>ETHNICITY</u>	<u>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</u>	<u>GENDER</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Male
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
	<input type="checkbox"/> White	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)*
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 662a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and non-governmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1996, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**

2011 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through **June 1, 2011**. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign-up or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2011 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, eligible producers may request advanced direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

For more information on this or other FSA programs, contact the Platte County FSA office.

SURE

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) began **Jan. 10, 2011 and runs through July 29, 2011. Please call for an appointment.** SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. For SURE, all crops must be covered by crop insurance, NAP or be eligible for waivers. You may contact the Platte County FSA office to see if you qualify for assistance for you losses.

Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Be sure to contact your local FSA office for the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) filing deadlines for your crops. **July 1st, 2011 is the Deadline for Actual Crop Production for (APH) purposes.**

July 1st, 2011 is the Deadline for Crop reporting on NAP acreages.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

January 10, 2011	Supplemental Revenue (SURE) Program SURE Sign up begins 01/10/2011/Ends July 29, 2011
March 14 th	CRP Sign-up Starts March 14, 2011 through April 15, 2011
April 1 st 2011	Last Day to sign all other crops for NAP, Not Biennial or Perennial
March Through July 1 st , 2011	Platte County Office Taking 2011 Crop Reports
May 30, 2011	May 30, 2011 Memorial Day, Office Closed
June 1 st 2011	June 1 st . 2011 Last Day for DCP/ACRE Signup
July 1 st 2011	Last Day to Report NAP Production For 2010 crop year.
July 1 st 2011	Last Day to Report Crop Acreage
Continues	Continuous CRP sign up
Continues	Farm Stored Facility Loan Program Farm Reconstitution, Update Farm Records

Visit our Web site <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of 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, write to U.S.D.A., Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington DC 20250-9410 or call 1-(800)-795-3272 (Voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer