

Sheridan – Johnson County FSA
Office
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Sheridan, WY 82801

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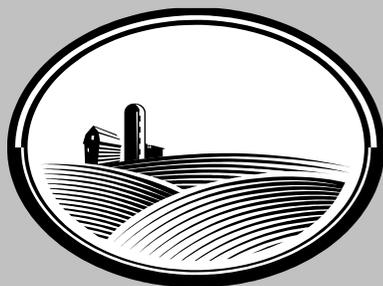
Toll Free Number:
1-866-262-4396

FSA Office Personnel:

Tom Byrd, CED
Linda Benzel, PT
Janice Wheeler, PT

Sheridan-Johnson County
Committee Members:

William White, Chairperson
Juaquin Michelina, Vice
Chairperson
Susan Moyes, Regular Member
Santiago Curuchet, Regular
Member
Steve Schuette; Regular Member



Dates to Remember:

June 11, 2010 – USDA/NRCS CSP
Signup Deadline

July 1, 2010 – Crop Report
Deadline

July 1, 2010 – 2009 NAP APH
Deadline

July 5, 2010 – Independence Day
Holiday – Office Closed

August 2, 2010 – Deadline to
submit nomination form for County
Committee Election



Sheridan - Johnson June 2010

CROP REPORT DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING!

Crop reports are required for participation in many FSA programs, such as DCP (crop base payment program), NAP (Non-insured Assistance Program), CRP (cropland and riparian areas set aside for habitat restoration and preservation), LDP commodity payments, and Disaster Program payments. The annual crop report, form FSA-578 Report of Acreage, must account for all rangeland and cropland on a farm, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage. For the 2010 crop year the deadline to file crop acreage reports is **July 1, 2010**. Crop reports filed after July 1st will be considered late-filed and subject to late-file fees.

To accommodate producers who must travel a greater distance, our office will mail crop reports when possible. For producers who receive appointment cards in the mail, if you are unable to make the scheduled appointment please contact our office staff to reschedule a time that is convenient.

NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

2009 crop production must be reported by July 1, 2010 in order to be used for 2009 Actual Production History (APH) payment yield purposes for a crop covered by a NAP policy. Failure to timely report production can have an adverse impact on the overall crop yield history and payments.

If you have a loss on a covered NAP crop and wish to receive loss benefits from our office, you must file a notice of loss within 15 days of the earlier: 1) date of the disaster event that caused the loss or, 2) when the loss is apparent to you. A notice of loss must be filed for each weather-related event or adverse natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop. Failure to report crop damage or loss in a timely manner will result in ineligibility for Non-Insured Assistance Program payments.

Please Note:

Producers who have filed a 2009 NAP Notice of Loss for grazing have until July 1, 2010 to file an application for payment

USDA / NRCS CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP) Signup – DEADLINE JUNE 11, 2010

The new CSP program rewards you for conservation that has been implemented as well as enhanced efforts to further improve the resource. This program is designed to pay for enhancements operators apply using management-related practices such as grazing land rotations, crop rotations and wildlife habitat options. Just as the name implies, becoming a better steward of our natural resources is the goal of this program.

In the CSP process will be a screening and review process to determine land eligibility. Eligible land uses in Wyoming include cropland, rangeland, pastureland and private forest land. Public lands are not eligible. You will need to prepare an inventory map identifying land uses and resource inventory such as tanks, fences and head Quarters. A questionnaire is used in the NRCS Field Office that identifies current management strategies addressing 8 different resource concerns. They are: Soil Quality, Water Quality, Water Quantity, Plants, Animals, Soil Erosion, Air Quality and Energy. The first 5 concerns are of higher priority in Wyoming. A minimum threshold score must be met to be eligible. The operator selects management options that improve stewardship of selected concerns by land use. The level of environmental benefit to be achieved will be used to determine eligibility, rank applications and establish payments. If approved, a 5 year stewardship plan and contract may be written. The maximum annual contract payment to an operator is \$40,000.00 or \$200,000.00 for a 5 year contract.

This is not a program to install structural practices, rather a program that rewards operators for applying management practices that address identified resource concerns. The deadline for applications to be considered in this batching period is June 11, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact Brad Holliday,

BREAKING UP NEW SOD

Remember, if you will be breaking up new land, sod or very old cropland that has gone back to pasture, you need to contact this office prior to planting a crop. To be in compliance with sodbuster provisions you must notify this office, Farm Service Agency, of the area to be broken out and must file a revised form AD-1026. We will then delineate the “field” boundary and refer the new land to NRCS for a determination of “highly erodible”. If the land to be broken up and farmed is highly erodible you must comply with the conservation plan developed by NRCS. Contacting NRCS and getting their concurrence to break up this land without first contacting this office to complete the necessary paperwork does not constitute compliance with sodbuster provisions. Producers who violate sodbuster provisions risk becoming ineligible for program benefits through USDA.

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 acreage bases 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.



FSA-669A (03-24-10) **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	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
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>		5. COUNTY	
		6. LAA	7. STATE
<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>	
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.

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

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 2, 2010.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - 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 nongovernmental 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 1995, 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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Important Dates to Remember

June 11, 2010	USDA/NRCS CSP Signup Deadline
July 1, 2010	Crop Report Deadline
July 1, 2010	NAP APH Deadline
July 5, 2010	Independence Holiday – Office Closed
August 2, 2010	Deadline to Submit Nomination Form for County Committee Election

FSA COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nomination for candidates for this year's County Committee election will be held for LAA Local Administrative Area number 3 and will be accepted through August 2, 2010. LAA 3 correlates with school district 3 in Sheridan County and in Johnson County lies north of Township 44N, on the East side of I-90 and I-25 to the Campbell County line. Juquin Michelina is currently serving as LAA 3 representative to the county committee and is eligible to serve an additional 3-year term.

County committee members are a vital part in the operation of our agency. Farmers and ranchers who serve on the committee help with the decisions necessary to administer government farm programs in their counties. They work to make FSA agriculture programs serve the needs of local producers by providing local input into commodity loans and LDP payments; local administration of conservation programs; and reviewing data and information used to establish yields, and loss levels for crop and livestock disaster programs that are specifically tailored to meet the needs of our local producers.

Committee members serve on the board for a three year term not to exceed 9 consecutive years. Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election 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. FSA encourages beginning farmers or ranchers, women farmers or ranchers, and organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities to participate in the County Committee election process.

Included in this newsletter is a copy of the nomination form FSA-699A to be filled out and submitted. To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be returned to the county office by close of business on Aug. 2, 2010 or postmarked by midnight Aug. 2, 2010.

FSA-669A and fact sheets are available at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under the "Newsroom" tab at the top of the page and then clicking on "Fact sheets" or "County Committee Elections".