

JANUARY 2012

79 Winston Dr. Ste. 110
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307.362.3062
FAX: 307.362.1459

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Jim Hodder
Bob Anderson
Penny Chrisman
Vacant

Office Personnel

Jennifer Dutton, CED
Bonnie Hueckstaedt, PT
Mike Hoffland, DD



MOLES:

Machinery, Operating,
Livestock, Expansion and
Starting Out Loans

Questions regarding obtaining credit to start or enlarge a farming or ranching operation; financing agricultural operating expenses; livestock and machinery purchases call:

Brian Harrell, FLM

307.856.7524

--IMPORTANT DEADLINES--

--IN JANUARY 2012--



File "Page 1" for 2012 LDPs

Wool, mohair and unshorn pelt producers are reminded that the 2012 crop year will begin on January 1, 2012. *Bonnie will mail producers who participated in 2011 LDPs a "Page 1", please sign and return to the office.* Producers who have not participated in the past and wish to participate in 2012 need to stop by the office to complete and submit "Page 1" to be eligible for wool LDPs. "Page 1" must be filed before beneficial interest of the commodity is lost (i.e. sold). Contact the office for more information or to fill out your "Page 1".

File "Application for Payment" 2011 LIP

If you filed a "Notice of Loss" for livestock death losses, you must finalize your application by **January 30, 2012.**

- Beginning/ending inventory and death records for livestock losses
- Sign "application for payment" (come by the office to review your application and sign for payment after submitting your documentation.)

File "Application for Payment" 2011 ELAP

If you filed a "Notice of Loss" for additional feed or lost grazing days, you must finalize your application by **January 30, 2012.**

- Receipts from feed purchased during the disaster period in 2011 (for example: January 1 – March 31, 2011)
- Receipts from feed purchased during the same period for the previous year (for example: January 1 – March 31, 2010)
- Receipts for freight (for example: hauling hay to livestock on BLM permits or hauling livestock from BLM permits to deeded ground at the home place)
- Sign "application for payment" (come by the office to review your application and sign for payment after submitting your documentation.)

Call the office for more info pertaining to your farm or ranch.

Sodbuster, Swampbuster



Most FSA programs require producers to comply with sodbuster/swampbuster provisions. These provisions require that producers follow an approved conservation plan for highly erodible lands planted to annual crops as determined by NRCS.

Be sure to contact NRCS on any new land that you plan to plant to an annual crop to ensure HEL compliance.

Swampbuster provisions state that converting a wetland to plant any crop will result in the loss of all USDA benefits.



Sign for Your Spouse

Husbands and wives may sign on each other's behalf for FSA business, unless written request to exclude this option is received by the county office.



Special Accommodations

Please

Special accommodations will be made by request for persons with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are needed, please contact county staff in person or by phone.



Power of Attorney

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., we have a power of attorney form available to designate another person to sign your FSA paperwork for you. Update these this year!!!!



Foreign Buyers



The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of US agricultural land report their holding to the Secretary of Agriculture. FSA administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25% of the property fair market value. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate are reminded to notify foreign investors of these requirements.



Controlled Substance

Any person convicted under federal or state law, of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA benefits. Violations include planting, growing or harvesting a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies and other drug producing plants.



FSA Appeal Process

After a FSA official makes a decision on your request for USDA services and/or application, you will be sent a letter informing you of the decision and options available to you if you disagree. Generally, you will have 3 options; 1) informal review with the original agency decision maker, 2) opportunity for mediation and 3) appeal to the next level of agency authority.



Changes in Bank Account or Address



If you have made changes in your bank account and/or address, please notify the County Office immediately to avoid possible payment delay and to assist the office in providing prompt service to you, the producer.

Farm Reconstitutions

In program terminology, farms are constituted to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution-or recon- is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts based on the farming operation.

The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by August 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP).

1) *Estate method* – the division of bases, allotments & quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate.



2) *Designation of Landowner method* – may be used when 1, part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; 2, an entire farm is sold to 2 or more persons; 3, farm ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons; 4, part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; 5, a tract is sold to 2 or more persons; or 6, tract ownership is transferred to 2

or more persons. In order to use theism ethos the land sold must have been owned for at least 3 years or a waiver granted and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

3) *DCP cropland method* – the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract

4) *Default method* – the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintain the bases attributed to the tract level with the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

If DCP direct payments have already been made, the reconstitution will be effective for the next crop year, unless payments are refunded to FSA.

Protect Yourself as a Buyer of Ag 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 product seller. If a lien exists, you are required to place the lien holder's name on the check in addition to the seller's name. ag products include, but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), feed crops (hay silage, oats etc), machinery, equipment and all other crops. *Failure to place a lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the product buyer. Protect yourself! You may contact the Secretary of State's office at 307.777.7311.*



Thank you!

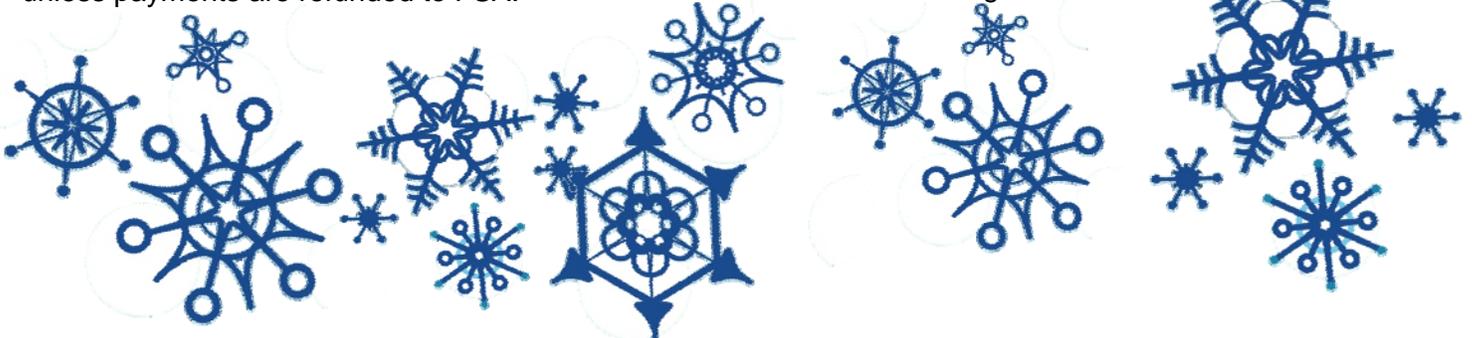
FSA appreciates all who took time to complete & return their ballot. The County Committee system works only because of your participation.



County Committee Meeting Schedule



The Sweetwater/Sublette County Committee regularly scheduled meeting date is the fourth Thursday of the month at 1:00 PM. Meeting are open to the public, but if you are planning on attending please call the office to confirm the date and time of the meeting as it does change sometimes.





**Sweetwater/Sublette County
Farm Service Agency**
79 Winston Dr. Ste. 110
Rock Springs, WY 82901



United States
Department of
Agriculture

—INSIDE THIS ISSUE—

2011 Sign-up Deadlines - JAN

2012 Wool “Page 1”



WHAT’S AROUND THE CORNER

January 16 – Office closed; Martin Luther King Day

January 30 – Deadline to file 2011 ELAP application for payment

January 30 – Deadline to file 2011 LIP application for payment

30 days after apparent – Deadline to file livestock losses (LIP & ELAP)

15 days after apparent – Deadline to file NAP losses (hay & grazing)

Anytime – abnormal weather conditions including drought, flood etc.

***You can now receive news, deadlines and bulletins electronically.
Sign up for GovDelivery at www.fsa.usda.gov ***

Annual
notifications
on page

2 & 3



Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

The sign-up for recovery payment for 2010 losses under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) runs through **June 1, 2012**. *Sweetwater & Sublette counties are eligible as contiguous disaster counties.*

SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters and is available to eligible producers on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops.
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who required alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 302.720.2600 (voice and TDD). To file a discrimination complaint, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington D.C., 20250-9410 or call 800.745.3272 (voice), or 202.720.6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.