



Sweetwater/Sublette County E-News

SEPTEMBER 2012

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

Hours

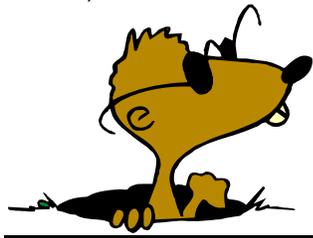
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Jim Hodder
Bob Anderson
Penny Chrisman
Pete Arambel

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

Stack ‘em, Count ‘em, Report ‘em Keep Your APH up in case of disaster conditions!

While it’s still fresh in your mind, swing by the office, (or send in), and report your 2012 hay production. Your 2012 production will be combined with previous years’ production to calculate an APH for 2013 NAP policies and 2012 NAP payments.

Actual hay production is used to calculate your NAP APH (actual production history) which will be used to calculate your payment should there be a disaster in the coming years. If you fail to report production for just one year it could significantly lower your APH and your potential payment!



Actual production evidence should include bale count, average weight, and type of hay. The statement should be signed and dated by the producer.

Additionally, if you missed turning in past years’ production you can “replace” those missed years by turning in the production records from those years. The production will be applied for the 2013 APH.

Filing for NAP Losses

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting. It may be completed by any producer with an interest in the covered crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for **ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES**. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must file a CCC-576 in the County FSA Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

Even if you believe your losses are less than 50%, you can still file a notice of loss as there may be other programs available to provide loss assistance, at a later date.

NAP & Your Hay Crop

If meadows that were intended for use as forage (hay) suffer from a disaster condition it is imperative that you contact the office prior to harvest or grazing the acreage. Acres that were intended to be hayed, but are instead grazed due to disaster conditions are eligible to be appraised in order to calculate your expected NAP payment.

Appraisals should be done prior to grazing the acreage. If grazing takes place first, then the producer must establish representative sample areas per instruction from FSA adjuster personnel. Failure to do so will result in the payment being made using the AUD grazing method.



COC Elections

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is important that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

2012 Elections will be held in 1 Local Administrative Area (LAA). LAA #4 in Sublette County is currently represented by Penny Chrisman; this area is west of US 191.

2012 Election Schedule

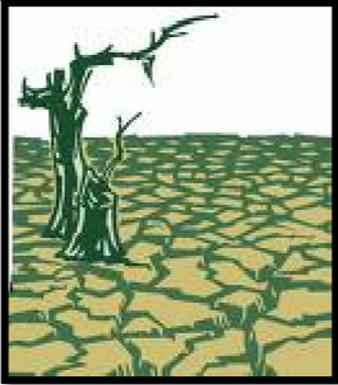


- November 5** Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters
- December 3** Ballots must be returned (or postmarked) to the County Office
- December 10** Deadline to count ballots – open to the public

Don't forget to



2012 Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for Drought



ECP is designed to provide cost-share assistance to producers who have suffered severe damage to farm and ranch lands as a result of a natural disaster, such as wind erosion, water erosion, floods, tornados, or, in some cases drought. The damage must be severe enough that it would be too costly for the producer to repair without Federal assistance.

Due to severe drought conditions throughout Sweetwater and Sublette Counties, the County Office will be taking sign-ups for cost-share assistance for water hauling, well drilling, pipeline etc. Please understand that filing an application **doesn't** guarantee cost-share assistance. Cost-share assistance will depend on approval and funding granted. The maximum cost-share that is allowed under ECP program provisions is 75% for temporary measures and 50% for permanent measures, not to exceed a predetermined rate (set by County Committee and/or

State Committee).

Some examples of eligible cost-share practices pertaining to drought conditions are water hauling to livestock, well drilling, pumps, pipeline and/or tanks to provide water to livestock. ECP for drought has special provisions in place:

1. Practices may begin no more than 60 days prior to ECP approval. For Sweetwater & Sublette County this means that practices that began before May 13, 2012 will not be eligible for cost-share assistance.
2. Cost-share may not be approved for more than 60 days. For example if you haul water from May 13 – July 13 and August 20 – September 15, cost-share may only be paid on 60 days total.

To file an application you will need to know:

Wells, pumps, pipelines, tanks

1. Number of wells and estimated depth
2. Number of pumps, 220 vs. solar
3. Number of tanks and estimated size
4. Feet of pipeline, buried or above ground
5. Any other measures requested

Water hauling

1. Number of livestock hauled to
2. Number of miles roundtrip
3. Dates hauled, frequency of trips
4. Number of gallons hauled in a normal year

The sign-up period for 2012 ECP applications begins on **August 13** and ends on **October 12**.

Sign-up Days, by appointment (all programs available)

2012 NAP production & payments, 2013 crop reporting, 2012 ECP (drought), 2013 eligibility

Current participants will receive an appointment card, if you do not get a card and want to sign-up for programs call the office to make an appointment. Our number is 307.362.3062 ext. 2

**McKinnon Weed & Pest
Farson Bonnie's House
Big Piney Library
Pinedale NRCS Office
Rock Springs Service Center**

**August 30, 2012
September 13, 2012
September 18, 2012
September 19, 2012
Anytime**



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



United States
Department of
Agriculture

—INSIDE THIS ISSUE—

2012 production reporting

NAP loss filing

COC elections

ECP for drought

ECP for fire

SIGN-UP DAYS SCHEDULE

WHAT'S AROUND THE CORNER

- **August 30** – Sign-up Day: McKinnon Weed & Pest
- **September 3** – Labor Day; office closed
- **September 13** – Sign-up Day: Farson Bonnie's House
- **September 18** – Sign-up Day: Big Piney Library
- **September 19** – Sign-up Day: Pinedale NRCS Office
- **October 12** – Deadline to file ECP-drought (water hauling/well drilling)
- **November 14** - Deadline to file ECP-fire (fence damage)
- **November 5** – Ballots mailed to eligible voters for 2011 COC election
- **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.

ECP: Fire (Sublette County)

Policy clarification has made it possible for FSA to cost-share on fences damaged by the Fontenelle fire in Sublette County, regardless of where they are located (BLM, FS, private) so long as the burden of cost has been placed on the producer. Sublette County has been approved, but has not received funding at this time, understand that filing an application **does not** guarantee assistance.

Producers may apply for assistance from September 15 – November 14, 2012. Out-of-office sign up dates will be held in conjunction with ECP: water hauling dates. See article on previous page. Producers will need to know how many feet (miles) of fence that will need to be replaced or has been replaced. COF staff will also be conducting on-site inspections before approval.

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.