



NEWSLETTER



Washakie-Hot Springs FSA Office

October 2010

**208 Shiloh Road
Worland, WY 82401**

307-347-2456 phone
307-347-8806 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/WY

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Washakie-Hot Springs Staff

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2010 DCP Final Payments

Final DCP payments for 2010 participants will be issued sometime after October 8, 2010. Producers who received an advance payment will be paid the balance they are due. Those who did not take an advance will be receiving their full payment amount. These payments will be deposited directly into personal bank accounts.

If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the final Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments you are about to receive.

2011 NAP Signup

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop. NAP provides coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) coverage.

Biennial and perennial forage crops such as grasses, legumes, & forbs for grazing, forage, seed or any other use, application closing date is December 1, 2010. For all other crops the application closing date is April 1, 2011.

If the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date, a new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops they had in 2010.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail and other natural causes.

Producers may be able to get payment for 2008-2010 crop years on the same crop and intended use covered by their RI-PRF policy.

For more information and specific NAP crop deadlines, contact this office.

FSA Conservation Loan Program

The Farm Service Agency makes and guarantees conservation loans on farms and ranches to help conserve our natural resources. The Conservation Loan (CL) Program provides farmers with the credit necessary to implement conservation measures on their land.

The direct CL limit is \$300,000 and the guaranteed CL limit is \$1,119,000. Guaranteed loans are available through lenders working with FSA.

Applicants will work with Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) staff to develop a conservation plan. Conservation practices must be approved by NRCS before FSA can provide financing. Examples of conservation practices include installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; transitioning to organic production; manure management, including manure digestion systems; and more.

County Committee Elections

Starting early next month, watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot if you are in LAA #3 or LAA#4. LAA #3 is everything in the Nowood River drainage in Washakie County. LAA #4 is everything west of the Big Horn River that does not get their irrigation water from the river in Hot Springs County.

Mailing of ballots to all eligible voters starts on November 5, 2010. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, contact the county FSA office to get one.

Completed and signed ballots will be due back in the county office by the close of business on December 6, 2010.

Additional ELAP information is available at the FSA county office or online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Disaster Program: Livestock Forage (LFP)

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought conditions or fire on federally managed land.

As authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill, the LFP provides recovery assistance to livestock producers suffering grazing losses that occur due to drought or fire up to October 1, 2011.

The LFP program is activated in drought areas when the National Drought Monitor records a drought of D2 or more severe for the area. Assistance levels increase with the severity of drought designation.

For 2010 and subsequent years, applications must be filed no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing losses occurred.

Additional Information about LFP including eligible livestock and fire criteria is available at county FSA offices or on line at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

NOTE: For both LFP and ELAP, deadlines have passed for 2008 and 2009 loss filing. For 2010 and subsequent year losses, sign up ends Jan. 30, 2011 (30 days after the end of the loss year.)



Disaster Program: Livestock, Bees, Fish (ELAP)

Aid from the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) is available to those producers who suffered losses in 2009 because of disease, adverse weather or other conditions. Eligible losses include feed losses, physical losses, and additional costs incurred in providing feed to eligible livestock.

More than \$13 million in disaster assistance, including more than \$7 million to compensate beekeepers for 2009 losses, will be issued. Under ELAP, producers will be compensated for losses that are not covered under Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Payment programs established by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

FSA Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available through FSA.

Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and
- financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available

at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov

Paper Check Conversion (PCC)

Over the next year, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) is moving toward an electronic method for processing producers' checks. This will allow FSA/CCC to process collections faster.

When producers present checks, either in person or through the mail, the checks will be converted into an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The funds will be debited from the producer's account, usually within 24 hours of receipt.

Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury legal notices posted in the Service Center or visit the following U.S. Department of Treasury Internet site for detailed information: <https://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/pcc/usingpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm>

Farm Storage Facility Loan

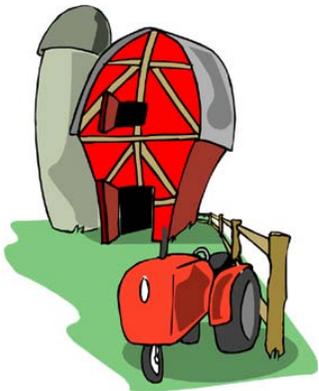
The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial payment will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final payment will be made when construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

Eligible commodities for the FSFL program include: corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds, pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas



and dry peas, hay, renewable biomass, fruits (including nuts) and vegetables.

For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov

Kids & Farm Safety

The need for farm safety awareness for children does not diminish after they return to school. Fall harvest and work with livestock still exposes kids to risks on evenings and weekends. Farm Safety 4 Just Kids recommends the following protection when dealing with grain, ATV's, and livestock:

- Always lock access doors to grain storage structures.
- Lock out power to all types of grain handling equipment.
- Always use the buddy system when you are unloading or loading grain, notifying a second person where you are.
- Never permit children to ride in grain wagons or enter grain storage areas.
- Always know where ALL family members are (especially children) at all times when grain is being loaded, unloaded, moved, or otherwise handled.

ATV drivers: No matter what function the ATV performs, remember that it is only as capable as the operator.

Chores involving livestock care and handling are often one of the first responsibilities given to children, increasing their exposure to the dangers at an early age.

When working around animals encourage your children to:

- Be calm, move slowly, and avoid loud noises.
- Wear steel toed shoes.
- Avoid the hind legs of the animal.
- Approach large animals at the shoulder.
- Children should avoid animals with newborns.
- Children should avoid stallions, bulls, rams, and boars.
- Always have an escape route when working with animals in close quarters.

- Wear helmets when riding horses.

THINK SAFETY!!!

Washakie/Hot Springs County FSA
208 Shiloh Road
Worland, WY 82401



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Emergency Loan Availability for Washakie and Hot Springs Counties

On July 14, 2010, a Presidential Disaster Declaration was issued due to flooding for Fremont County. As a result, contiguous counties including both Washakie and Hot Springs are eligible for Emergency Loans.

This designation makes all family-sized farm operators in primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low interest emergency loans from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

Applicants must meet all standard loan eligibility requirements and:

- have eight months from the date of the designation approval to apply for the loans to help cover their actual losses;
- must meet the agency definition of an established farmer, be citizens or permanent residents of the United States, and have suffered at least a 30-percent loss in crop production; and/or sustained a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, real estate, or chattel property;
- must have an acceptable credit history, yet be unable to receive credit from commercial sources;
- must have collateral to secure the loan and ability to repay the loan.

Selected Interest Rates for

October 2010

90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.125%
Farm Ownership	5.000%
Conservation Loan (NEW)	4.375%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	2.125%

Dates to Remember

Oct. 11	Columbus Day Holiday
Nov. 5	County committee ballots mailed to voters
Nov. 10	Thermopolis Office Day
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 1	NAP deadline
Continuous	Call before breaking new ground.