

Sweetwater/Sublette County FSA  
79 Winston Dr. Ste. 110  
Rock Springs, WY 82901  
307.362.3062

#### County Committee Members

Kathy Miller, Chairperson  
James Hodder, Vice-chairperson  
Ben Arambel, Member  
Robert Anderson, Member

#### FSA Office Personnel

Jennifer Dutton, CED  
Bonnie Hueckstaedt, PT  
Martin 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; or livestock, machinery purchases call:*

**Brian Harrell, FLM**  
**307.856.7524**

#### **Dates to Remember:**

**Nov. 6** – COC election ballots mailed

**Nov. 11** – Office closed, Veterans' Day

**Nov. 26** – Office closed, Thanksgiving Day

**Dec. 1** – NAP application deadline for spring seeded crops & grazing

**Dec. 7** – COC election ballots due

**Dec. 10** – 2008 LFP application deadline

**Mar. 31** – 2009 Barley LDP filing deadline



**Sweetwater/Sublette County**  
**November 2009**



## **Supplemental Disaster Assistance Program 2008 Farm Bill**

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

**To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.**

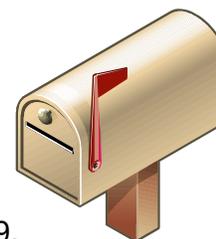
In the 2008 Farm Bill; in general, the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers meeting the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.

## **You've Got Mail!**

Ballots for the County Committee Election will be mailed to eligible voters in LAA #4 on November 6, 2009.

LAA #4 is north of the Sweetwater/Sublette county line and west of Hwy 191. Ballots are due back to the County Office by **December 7, 2009**. If you live in LAA #4 and do not receive a ballot, please contact the county office.



## Report NAP Losses

Remember to report losses on NAP crops within 15 days of the disaster occurrence or when the losses are apparent. Notices of losses filed more than 15 days after occurrence (late-filed) can still be approved by COC if verification of the specific crop and acreage can be made. It must also be determined that the loss was due to an eligible disaster condition. If both determinations cannot be made the application will be disapproved and the producer will not be eligible for NAP payment.

## 2010 NAP

NAP is available for crops which crop insurance is not available for. It protects the producer against catastrophic losses. The deadline to purchase NAP for forage (hay), pasture, honey and wheat (winter & spring for forage) is **December 1, 2009**. The fee for NAP is \$250 per crop per county, with a county maximum of \$750. For producers with interest in multiple counties, the total fee cannot exceed \$1,875.

At least CAT level coverage is required on insurable crops and NAP coverage is required on non-insurable crops to be eligible to participate in Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs.

Call the county office for more information and to get your 2010 NAP policy.

## Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year FSA completes spot checks of acreage reports. Acreage reports are an integral part of farm program participation. Acreage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acreage reports in farm program computations.

FSA will conduct spot checks on a selected number of farms in each state. All acreage determinations use the FSA Geographic Information System official acreages.

After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to your local FSA office for further explanation.



**“There are no traffic jams along the extra mile.”**

*~Roger Staubach*

In order to better serve you, our customers, we try to get all applicable paperwork completed in one visit.

One thing we are trying is scheduling out-of-office days to make meeting with us less time consuming and more convenient for you. We know you are busy and want to make it easier for you to complete your business with FSA.

Depending on the program that we are conducting sign-ups for, we normally schedule days in Big Piney, Pinedale, Farson and McKinnon. These sites paired with our regular office hours in Rock Springs should provide you with more convenience and better service.

We ask that you call and make an appointment so that you do not have to wait while we are helping other customers.



for notification of out-of-office days in the monthly newsletter, newspapers and other FSA mailings.

## Crop Reporting for SURE

Producers enrolling in the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) are reminded that 2008 crop reports for **all** crops are **required** for SURE participation. This includes crops planted on cropland and/or non-cropland, including native pasture or improved grass that will be hayed.

2008 late-file fees will be waived for those wishing to participate in SURE for the 2008 crop year.

**Crop reports are going to be the basis for many payments under the 2008 Farm Bill. Please make sure your crops are reported correctly.**

## Am I Eligible for LFP?

### Sweetwater & Sublette Counties Qualify

Livestock Forage Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses due to drought or fire between January 1, 2008 and October 1, 2011.

Counties are determined eligible by the US Drought Monitor. The county office may accept applications after being notified by National Office of eligibility. Listed below are the levels of eligible drought.

- ▼ D2 any area for 8 consecutive weeks = 1 month payment
- ▼ D3 any area at anytime = 2 months payment
- ▼ D3, any area for 4 weeks = 3 months payment
- ▼ D4 any area at anytime = 3 months payment

Under this program, if an eligible drought occurs anywhere in the county then the entire county will qualify for assistance.

Drought eligibility criteria also require that the drought must have occurred on:

- ▼ Native or improved permanent vegetative cover
- ▼ Small grains or forage sorghum planted specifically for grazing

### Ok, so my county qualifies, what else is required?

Producers are required to have **NAP or PRF** (pasture, rangeland & forage) coverage to be eligible for LFP benefits.

**Eligible acreage will be determined by intended use as certified by the producer on the annual crop report \*\*It is very important these reflect the actual harvest methods being used\*\***

Sweetwater and Sublette counties qualify for 2008 losses. If you had 2008 NAP and had livestock that was grazing or should have been grazing in Sweetwater or Sublette County on May 1, 2008, you qualify for assistance. All loss claims must be filed by **December 10, 2009**.

LFP cont'd

**Call the office to make an appointment!**

### What to bring:



## Rancher Roy pays for his NAP and then some!

**For illustrative purposes only, payment will vary on a case-by-case basis.**



Rancher Roy ranches in Sweetwater County. Rancher Roy has 300 cows and 15 bulls. He purchases and retains a total of 40 replacement heifers. He also has 5 horses that he uses for ranch work. He has 500 acres of deeded, non-irrigated native pasture at his home place and has BLM permits for 2500 AUMs, all in Sweetwater County. He also has 350 acres of irrigated native grass hay.

Rancher Roy purchased 2008 NAP coverage for both, forage and grazing acres. His total cost for NAP insurance was \$500.00.

An 8 consecutive week D2 drought was documented by the US Drought Monitor, beginning May 1, 2008. 8 consecutive weeks of D2 drought qualified Sweetwater County for 1 monthly payment of LFP assistance.

Based on Rancher Roy's livestock numbers and the number of animal units he is allowed to graze on BLM permits. His 2008 LFP expected payment is \$6, 268.

Additionally, if Sweetwater County suffered at least a 50% loss, he would be eligible for additional assistance through the NAP program.

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***Important Dates to Remember***

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COC Elections  
Acreage Spot-checks

**Nov. 6** – COC election ballots mailed  
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***Thanksgiving Day***  
***Office Closed***



**NOVEMBER 2008**

