



# Farm Service Agency

UINTAH/DAGGETT FSA NEWSLETTER

SEPT-OCT 2007

## NAP Deadline

The NAP (Non Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) can soften financial losses caused by natural disasters, but only if you have applied for coverage and paid the application fee.

NAP provides coverage on crops in the county that are non-insurable. NAP fees are \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer, per county

**December 1, 2007 is the final day to sign up for coverage on perennial crops for the 2008 crop year.**

This would include grass hay and grazed forage (pasture and rangeland.)

**Note: All livestock producers should by the \$100 coverage on their pasture and rangeland each year. This is a small fee for coverage that can pay large returns during drought years.**

## Acreage Reporting

The timely filing of an acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a number of programs, including Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), as well as marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments.

**To be considered timely, you must have filed your acreage report, form FSA-578, by the Monday, July 2, 2007 deadline.**

If you have not yet filed your 2007 acreage report, you must still do this to receive payment benefits through FSA programs. However, you will be assessed a \$46 late-file fee per farm.

Crop acreage reports from producers are accepted for multiple future applications.

## Grazing Improvement Program

In May 2006, Governor Huntsman signed HB 145, the **Rangeland Improvement Act**, authorizing the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) to begin its Grazing Improvement Program (GIP). GIP has three primary objectives: 1) improve and maintain Utah's rangeland resource, 2) sustain the profitability of Utah's farms and ranches, and 3) give ranchers a unified voice in grazingland management policy. GIP has the unique opportunity to impact grazing on private, state, and federal lands by funding improvement projects that improve forage, reduce invasive weeds, and increase water supplies.

To administer this new program, UDAF has reconditioned the old Taylor Grazing Act district boards, giving them a charge to oversee project implementation in their respective regions. The Northeast Region Grazing Advisory Board serves producers in Daggett, Uintah, and Duchesne counties, and is chaired by Mitch Hacking of Vernal. Jim Brown and William Merkley serve as program coordinators for the Northeast region and are the contract persons for all those interested in applying for project assistance. Their contact information is as follows:

Jim Brown -Office: 435-722-5783  
Cell: 435-722-7023

[jbrown@ubtanet.com](mailto:jbrown@ubtanet.com)

William Merkley -Office: 435-722-4621  
ext. 123 Cell: 435-621-4450

[william.merkley@ut.nacdnet.net](mailto:william.merkley@ut.nacdnet.net)

Projects can include any restoration work that will improve rangeland health, productivity and management. Examples: elimination of invasive species, reseeding, livestock water development and improvement, fencing, grazing management planning, and any other project that improves watershed and rangeland health/production while improving the profitability of Utah's livestock producers.

## Emergency Conservation Program

### WATER HAULING FOR LIVESTOCK

*Uintah County has been approved for Emergency Water Hauling for Livestock due to drought conditions on rangeland.*

*EC6 for the construction and deepening of water wells, developing of springs or seeps, pipelines for livestock water at 50% cost share is available.*

*EC7 for water hauling to livestock is available and payable at a per gallon/per head of livestock rate.*

*The signup period is October 1<sup>st</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>.*

*Program eligibility dates are June 1, through October 1, 2007*

*Interested producers should contact this office for additional information and signup.*



## Commodity Loans

Commodity Loans are available to all farmers growing eligible commodities. These loans provide capital to farmers enabling them to hold their crop off the market and benefit from price increases that may come after harvest.

Commodity Loans mature in 9 months. Loan rates are as follows:

- Corn \$2.26bu
- Oats \$1.40 bu
- Barley \$1.99 bu

Producers are reminded that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of commodities in farm storage. They will also be subject to penalties applicable to unauthorized removal or disposition if CCC Loan collateral is moved or disposed of without prior approval from the FSA county office.

## Emergency Loans Available

Uintah and Daggett Counties have been declared a disaster area by Governor Huntsman. The disasters were due to the following conditions; severe drought, insect infestations, killing frosts, hot dry winds, below normal runoff, wildfires and flash floods. This makes producers eligible for Emergency Loans and Disaster Set-Aside programs. If you have suffered a 30% below normal production yield, you may be eligible for an Emergency Loan, this is a 3.75% low interest loan, or if you are unable by the end of the year to pay all of your family living and operating expenses as well as all debts, you may be eligible for the set-aside program, this is where all or part of your FSA debts can be delayed this year or next year. The deadline for accepting applications is April 21, 2008. You will need to try and get financing from your bank first before you come to FSA for the loan.

## County Information

**Address:**  
80 North 500 West  
Vernal, Utah 84078

**Phone Numbers:**  
435-789-2100  
789-4160 Fax

**Staff:**  
Greg Witbeck CED  
Linda Stubbs PT  
Mary Smuin PT  
Freda Powell FLM

**Office Hours:**  
Monday – Friday  
7:00 am-4:30 pm

**County Committee:**  
Scott Chew  
Lyle Taylor  
Chris McMullin  
Alex Radosevich  
Herbert Steele

**Positions:**  
Chairperson  
Vice-Chairperson  
Member  
Member  
Member

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national 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 require alternative means for communication or program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## Drought and Fire Workshop for Livestock Producers

October 2, 2007  
Roosevelt, Utah 7 p.m.  
USU Center Multi Purpose Room

Some of the topics to be presented and discussed include:

### Agency programs available to assist farmers and ranchers.

Utah Dept of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Farm Service Agency

### Secrets to successful seedings by Craig Rigby (Agricultural Research Service)

Use of existing plans  
Land preparation  
Species to us/consider

### Meeting the nutritional needs of livestock when forage is limited by Dale Zobell, USU

Nutritional requirements  
Use of alternative sources of feed

### Evaluating the economic, financial and tax impacts of alternative actions by Bruce Godfrey and Dillon Feuz, USU

Selling additional livestock  
Purchasing fee  
Marketing  
Reducing Risks

USDA - Farm Service Agency  
Uintah/Daggett FSA Office  
80 North 500 West  
Vernal, Utah 84078

PRRST STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #101  
VERNAL, UTAH 84078

