



- [Emergency Conservation Program](#)
- [Before You Break Out New Ground, Ensure Your Farm Meets Conservation Compliance](#)
- [Progression Lending from FSA](#)
- [New Guide Available for Underserved Farmers, Ranchers](#)

## Emergency Conservation Program

FSA is cleaning up our producer record database and needs your help. Please report any changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address or an incorrect name or business name on file to our office. You should also report changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase. You should also report any changes to your operation in which you reorganize to form a Trust, LLC or other legal entity.



FSA and NRCS program participants are required to promptly report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and to update their *Farm Operating Plan* on form CCC-902.

To update your records, contact your Park County USDA Service Center at (307) 754-9411 Ext. 2.

## Before You Break Out New Ground, Ensure Your Farm Meets Conservation Compliance



The term "sodbusting" is used to identify the conversion of land from native vegetation to commodity crop production after December 23, 1985. As part of the conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, if you're proposing to produce agricultural commodities (crops that require annual tillage including one pass planting operations and sugar cane) on land that has been determined highly erodible and that has no crop history prior to December 23, 1985, that land must be farmed in accordance with a conservation plan or system that ensures no substantial increase in soil erosion.

Eligibility for many USDA programs requires compliance with a conservation plan or system on highly erodible land (HEL) used for the production of agricultural commodities. This includes Farm Service Agency (FSA) loan, disaster assistance, safety net, price support, and conservation programs; Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation programs; and Risk Management Agency (RMA) Federal crop insurance.

Before you clear or prepare areas not presently under production for crops that require annual tillage, you are required to file Form AD-1026 "Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Certification," with FSA indicating the area to be brought into production. The notification will be referred to NRCS to determine if the field is considered highly erodible land. If the field is considered HEL, you are required to implement a conservation plan or system that limits the erosion to the tolerable soil loss (T) for the predominant HEL soil on those fields.

In addition, prior to removing trees or conducting any other land manipulations that may affect wetlands, remember to update form AD-1026, to ensure you remain in compliance with the wetland conservation provisions.

Prior to purchasing or renting new cropland acres, it is recommended that you check with your local USDA Service Center to ensure your activities will be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions.

For additional information on highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation compliance, contact [your local USDA Service Center](#).

## Progression Lending from FSA

Farm Service Agency (FSA) farm loans are considered progression lending. Unlike loans from a commercial lender, FSA loans are intended to be temporary in nature. Our goal is to help you graduate to commercial credit, and our farm loan staff is available to help borrowers through training and credit counseling.



The FSA team will help borrowers identify their goals to ensure financial success. FSA staff will advise borrowers on developing strategies and a plan to meet your goals and graduate to commercial credit. FSA borrowers are responsible for the success of their farming operation, but FSA staff will help in an advisory role, providing the tools necessary to help you achieve your operational goals and manage your finances.

For more information on FSA farm loan programs, contact your Park County USDA Service Center at 307-754-9411 or visit [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

## New Guide Available for Underserved Farmers, Ranchers

A new multi-agency guide for USDA assistance for underserved farmers and ranchers is now available. If you are a farmer or rancher and are a minority, woman, veteran, beginning, or limited resource producer, you can use this booklet to learn about assistance and targeted opportunities available to you. This includes programs offered through the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Risk Management Agency. The guide is also available in Spanish, Hmong, Korean, Vietnamese, Thai and Chinese on [farmers.gov/translations](http://farmers.gov/translations).



## Park County USDA Service Center

1017 Highway 14A  
Powell, WY 82435  
307-754-9411

**County Executive Director**  
Darla Rhodes  
[darla.rhodes@usda.gov](mailto:darla.rhodes@usda.gov)

**District Conservationist**  
Rory Karhu 307-431-2052  
[rory.karhu@usda.gov](mailto:rory.karhu@usda.gov)

**Acting Farm Loan Manager**  
Brian Harrell

**Farm Loan Officer**  
Nick Hartley

**Program Technicians**  
Tanya Butz  
Jessica Shuler

**Soil Conservationist**  
Dicksie Hilderbrand  
[dicksie.hildebrand@usda.gov](mailto:dicksie.hildebrand@usda.gov)  
(307) 271-3126

**Soil Conservation Technician**  
Randy Gibson  
[randy.e.gibson@usda.gov](mailto:randy.e.gibson@usda.gov)  
(307) 271-3132

**County Committee**  
Emily Karst - Chairperson  
Tim Acord - Vice-Chairperson  
Lynn George - Regular Member

**Next County Committee Meeting: October 12, 2022**