

May 2019



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

# BULLETIN

**GovDelivery**

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

- [Message from the desk of Peggy Livingston, CED](#)
- [Breaking New Ground](#)
- [Report Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program \(NAP\) Losses](#)
- [USDA Reminds Producers of Approaching Marketing Assistance Loan Deadlines](#)

---

## Weston County FSA Updates

---

**Weston County FSA Office**  
1225 Washington Blvd, Ste. 2  
Newcastle, WY 82701  
Phone: 307-746-2701, ext. 2  
Fax: 307-746-2870

**County Executive Director:**  
Peggy Livingston, ext. 101

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Rob Weppner, 307-682-8843

**Program Technician:**  
Sherie Hilgenkamp, ext. 100

**County Committee:**  
Tim Tysdal, Chairman  
Chuck Grieves, Vice Chairman  
Randy Oleson, Member  
Robin Riesland, Minority Advisor

**Next County Committee Meeting:** June 26, 2019, 10AM

### Message from the desk of Peggy Livingston, CED

#### ***NOMINATIONS FOR COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBER ARE NEEDED***

Don't forget that we will be having a County Committee election for Local Administrative Area #1, the northeastern part of Weston County, as Chairman Tim Tysdal is currently fulfilling his final year of eligibility. If you are interested in nominating yourself or your neighbor for this position on the County Committee, please be sure to stop into the County Office to pick up a nomination form or we can mail one to you. The term of a member is 3 years, and a member may serve 3 consecutive terms. The County Committee is a critical part of the Farm Service Agency, helping to deliver FSA programs by applying their judgment, experience, and knowledge when making local decisions regarding conservation programs, incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for commodities, and employing county executive directors. Nominations are currently being accepted and the final date to receive a nomination form in the County Office is **August 1, 2019**. Please remember to exercise your right to vote. Ballots will be mailed out to eligible voters on **November 5** and will need to be returned to the County Office by **December 2** for your vote to be counted.

## **REQUEST TO CONDUCT SIGN UP FOR THE EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

Weston County FSA Office has requested approval from the Wyoming State Committee to conduct a sign up for the Emergency Conservation Program. Pending approval from the State Committee; we will announce a 30 day sign up to be held for those producers who have sustained damage from flooding earlier this spring.

For land to be eligible, the natural disaster must create new conservation problems that, if untreated, would:

1. be so costly to rehabilitate that Federal assistance is or will be needed to return the land to productive agricultural use
2. is unusual and is not the type that would recur frequently in the same area
3. affect the productive capacity of the farmland
4. impair or endanger the land

A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive cost-share levels not to exceed 75 percent of the eligible cost of restoration measures. No producer is eligible for more than \$200,000 cost sharing per natural disaster occurrence. The following types of measures may be eligible:

1. removing debris from farmland
2. grading, shaping, or releveling severely damaged farmland
3. restoring conservation structures and other similar installations

To be eligible for assistance, practices must not be started until all the following are met:

1. an application for cost-share assistance has been filed
2. the local FSA County Committee (COC) or its representative has conducted an onsite inspection of the damaged area
3. the Agency responsible for technical assistance, such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), has made a needs determination, which may include cubic yards of earthmoving, etc., required for rehabilitation

## **REMEMBER TO REPORT YOUR SPRING SEEDED CROPS NO LATER THAN JULY 15TH**

I would like to remind producers, if you are planting any crops this spring, be sure to come into the county office and complete your acreage report no later than **July 15, 2019**. Every crop type has a final plant date. In most cases, May 31, 2019 is the final plant date for spring seeded crops in our county; however, if you are unsure what the final plant date is for the crop you are planning to seed, please notify the county office. Prevented planting is the inability to plant the intended crop acreage with proper equipment by the final plant date for the crop type because of a natural disaster. Producers who are prevented from planting a crop, must notify the County Office within 15 calendar days after the final plant date. To receive prevented planting acreage credit, the producer must demonstrate an intent to plant the acreage by providing documentation of field preparation, seed purchase, and any other information necessary to prove intent.

## **IS YOUR 2019 LIVESTOCK FEED COSTS ABOVE NORMAL?**

Producers who have purchased additional feed this past winter may be eligible for assistance under the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program. This program provides compensation to producers on a minimum of 60% of the producer's additional cost of purchasing livestock feed above normal to maintain eligible livestock during an eligible adverse weather or loss condition until additional livestock feed becomes available not to exceed 150 calendar days. If you feel that you may qualify for this program, please contact the county office.

---

## **Breaking New Ground**

Agricultural producers are reminded to consult with FSA and NRCS before breaking out new ground for production purposes as doing so without prior authorization may put a producer's federal farm program

benefits in jeopardy. This is especially true for land that must meet Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions.

Producers with HEL determined soils are required to apply tillage, crop residue and rotational requirements as specified in their conservation plan.

Producers should notify FSA as a first point of contact prior to conducting land clearing or drainage type projects to ensure the proposed actions meet compliance criteria such as clearing any trees to create new cropland, then these areas will need to be reviewed to ensure such work will not risk your eligibility for benefits.

Landowners and operators complete the form AD-1026 - Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification to identify the proposed action and allow FSA to determine whether a referral to Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for further review is necessary.

---

## Report Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Losses

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters including freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind or hurricanes, flood, excessive heat and qualifying drought (includes native grass for grazing), among others.

Eligible producers must have purchased NAP coverage for 2019 crops. A notice of loss must be filed the earlier of 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent or 15 days of the final harvest date.

Producers of hand-harvested crops and certain perishable crops must notify FSA within 72 hours of when a loss becomes apparent.

Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy, and industrial crops.

For more information on NAP, contact your local FSA office or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap).

---

## USDA Reminds Producers of Approaching Marketing Assistance Loan Deadlines

Producers have until May 31, 2019, to apply for crop year 2018 marketing assistance loans for feed grains, upland cotton, soybeans and minor oilseeds.

These marketing assistance loans are considered nonrecourse, meaning they can either be redeemed by repaying the loan or delivering the pledged collateral – i.e., the crop – at loan maturity to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) as full payment. In circumstances where the county commodity price falls below the county loan rate, producers may repay loans at less than loan rate (principal) plus accrued interest and other charges, therefore, receiving a market loan gain. Alternatively, producers who are eligible for marketing loans are also eligible for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) should the county price fall below the county loan rate.

The 2018 Farm Bill simplified market loan gains and LDP provisions by removing payment limitations, actively engaged in farming provisions and cash-tenant rules; however, adjusted gross income rules still apply. Producers must have title, possession and control of the commodity and be responsible for loss of or damage to the commodity to be eligible for commodity loans and LDPs. All application forms must be completed at the local FSA office prior to loss of beneficial interest. Other eligibility requirements may apply.

Producers can check their daily LDP rates online at [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

To apply for a loan, please contact Farm Loan Manager Rob Weppner at 307-682-8843 Ext. 2. Additional information is available at [fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport](http://fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport).

Dates to Remember	
May 31, 2019	Application deadline for <b>Crop Year 2018 Marketing Assistance Loans</b> for feed grains, upland cotton, soybeans and minor oilseeds
May 31, 2019	<b>Final Plant Date</b> for most spring seeded crops in Weston County. If you are unsure what the final plant date is for the crop you a planning to seed, please contact our office.
July 15, 2019	<b>Acreage Reporting</b> deadline for spring planted crops
August 1, 2019	<b>Nomination</b> deadline for Local Administrative Area #1 (LAA#1) representative to serve on the County Committee.
November 11, 2019	Ballots for LAA#1 election will be sent to eligible voters.
November 15, 2019	<b>Acreage Reporting</b> deadline for fall planted crops
December 2, 2019	LAA#1 Ballots must be returned to the county office.
<b>NAP Notice of Loss for 2019 Crops</b> must be filed the earlier of <u>15 days</u> of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent, or 15 days of the final harvest date.	
<b>LIP Notice of Loss for 2019 Livestock Losses</b> must be filed within <u>30 calendar days</u> of when the loss is first apparent.	

---

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact [Peggy Livingston](mailto:Peggy.Livingston@fsa.usda.gov) at [307-746-2701](tel:3077462701) extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

---

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave.,

SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).