

Navajo/Gila County FSA News

Holbrook, AZ
USDA Service Center

Navajo/Gila County FSA
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Holbrook, AZ 86025

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Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.
Closed Legal Holidays

County Committee
Therman Susan, Chair
Wilfred Stanley, V-Chair
Steven Flake, Member
Elwood Saganey, Member
Robert Adams, Member

Office Staff
Gregg W. Norton, CED
Catherine Nez, PT

Farm Loan Staff
Mike Miller, FLM
Harriet Mann, FLO

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2010 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) Deadline January 31, 2011

The USDA has declared Navajo County eligible for 2010 drought relief payments under the **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**. Navajo County was rated by the US Drought Monitor as sustaining a D3 intensity drought for 4 weeks allowing eligible producers to apply for a 3 month payment. Gila County is not eligible as of this date. **Only those livestock producers who purchased NAP insurance for 2010 are eligible for 2010 LFP benefits.** Waivers apply for producers who qualify as Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource or Beginning Ranchers. The Holbrook FSA office is now accepting applications for 2010 LFP benefits. The following documentation is required for the following types of grazing land:

1. **US Forest Service-** A copy of the 2010 Bill for Collection that shows the AUM allowance on the term permit
2. **BLM-** A copy of the BLM grazing permit
3. **State-** A copy of the state grazing lease or any state approved sub-lease or assignment of lease that shows the acres and the AU allowance
4. **Privately owned-** A copy of 2010 property tax receipts that show the legal description and number of acres
5. **Private leased-** A copy of any lease
6. **Tribal/BIA Grazing permit-** A copy of a valid permit covering the 2010 grazing year

All grazing land must be in the name of the applicant. Grazing land cannot be included in calculating the pasture value for your operation if it is in a different name. This could reduce the amount of payment you can receive.

If you have not already applied, the deadline to file an application for the 2010 LFP is January 31, 2011. Please contact the county office in advance of your visit or if you have any questions about the program.

NON INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP benefits are based on a producer's

individual crop losses and covers all non insurable, commercially grown crops produced for food and fiber. NAP is available to those producers who share in the risk of producing a crop. Crop losses must be as a result of a weather-related disaster condition such as: drought, hail, excessive moisture, freezing conditions, excessive wind, hurricane, or other related conditions. Coverage costs \$250 per crop per county, up to \$750 maximum for single county farmers or ranchers and \$1,875 for multi-county operators.

Application filing dates for 2010 crops have passed. Filing dates for 2011 crops are as follows:

Native Range Grazing- October 31, 2010 PASSED

Small Grains (Wheat, Barley, Oats)- October 31, 2010 PASSED

Alfalfa, Alfalfa/Mix, Sudan, and other forage crops- October 31, 2010 PASSED

Coarse Grains (Corn, Grain Sorghum)- February 28, 2011

Producers with NAP coverage are required to 1) file a Notice of Loss the earlier of 15 days of the date of a disaster or 15 days of when a loss is apparent, 2) timely file an acreage report (May 15- small grains, alfalfa and July 15- native range, coarse grains), and 3) keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. **You must also provide land documentation (leases, deeds, grazing and land use permits).**

If you have any questions, please contact the county office for more information.

REMEMBER- Participation in NAP on native grazing land is required to be eligible for the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) or any other livestock related disaster program that may become available. You must file your application for NAP by OCTOBER 31, 2010 for 2011 NAP to be eligible for possible LFP benefits for 2011.



No NAP SERVICE FEE FOR LIMITED RESOURCE PRODUCERS

To qualify as a limited resource producer, your Gross Farm/Ranch Sales for each of the past two years must be less than \$142,000 AND; your household income must be **\$22,050** or less. If you meet both of these requirements you qualify as a "Limited Resource Producer" and **NO "Service Fee"** is required.



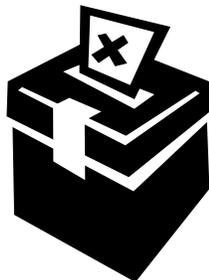
WOOL/MOHAIR 2010 BENEFITS

It's that time of year again. Time to file your 633-EZ Page 1 so that your wool and mohair will be eligible for payment.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SELL TO SIGN THE FORM. The form must be RECEIVED in this office before you sell your wool/mohair. Producers should complete page one of the EZ form as soon as possible. Once page one is completed, producers can request benefits any time **up until January 31, 2011.**

Page 1 of the 633-EZ was mailed to all wool and mohair producers that applied for benefits in the prior year. **Please sign and return the form to this office as soon as possible so your wool and mohair is covered.**

When you sell your wool and mohair there is another form that must be completed. Please see our scheduled chapter visits in this newsletter.



2010 FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to Dee Johnson and Therman Susan! Mr. Johnson was elected to represent the agricultural producers from Local Administrative Area 5 on the county committee (COC). Mr. Susan was elected to represent the agricultural producers from Local

Administrative Area 3. They will serve a three year consecutive term beginning January 1, 2011. The results for Local Administrative Area 3 were:

Therman Susan - Elected to the COC
Nathaniel J Harvey - 1st Alternate to the COC
The results for Local Administrative Area 5 were:

Dee Johnson – Elected to the COC
Tom Hale – 1st Alternate to the COC
Jim O'Haco – 2nd Alternate to the COC

On January 24, 2011, the county committee will hold its organizational meeting to determine the slate of officers for the 2011 calendar year. FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.



FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes agricultural loans; provides credit counseling and supervision to farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

FSA places special emphasis on socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) because we understand and recognize that certain groups have not participated in or have received limited benefits from FSA programs. Our goal is to increase the participation of socially disadvantaged applicants in FSA programs, with special emphasis on those who are members of racial minority groups. FSA lends money and provides credit counseling and supervision to eligible applicants who operate family-size farms. All applicants must meet qualifying criteria to be eligible.

TYPES OF LOANS AVAILABLE

- Farm Ownership (FO)
- Farm Operating (OL)
- Emergency (EM)

A FSA FO loan provides funds to purchase farm or ranch land; repair buildings and other fixtures; promote soil and water conservation.

Farm Operating loan funds may be used to purchase or lease items needed such as livestock, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance or other operating expenses.

LOAN AMOUNTS

Direct loans can be made up to



\$300,000.00

Guaranteed loans can be made up to \$1,119,000.00

SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM

Funds are set aside for socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) to buy and operate family-sized farms and ranches. SDA applicants must meet the same eligibility requirements as other non-SDA applicants.

FSA farm loan employees provide information and assistance to applicants to help them develop sound farm management practices, analyze problems, and plan the best use of available resources essential for success in farming or ranching. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian and Pacific Islanders.

Operating loans can be repaid within 1 to 7 years depending on the loan purpose. Farm Ownership loans can be repaid from 10 years to 40 years.

NEWLY REQUIRED AGI VERIFICATION FORMS

EACH INDIVIDUAL AND ENTITY who received 2009 payments or who request 2010 payments must complete and mail to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) a "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information" form. This form will allow IRS to share adjusted gross income (AGI) information with the USDA in order to verify AGI certifications. The purpose is to ensure that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds regulatory limits. **Individuals must file using form CCC-927 and entities using form CCC-928.** These forms are available online at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov> or may be obtained from any FSA office. While FSA can assist you with understanding the form, *FSA is NOT authorized to accept completed consent forms and FSA is NOT authorized to submit these forms to IRS on your behalf.* **Failure to provide this consent form to IRS could result in a producer being ineligible for future FSA payments and could require refund of payments already received.** Contact your local FSA office in order to obtain these forms and for completion instructions.

Conservation Loan Program (CL)

This FSA loan program can be used to implement a conservation practice by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Interested applicants who do not have a NRCS approved conservation plan should work with the local NRCS staff to develop one. New or existing conservation plans must be NRCS approved before FSA can provide funding.

Applicants must meet the same eligibility and feasibility requirements for CL loans as for other FSA loans; with 2 exceptions: CL loan applicants do not have to meet the eligibility requirement for "family size farm and do not have to meet the "test for credit elsewhere". Depending on the type of collateral offered by the applicant, the term of the loan can be 7 to 20 years. You may contact Mike Miller or Harriet Mann at the Holbrook FSA office if you have questions or are interested in applying for a CL loan.

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/usimgpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm>

IMPORTANT REMINDERS/DEADLINES

- ❖ January 1, 2011: Elected committee members and alternates take office.
- ❖ January 31, 2011: Final date to apply for 2010 LFP
- ❖ January 31, 2011: Last day to submit 2010 Wool/Mohair LDP receipts



*United We
 Stand!*

OUTREACH VISITS

We will be making the following visits to take applications for **all** FSA programs available at this time:

Location	Date	Time of Day
Chinle Chapter House	January 11, 25	10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
St. Michaels USDA Service Center	January 13, 27	10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
Shonto Chapter House	January 11, 25	1 P.M. to 4 P.M.
Kayenta NRCS next to Chapter	January 12, 26	8 A.M. to 12 P.M.

This schedule will be in place as long as weather and road conditions permit.

The U.S. 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, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of 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 to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English-Federal Relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish-Federal Relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made upon request for persons with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Gregg W. Norton, CED at (928) 524-3214.