



# NEWSLETTER



**Big Horn County**

**408 Greybull Ave - Greybull, WY 82426**

**April 2012**

**Farm Service Agency**

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www.fsa.usda.gov  
Bryan Schoenfelder, CED  
Brenda Miller, PT  
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**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

**County Committee**

Shawn Bullinger, Chairman  
Jan Barnett, Vice-Chairman  
Wilford Tippetts, Member

**NRCS Staff**

Monte Bush- Greybull, DC  
John Richards- Lovell, DC  
(307)548-7422

**Conservation District**

Janet Hallsted, Greybull  
Kristen Tilley, Lovell

**Farm Loan Staff**

Bill Morrison, FLM  
Worland (307)247-2456  
Kathy Palazollo, FLO  
Powell (307)754-9411

## DCP Signup Deadline June 1, 2012

The **June 1, 2012 Deadline** for signup for the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) is fast approaching. This is the final year of the DCP program payments under the 2008 farm bill, so there will be no advance payments issued but producers will receive payment on 85% of their base acres this year compared to 83.3% for the past years. Final payments will be issued after October 1, 2012. As of now Big Horn County enrollment in the DCP program is only at about 20% complete. Please stop by our office at your earliest convenience to complete this signup before the **June 1, 2012 deadline**.

As in the past years if you are planning to plant beans (FAV's) on your farm, it is a good idea to touch base with this office prior to planting to make sure you are not planting FAV's on contract acres. This is a simple calculation that can be made by our office to figure your eligible planting acres. If you plant FAV's on contract acres you could potentially be in violation of your contract, which could affect your payment.

The payment limitation for the DCP program is \$40,000, and the Counter-Cyclical limitation is \$65,000. Payments are calculated by multiplying the total base acres on the farm by 85%, then multiplying that by the payment yield and the per bushel payment rate of the following crops:

Wheat: \$0.52    Corn: \$0.28    Barley: \$0.24    Oats: \$0.024    Grain Sorghum \$0.35

Direct payments are not based on the producers' current plantings but their base acres on each farm enrolled. For a farm to be considered enrolled all producers with a share in the payment must sign the contract and complete eligibility paperwork including a AD-1026, Highly Erodible Land Certification, CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan, and a CCC-931 Adjusted Gross Income Certification.

### Lovell Office Day- May 8

Once again we plan to have an office day in Lovell on **May 8, 2012** from 9:00 – 3:00 at the NRCS/Shoshone Conservation District Office, 357 Nevada Ave. If you would like to see us that day it will be necessary for you to contact us prior to this date to set up an appointment and notify us of any changes to your operation. We will have many forms that will need to be completed prior to your appointment, so it is very important that you call us so we can complete the necessary paperwork to bring with us. If you have question concerning your signup or to set up an appointment for the Lovell office day contact our office at (307)765-2689 Ext 2.

## COC Meetings

The regular COC meetings were set for the second Wednesday of the month at 1:30 pm in the conference room of the Greybull USDA Service Center. Since COCs are asked to only meet 4 times per year the meetings will be approximately 3 months apart. Please contact the FSA Office if you would like to find out when the next planned COC meeting will take place.

## Important Crop Reporting Changes

Time is nearing for producers to certify their 2012 acreage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of program benefits. Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

The deadline for a 2012 crop report has changed for this year; it is **July 15**. The change is being made to align with crop insurance reporting dates. Fall seeded crops will have different deadlines for future years.

Final Crop Reporting Date Changes for 2013 Crops

**November 15, 2012** – Perennial Forage, Fall Wheat, and other fall seeded small grains

**January 15, 2013** – Established stand alfalfa seed and fall seeded alfalfa

**July 15, 2013** – Spring alfalfa seed, spring barley, corn, beans, oats, sugar beets, sunflowers, spring wheat, and all other spring crops.

A tentative date of **June 19<sup>th</sup>** has been set to accept crop reports in the Lovell NRCS office. If you farm in the north end of the county and want to do your crop reports in Lovell please call the Greybull office in mid June to schedule an appointment.

## Free GovDelivery – Enroll Now

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving into paperless operation to save tax payer dollars. Producers can now enroll in the new GovDelivery system which provides instant electronic deadline reminders, bulletins and newsletters direct to your email address. Now you don't have to wait for a printed newsletter only occasionally sent through the mail.

County Committee ballots will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers. Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by visiting [www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe). Give it a try right now.

## Farming Operation Changes

June 1, 2011 is the deadline to provide changes to your farm records at the local FSA office for the 2012 crop year. If you are changing your operation entity type, adding or dropping cropland or farms, or adding entities to your operation, contact the FSA county office by June 1.

## Farm Service Agency County Committee Election LAA-3

The Big Horn County FSA is holding their election this year in Local Administrative Area Three (LAA-3). This area covers all land that is east of the Big Horn River south of Sheep Mountain, excluding the land from Manderson south to the Washakie county line. This includes the communities of Shell and Hyattville.

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

Committees provide local input on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs;
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs

FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. Committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

If you are interested in serving on the county committee information about the election process, fact sheets, and nomination forms are available online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under the “News and Events” tab, or by contacting the Big Horn County FSA office at (307)765-2689 Ext 2.

### Reminder to NRCS and FSA Program Participants

All participants in NRCS and FSA programs are required to annually file eligibility forms with the FSA office. Any person, entity or entity member applying for program benefits MUST file a CCC-931 Average Adjusted Gross Income Statement with the IRS to be in compliance for Fiscal Year 2012. The CCC-931 replaces the CCC-927 and CCC-928 documents. Submission of FSA-931 to the IRS will now be completed by FSA. The form AD-1026 Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Certification is also a required form for both NRCS and FSA program applicants. If you are applying for benefits through NRCS or FSA be sure to complete these eligibility documents along with any other paperwork that might be necessary through FSA.

### Direct and Guaranteed Loans

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

If you've had a setback and your current lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan, ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan. This applies to loans obligated after October 1, 2011. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Big Horn County FSA Office  
408 Greybull Ave  
Greybull, WY 82426



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### Important Dates to Remember

- |         |                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| May 28  | Memorial Day ~ Office closed     |
| June 1  | DCP/ACRE sign-up deadline        |
| June 1  | SURE Sign-up deadline            |
| July 4  | Independence Day ~ Office closed |
| July 15 | Crop reporting deadline          |

### Lovell Office Days

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| May 8   | DCP sign-up, call for an appointment              |
| June 19 | Crop reports (tentative), call for an appointment |

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