



## **Committee Election Nominations**

Nominations of candidates for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1 will be accepted from June 15 through August 3, 2009. Producers who are eligible to vote in LAA 1 and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.

LAA's are elective areas. Single counties are divided into three LAA's. Elections are held each year to replace a member whose three-year term will expire.

Laramie County will be holding an election for a person to represent LAA 1. That position is currently held by Mike Peterson. LAA 1 includes north east corner of Laramie County east of County Road 136 and north of County Road 221.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 6, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 7, 2009.

All farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee provides local input on commodity price support loans and payments; establish allotment and yields; conservation programs; disaster assistance payments and programs.

More information on the elections, including nomination forms, is available at the county office or online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>. Attached is a Nomination Form for producers interested in running for the Committee position in LAA #1.

## **Conservation Reserve Program**

### CRP Extensions

On May 1, 2009, USDA announced that certain CRP contracts that were scheduled to expire September 30, 2009 could be extended for a 3 to 5 year period. All contracts that were expiring this year should have received a letter. Expiring contracts received a letter from Washington D.C. and extended contracts should have received a letter from the Laramie County FSA Office.

Producers who received the letter from our office have until June 30 to return the signed CRP-1 F Form to be eligible for the 3 to 5 year extension.

### Modified Conservation Plan

CRP participants that request to have their CRP contract extended must obtain a modified conservation plan from NRCS to provide for new extension dates of the CRP contract.

### Reminder For Contracts Expiring

CRP contracts that are expiring on September 30 cannot be hayed or grazed until October 1, 2009.

## **Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Reminders**

### Production History

NAP participants for 2008 must report their crop production by July 1 to get an approved production history (APH) established. Production not reported gets a 65% T-yield the 1st year and a zero yield the second consecutive year.

### Notice of Loss

A Notice of Loss, CCC-576, must be filed for crop losses within 15 days of the loss event or whenever the loss becomes apparent. Losses not reported timely could result in a loss of eligibility for payment.

## **Farm Program Information**

### Farm Program Signup

The deadline to enroll in Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) has been extended from June 1, 2009 to August 14, 2009. You may first enroll in the DCP Program, receive advance direct payments and then later modify your enrollment to the ACRE program or you may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time.

### ACRE Program

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) is a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill that begins in crop year 2009. Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments.

ACRE payments are made when both state and farm revenues are below historic levels. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program from the program year elected by the producer through the 2012 crop year. All producers on the farm must agree to the ACRE Program election. Producers must annually report acreage and production to FSA. Failure to do so may result in ineligibility.

ACRE payments are revenue-based payments and are tied to crop production and the National Average Market Price for planted, and considered planted, covered commodity crops on the farm. ACRE payment acreage is limited to the total amount of base acres on the farm, and can only be issued for a crop if two triggers are met for the covered commodity crop.

- State Trigger: The Actual State Revenue for the program year must be less than the State ACRE Guarantee.
- Farm Trigger: The participating farm's Actual Farm Revenue for the program year must be less than the Farm ACRE Guarantee.

An ACRE factsheet, ACRE background information detailing the State and farm revenue calculations, ACRE spreadsheet along with instructions in Power Point format are posted at [www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp).

To provide as much information as possible for producers to make their ACRE election decision for crop year 2009, preliminary 2009 State ACRE guarantees, based on projected ACRE guarantee prices and preliminary benchmark State yields, are posted at [www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp) and will be updated no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month and also on the first of every month beginning July 1, 2009.

The 2009 benchmark State yields, ACRE guarantee prices, and State ACRE guarantees will be finalized after NASS reports the final 2008/2009 average market prices and 2008 crop production data. Benchmark State yields for crops grown in Laramie County were posted by March 15, 2009. Guarantee prices and ACRE guarantees will be posted by July 1, 2009 for wheat, barley and oats and by October 1, 2009 for corn.

### Acreage Reporting

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. Crop acreage reports must be filed by July 1 after planting is completed. (Remember to tell us the date the crop was planted in each field.) Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. **Please call for an appointment. A minimum of \$46 per farm late filed fees will be charged after July 1.** 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 final planting date is established by crop insurance or NAP, depending on the crop.

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(04-17-09)

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Farm Service Agency

**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or print Nominee's Full Name)

**TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE**

2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE

5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)

**3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION**

*I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.*

I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.

I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.

6A. COUNTY

6B. LAA NO.

7. STATE

4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

4B. DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)

**DATE OF ELECTION IS 1st MONDAY OF DECEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR**

**8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE**

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

**ETHNICITY**

Hispanic or Latino  
 Not Hispanic or Latino

**RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)**

America Indian or Alaska Native  
 Asian  
 White  
 Black or African-American  
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

**GENDER**

Male  
 Female

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM**

Complete the form as follows:

**ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

**ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.

**ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.

**ITEM 4** The nominee must sign and date.

**ITEM 8** Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 3.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

USDA / FSA  
Laramie County FSA Committee  
11221A U.S. Highway 30  
Cheyenne WY 82009 8730

PRSR T STND  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit 110  
Cheyenne Wyoming

## **Farm Loan Program**

### Loans for Social Disadvantaged Persons

A socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmer, rancher, or agricultural producer is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a member of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. SDA groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

FSA reserves direct and guaranteed loan funds for SDA persons. Non-reserved funds also can be used by SDA persons. Direct farm ownership loans (FO) and farm operating loans (OL) are made by FSA to approved applicants.

**County Committee:** Dave Bowman, Mark Child, Mike Peterson **Advisor:** Louise Jacobsen

**Office Staff:** Doris Scheel, Denise Hunt, Mark Lanning, Krista Macy

Dixie Mount – Farm Loan Officer – Laramie County office day is Tuesday of each week. Dixie may be reached by calling the Wheatland FSA Office at (307)322-4050.

/S/ Gary Gompert, CED – Email [gary.gompert@wy.usda.gov](mailto:gary.gompert@wy.usda.gov)

## **Dates to Remember**

July 1	Deadline to report crops planted.
July 1	Deadline to submit production evidence for 2008 NAP.
July 4	Independence Day Holiday – Office Closed
August 3	Committee Nomination Deadline
August 14	DCP/ACRE Signup Deadline

"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, genetic information, political beliefs, 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, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 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."