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Member  
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Dates to Remember:

**April 1, 2010** – Deadline to  
purchase a 2010 NAP policy for  
**ALL** non-insurable crops.

**May 31, 2010** – Memorial Day  
Holiday, Office Closed

**June 1, 2010** – DCP Signup  
Deadline

**June 15, 2010** – Deadline to file  
IRS form for AGI Verification

**July 1, 2010** – NAP APH Deadline

**July 1, 2010** – Crop Report  
Deadline

# Sheridan - Johnson

## March 2010

### IF YOU RECEIVED OR WILL RECEIVE PAYMENTS FROM FSA/NRCS IN 2009/2010

#### **THIS APPLIES TO YOU!!!**

#### **New AGI (Average Gross Income) Requirements For 2009 and 2010**

FSA and IRS have finalized a data-sharing process for average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) compliance and verification. Compliance with the average AGI limitations is an eligibility requirement to receive payments and benefits under many of the programs administered by FSA and NRCS.

As a means of ensuring the accuracy of payments and the integrity of programs, the data sharing process will begin with participants providing consent to IRS for the use and disclosure of tax information to FSA for AGI compliance purposes. **To remain in compliance with the 2009 and 2010 crop years, producers are required to complete form CCC-927 (Individual) or form CCC-928 (Entity).** IRS will compare the actual tax data on record to the average AGI limitations for participants of 2009 and/or 2010 programs. USDA will receive the results of the AGI with indicators that show whether the producer has or has not exceeded the limits. **Actual tax data is not to be shared with USDA.**

**Please Note:** *Failure to provide the written consent forms may require refund of applicable program payments received from FSA and NRCS for 2009. You may also be ineligible for any 2010 payments that you would otherwise receive.*

To prevent any delays in the issuance of 2010 program payments and the possibility of refunding 2009 program payments, consent forms should be **mailed directly to IRS** at the address given on the form within 60 days of the signature date, but no later than **June 15, 2010.**

Blank CCC-927's and CCC-928's can be requested by participants of 2009/2010 AGI compliance and will be available at your local FSA county office or online at [www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA). Please feel free to call our office to request a form, and we will promptly mail it to you.

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## **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)**

ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other loss conditions, including losses due to blizzards and wildfires caused by natural occurrence (for example, lightening). ELAP is for losses that are not covered by Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), or Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE).

Eligible producers under ELAP may receive assistance for losses that occur on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011. Eligible losses include feed losses, physical losses and additional costs incurred in providing feed to eligible livestock. Losses due to drought are not eligible.

Physical losses of honey bees and honey bee hives lost due to adverse weather or natural occurrence are eligible under ELAP. Producers will be required to provide documentation of beginning and ending inventory of honey bee colonies when claiming a physical loss of honey bees or honey bee hives.

To be eligible for assistance under ELAP, the producer must have purchased or be enrolled in the following for the year of the qualifying loss:

- A plan of crop insurance administered by RMA of at least catastrophic (CAT) level for all insurable crops on all farms.
- And/or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all non-insurable crops on all farms.

### **ELAP Assistance for Wolf-Related Livestock Losses**

Wolf depredation has been approved as an eligible loss condition under ELAP for livestock death losses occurring on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.

Although the majority of livestock loss in Wyoming cannot be attributed to wolf depredation, eligible producers that can provide verifiable evidence of livestock death loss due to wolves may be compensated through the ELAP program. Verifiable documentation may include, but are not limited to documentation from USDA Wildlife Services, reimbursement documentation from Wyoming Game and Fish, verifiable loss or reimbursement documents from private activist organizations. **Producers must have documentation from an expert wildlife death investigator in order to have an approvable application.**

### **Grasshoppers Approved As a Qualifying Loss for ELAP**

Due to the severe grasshopper infestation in crop year 2009, Sheridan and Johnson counties have been approved for feed loss and grazing loss under the ELAP program.

### **Signup Deadline**

Late filed notices-of-loss and applications for payment are now being accepted for the 2008 and 2009 ELAP program, including Wolf-related livestock losses and 2009 grasshopper losses. An application deadline has not yet been established, however, our office is encouraging producers with 2008 and 2009 losses to contact FSA right away. The deadline for 2008 and 2009 livestock losses will be announced after the final rule is published in the Federal Register. After the final rule is published, producers will have only 14 days to report 2008 and 2009 livestock losses.

If you have questions regarding the ELAP program, please contact your local FSA office for further information.

**FSA Payment Record 1099-G:** *Producers who have received payments from FSA should have received a CCC-1099-G. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to producers during the previous calendar year. The CCC-1099-G is to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.*

When the CCC-1099-G is received, it should be checked with your records to see that the amounts are correct. If you have questions concerning the 1099-G refund information, contact your local FSA office for assistance.

**SURE:** Currently applications for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) are being taken for the 2008 Crop Year. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that were incurred starting in the crop year 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops of economic significance in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

**DCP Signup Continues:** Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until June 1, 2010. FSA will not accept late-filed applications.

FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payments for a commodity are only issued if the effective price for a commodity is below the commodity's target price.

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service will save you time, reduce paperwork and speed up contract processing at FSA offices. It is available to anyone eligible to participate in the DCP Program. To access this on-line service, you must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

## **NON-INSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)**

**April 1 2010** is the signup deadline for producers to apply for NAP coverage. This single application closing date is for **ALL** NAP crops (spring and fall) in all counties in Wyoming.

The service fee for NAP is \$250 per crop, but not more than \$750 per producer per county, or not more than a total of \$1,875 per producer in all counties.

- **Production History**  
NAP participants for 2010 must report their 2009 crop production by **July 1, 2010** to get an approved production history (APH) established.
- **Notice of Loss**  
A Notice of Loss, CCC-576, must be filed for crop losses within 15 days of loss event or whenever the loss became apparent. Losses not reported timely could result in a loss of eligibility for payment.
- **Acreage Reports**  
NAP participants for 2010 must report the crop that was insured and all other cropland planted by **July 1, 2010**.

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1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 126  
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Postage Block

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

### Important Dates to Remember

<b>April 1, 2010</b>	<b>Application Signup Deadline for all NAP Crops</b>
<b>May 31, 2010</b>	<b>Memorial Day Holiday – Office Closed</b>
<b>June 1, 2010</b>	<b>DCP Signup Deadline</b>
<b>June 15, 2010</b>	<b>Deadline to file IRS form for AGI Verification</b>
<b>July 1, 2010</b>	<b>NAP APH Deadline</b>
<b>July 1, 2010</b>	<b>Crop Report Deadline</b>

### ***Attention Producers! It's Crop Reporting Time Again!***

Crop reporting season is fast approaching. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. Crop reports are required for LDP commodity payments, DCP contract payments, CRP payments, NAP crop loss payments, and Disaster Program payments

Crop reports, form FSA-578 Report of Acreage, must account for all rangeland and cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The deadline to timely file 2010 FSA acreage reports is **July 1, 2010**. Crop reports filed after July 1<sup>st</sup> will be charged a late-filed fee.

To accommodate producers who must travel a greater distance, our office will mail crop reports when possible. For producers who receive appointment cards in the mail, if you are unable to make the scheduled appointment please contact our office staff to reschedule a time that is convenient.

