



Sweetwater/Sublette County News

APRIL 2012

79 Winston Dr. Ste. 110
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307.362.3062
FAX: 307.362.1459

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Jim Hodder
Bob Anderson
Penny Chrisman
Pete Arambel

Office Personnel

Jennifer Dutton, CED
Bonnie Hueckstaedt, PT
Mike Hoffland, DD



MOLES:

Machinery, Operating,
Livestock, Expansion and
Starting Out Loans

Questions regarding obtaining credit to start or enlarge a farming or ranching operation; financing agricultural operating expenses; livestock and machinery purchases call:

Brian Harrell, FLM

307.856.7524

2012 CROP REPORTING

It's that time of year again; time to file your 2012 crop report. Acreage reports are required for participation in most FSA programs. The deadline for filing crop reports is **July 1, 2012.** This year we are planning off-site days to make the crop reporting process more convenient for you. You will receive an appointment card in the mail. **If you do not receive a card or miss your appointment, please call the office to schedule** a time that will work for you.

Late filed crop reports will be assessed a fee.

We will also be completing other necessary FSA paperwork at this time. We will complete 2012 eligibility paperwork, update address/bank information, NAP APH and DCP sign-up (Sweetwater only).

Watch for your appointment card for your scheduled time and date in the mail. Appointments will be held on the following dates and locations.

April 17 – Pinedale NRCS Office

May 3 – Big Piney Library

May 22 – McKinnon Weed & Pest Office

June 14 – Farson Firehall

Anytime – Rock Springs Service Center



Spring-seeded Crops – NAP Deadline Coming Up!

If you want to purchase NAP insurance on your spring-seeded crops, you must contact the County Office no later than April 1, 2012. Spring-seeded crops include barley and small grain hay crops. There are no late file provisions for purchasing NAP coverage.

Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Provisions

With the 2008 Farm Bill, came new limitations that must be met for producers to participate in USDA programs. Below is a chart that can be used as a quick reference for AGI limitations.

IF average adjusted gross....	THEN the person or legal entity is INELIGIBLE for.....
Non-farm income exceeds \$500,000	All commodity, price support and disaster assistance program benefits. Note: A person or legal entity with average adjusted gross nonfarm income that exceeds \$500,000 is not eligible for marketing loan gains and LDP payments. However, the person or entity is eligible for marketing assistance loans, but the loans must be repaid at principal plus interest or commodity certificates may be exchanged for loan collateral. Applicable programs include: DCP, ACRE, ELAP, LFP, LIP, NAP, SURE, MLG, LDP
Farm income exceeds \$750,000	Direct payments DCP
Non-farm income exceeds \$1 million	All conservation programs benefits, unless at least 66.66% of the average AGI came from farming and ranching operations.

All applicants of FSA/NRCS benefits will be required to complete AGI forms each year for participation. This includes individual members of entities (corporations, LLC, limited partnerships, trusts, estates, etc). In addition to the AGI forms, participants must also sign an IRS consent form for compliance purposes. See page 1 for more information about the IRS consent form.

Payment Limits and Direct Attribution

Program payments are limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. A legal entity is defined as an entity created under Federal or State law that owns land or an agricultural commodity, product or livestock. Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the individual, both directly and indirectly. Qualifying spouses are eligible to be considered separate person for payment limitation purposes, rather than being automatically combined under one limitation.

Program Type	Program	Limit (in dollars)
Commodity Programs	Counter-cyclical & ACRE	65,000 ^{1/}
	Direct payments	40,000 ^{2/}
Conservation Programs	CRP annual rental payment	50,000
	EQIP	300,000
	GRP, WHIP, WRP	50,000
Disaster Assistance Programs	ELAP, LFP, LIP and SURE	100,000
	NAP	100,000
	TAP	100,000

^{1/} Under ACRE, this amount will be combined limitation for counter-cyclical and ACRE payments. If a person or legal entity has a direct or indirect interest in payments earned on a farm participating in ACRE, this limitation will reflect and increase for the amount that the direct payments were reduced.

^{2/} If a person or legal entity has a direct or indirect interest in payments earn on an ACRE farm, this limitation will reflect a 20% reduction in direct payments on each ACRE farm.

Farm Reconstitutions

In program terminology, farms are constituted to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution-or recon- is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts based on the farming operation.

The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by August 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP).

- 1) *Estate method* – the division of bases, allotments & quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate.
- 2) *Designation of Landowner method* – may be used when 1, part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; 2, an entire farm is sold to 2 or more persons; 3, farm ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons; 4, part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; 5, a tract is sold to 2 or more persons; or 6, tract ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons. In order to use theism ethos the land sold must have been owned for at least 3 years or a waiver granted and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding.
- 3) *DCP cropland method* – the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract
- 4) *Default method* – the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintain the bases attributed to the tract level with the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

If DCP direct payments have already been made, the reconstitution will be effective for the next crop year, unless payments are refunded to FSA.



Protect Yourself as a Buyer of Ag Products



It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's office to determine if there are liens against the product seller. If a lien exists, you are required to place the lien holder's name on the check in addition to the seller's name. Ag products include, but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), feed crops (hay silage, oats etc), machinery, equipment and all other crops. *Failure to place a lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the product buyer. Protect yourself! You may contact the Secretary of State's office at 307.777.7311.*



DCP/ACRE Erosion & Cover Requirements

If a farm has non-planted cropland that supports DCP base acres, those fields must be protected from wind and water erosion. Weed control measures may have to be implemented to assure program compliance.

If erosion problems exist, the County Committee has the authorization to require treatments such as planting a cover crop or emergency tillage.

Weed control on DCP acres is required to prevent the spread of weeds. Control measures must be implemented timely to achieve the most effective control of weed growth.

If the COF becomes aware of any potential violations of this rule, we will contact the applicable producers informing them of steps that must be taken in order to be in compliance.





**Sweetwater/Sublette County
Farm Service Agency**
79 Winston Dr. Ste. 110
Rock Springs, WY 82901



United States
Department of
Agriculture

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2012 Crop Reporting

2012 Crop Reporting Sign-up

April 17 – Pinedale NRCS

May 3 – Big Piney Library

May 22 – McKinnon Weed/Pest

June 14 – Farson Firehall

Spring-seeded NAP deadline



WHAT'S AROUND THE CORNER

April 1 – NAP purchase deadline; spring seeded crops
15 days after apparent – Deadline to file NAP losses (hay & grazing)
Anytime – abnormal weather conditions including drought, flood etc.
Anytime – abnormal livestock losses

****You can now receive news, deadlines and bulletins electronically.
 Sign up for GovDelivery at www.fsa.usda.gov ****



for your crop reporting appointment card in the mail!

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