



# NEWSLETTER



## Washakie/Hot Springs FSA Office

January 2012

**Sherri McMillan, CED**  
208 Shiloh Road  
Worland, WY 82401

/s/ *Sherri McMillan*

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### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Washakie/Hot Springs County Staff

Lisa Bower  
Teresa Shelton

### Farm Loan Manager

Bill Morrison

### County Committee

Kate Propp  
Matt Brown  
Dan Rice  
Steven Snyder  
Bruce Thurgood

## Farm Program Information

### 2012 Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Agriculture Conservation Revenue Enhancement (ACRE) Signup

Signup for the 2012 DCP/ACRE enrollment begins January 23, 2012. Advance payments are not authorized. Please call for an appointment. June 1, 2011, is the deadline for all ACRE and DCP participants. Deputy Administrator Farm Programs has authorized a late file DCP Contract enrollment period through August 1.

### The ACRE Option

The Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. In exchange for participating in ACRE, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

### Acreage Reports

The FSA Office will take wheat crop reports. Please bring in your planting dates when reporting your crops. While applying for the 2012 DCP, we will collect information from your crops planted.

## NAP Deadline

Producers should apply for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage using form CCC-471 (Application for Coverage). Related service fees are due when the application is filed. The application and service fee MUST be filed by the crop sales closing date. FSA has two closing dates for 2012. December 1 for biennial and perennial forage crops, regardless of the intended use and April 1, 2012 for all other crops.

NAP is for crops that you cannot insure with crop insurance. It provides coverage at 50 percent of the approved production history for the crop. It will pay at 55 percent of the average price for the crop.

## County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to Kate Propp. Kate was re-elected to represent farmers from Local Administrative Area #2 on the county committee. Kate was elected to her third term. The election results for Local Administrative Area 2 are: Kate Propp — Elected to the county committee (COC) and John Scheurman — 1<sup>st</sup> alternate to COC.

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.

## **Disaster Programs**

### Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program

Signup for the SURE Program for 2010 crop losses started on November 14, 2011. Please call for an appointment. The signup goes through June 1, 2012. SURE is available to eligible producers on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year. (Laramie County is eligible for the 2010 crop year as a bordering county received a Disaster Designation.)
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than the normal production of the farm.

At a minimum, to be eligible for the SURE Program, the producer must have purchased or be enrolled in the following for the 2010 crop year:

- A plan of crop insurance 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.

Note: RMA crop Insurance or NAP coverage on grazing land does not have to be purchased in order to be eligible for SURE. SURE does not pay for losses on crops intended for grazing.

In order to receive payments, the farm must suffer at least a 10% eligible production loss on at least one crop of economic significance. Producers with qualifying losses are eligible to receive 60% of the difference between the SURE Disaster Program Guarantee and the actual farm revenue.

The Disaster Program Guarantee is determined by totaling the calculated guarantee for each crop. For insured crops, the guarantee is based on the level of coverage the producer has elected.

The Total Farm Revenue calculation includes estimated crop value, Crop Insurance Indemnities, NAP payments, Marketing Assistance Loans / LDP, other disaster payments, and DCP payments (15% of Direct Payments plus Counter-cyclical payments and ACRE payments).

## **Administrative Information**

### Controlled Substance Violations

Persons convicted of planting, cultivating, growing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance in any crop year shall be ineligible for Federal program benefits during the crop year of conviction and the four succeeding crop years.

### Agriculture Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA)

AFIDA requires foreign persons or entities who acquire, transfer, or hold a 5 percent or greater interest in agriculture land or who gross \$1000 or more from any agriculture land report this information to the Secretary of Agriculture. The information must be reported within 90 days. This information must be reported to the local FSA office.

### Reasonable Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairments, or hearing impairment. Please call this office if assistance is needed.

### Direct Deposit Changes

Remember to notify FSA if you have changed bank accounts or your bank ownership has changed. Payments are made by direct deposit to the bank account FSA has on file. Payments are delayed if you have made changes and you have not informed FSA.

### Farm Changes

As always you are required to notify our office of any changes in your farming operation for 2012. Did you buy some new land? Are you renting different land or have your shares changed for 2012? Do you have a new address? Did you form a new entity? Producers are responsible for notifying FSA of any changes regarding your farming operation.

### IRS Form 1099-G

Producers annually receive their CCC-1099-G forms detailing payments producers have received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on the CCC-1099-G form is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the producers' responsibilities to report income to IRS. FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy.

### GovDelivery

Farmers and ranchers in WY now have a more efficient, timely option for receiving important FSA program eligibility requirements, deadlines and related information.

FSA is now offering free online communications through our GovDelivery electronic news service. News will now be sent via e-mail right to your home or farm office or to your Smartphone – allowing you to receive immediate notification of farm program news that is pertinent to your agricultural operation.

Through FSA's GovDelivery electronic news service, producers can establish subscriber preferences by choosing to receive federal farm program information by topic, by state and/or by county. Producers can select as many subscriber options as they want, which allows producers who farm in multiple counties or across state lines to receive updates from each county in which they operate or have an interest.

If, after using this online system, producers no longer wish to receive hardcopy newsletters from their local county office, they should contact the office and make their preferences known. GovDelivery will enable FSA to keep producers better informed and allow us to conserve resources and reduce taxpayer expenses associated with the preparation, printing and distribution of hardcopy newsletters.

To begin using GovDelivery, subscribe online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe> or contact your local office for subscription assistance.

### **Crop Loan / LDP Information**

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) will be available if posted county price goes below the loan rate. To date there are no LDP's available for all crops including wool. CCC-633 EZ forms need to be filed for the 2012 program year to be eligible for LDP's, should they become a reality. The last day to file for 2011 wool LDP's is January 31, 2012. Eligible producers must have beneficial interest in the pelts, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter.

Crop Loans are available for program crops and oilseed crops harvested in 2011. Nine-month commodity loans can be made to eligible producers. The current interest rate for loans disbursed in December was 1.125 percent for farm-stored or warehouse stored commodities. The office is required to do a lien search on all loans in excess of \$50,000 and when the loan is determined to be at risk.

Producers with average adjusted gross nonfarm income that exceeds \$500,000 are not eligible for a marketing loan gain or an LDP.

Marketing loan gains or LDP's will no longer be limited. (There is no limit on the total dollar amount of LDP's.)

Actively engaged determinations are not required for producers requesting MAL or LDP.

CCC will no longer require the execution of UGRSA in storage facilities that are either of the following: federally licensed or state licensed with an operating warehouse licensing program.

It is the producer's responsibility to maintain the quality of the grain in storage.

Both husband and wife must sign the loan document. A notarized or FSA witnessed FSA Power of Attorney Form, FSA-211, may be filed giving the husband and/or wife authority to sign for each other.

Measurement services are available to measure the grain in your storage facility. The cost is \$30 per farm plus \$16 per hour / \$8 for every 30 minutes after the first hour with a minimum charge of 1 hour. Fees must be paid for the measurement before the loan check can be disbursed. **We strongly recommend that producers get a measurement service to avoid penalties for overstating grain in storage.**

Please call the office for more information if you are interested. The loan process does take some time and will be done by appointment only.

Washakie/Hot Springs County FSA Office  
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PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID

### Payment Eligibility

Before producers can receive payments, each producer must satisfy all other program or payment eligibility requirements including, but not limited to, filing a new farm operating plan or certify to no changes on form CCC-902 E for an entity or form CCC-902 I for an individual, adjusted gross income certification form CCC-931 and an AD-1026 certifying the farm is following an approved conservation system.

### Farm Loan Information

#### Attention all Buyers of Agricultural 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 Seller of the product. If a lien is found you are required to place the lien holders name on the check as well as that of the Seller. Ag Products include but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment and all other crops. Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the Buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a Buyer! You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at 1-307-777-7311.

### Dates To Remember

January 16	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – Office Closed
January 23	DCP Signup starts....Please call for an appointment.
January 31	Last Day to file a Wool LDP for 2011
February 20	Presidents Day Holiday – Office Closed

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.