



Lincoln County FSA Updates

Fall is in full swing and farmers and ranchers are readying for the coming winter months. As losses become apparent for grazing or crop production, be sure to let your county office or local committee member know about the challenges that you are facing, some programs require authorization for counties to hold signups. Additionally we will be sending notification for your Fall Crop Reporting appointment soon. This would be an ideal time to take care of business and purchase NAP coverage for 2014 if desired and bring in bale counts for 2013 production!

Lincoln County FSA Office

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Phone: 307-886-9001
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2013 NAP Losses

For those of you with a NAP crop policy - you are reminded that if you suffer a crop loss, you must complete a Notice of Loss form (CCC-576) with this office no later than 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence (such as hail, flood, etc.) or from the date that damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent. When a loss is sustained an appraisal may be required to ensure that you are receiving the best benefit from your policy. **Appraisals must be performed prior to grazing!**

County Executive Director: Dee Harbach

County Committee Elections

This year's County Committee Election is being held for the Upper Valley Administrative Area, where Blair Hillstead is currently serving as the representative to county committee.

Program Technicians: Suellen Bagley Kresta Hedges

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters on November 4th. Instructions for voting will be included. Completed ballots must be returned to the county office or postmarked by December 2nd. Ballots will be counted on December 6th at 9 AM. Please take time to vote and select your representative on the County Committee. Newly elected committee members and alternates will take office January 1, 2014.

Farm Loan Manager: Brian Harrell Phone: 307-856-7524

Next County Committee Meeting: September, 17th, 2013 at 9:00 AM

NAP Loss Adjuster Training

Anyone interested in becoming a certified Loss Adjuster for the USDA, can contact the Lincoln County FSA Office for training opportunities. We have a shortage of adjusters and are looking for interested individuals. We are providing a hybrid training through the county office in conjunction with accompanying certified adjusters on how to conduct appraisals.

County Committee Members: Blair Hillstead Jason Thornock Chad Dana Trudi Julian

Weather Service Training

The National Weather Service in Riverton will conduct a free class for those interested in measuring and reporting snowfall and summer rainfall. The one-hour long training class will take place at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 24, at the South Lincoln Training and Event Center. Anyone with an interest in reporting snow and precipitation amounts year round is invited to attend.

The NWS is looking to significantly increase the number of people who report snowfall and rain totals in and around Kemmerer and south Lincoln County. Trained observers will be asked to provide snowfall and precipitation reports in support of the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network, or CoCoRaHS. The NWS, state climatologist, and other governmental agencies utilize CoCoRaHS as a central location to obtain quality precipitation reports from trained volunteers.

The reports are used by meteorologists to make better weather forecasts and by other agencies to forecast snowmelt runoff and even air quality. "These volunteers provide highly reliable and accurate ground truth reports," said meteorologist Trevor LaVoie of the NWS Riverton office. "The observations enable us to be sure weather forecasts are on track and determine unique small-scale snowfall patterns."

The network, which originated at the Colorado Climate Center at Colorado State University, is now active in all 50 states and Canada with thousands of volunteer observers. These trained volunteers provide daily precipitation reports using an online reporting interface. For weather and spotter information visit the local National Weather Service website at <http://www.weather.gov/riverton> or call the Riverton office at 1-800-211-1448.

2014 Acreage Reporting Dates

Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses can prevent loss of many FSA program benefits and is a requirement of many of FSA programs.

Please note the following acreage reporting deadlines:

Perennial Forage, Perennial Rangeland Forage (PRF), Native Range, Fall Wheat and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains -November 15, 2013

Spring Barley, Corn, Forage Seeding, Spring Oats, Spring Wheat, and all other crops not listed - July 15, 2014

Drought Contingency Plan Workshops for USFS and BLM Permittees

The Wyoming Department of Agriculture will be hosting a series of workshops across the state to help USFS and BLM permittees develop drought contingency plans for their grazing permits. The workshops will be held in eight communities across Wyoming during September and October, 2013. Partners for this project include the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, the Wyoming Association of Conservation District, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service and the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service.

The goals of the workshops are to help participants understand the role drought contingency plans play with respect to their grazing permit and the importance of developing a plan. Participants will also learn about improving dialogue with federal agencies and better understanding the financial impacts of proactive planning for drought by comparing cost-savings of contingency plan to costs for emergency feed, transportation, etc. Presentations and panel discussions will provide an opportunity to hear from other permittees about best management practices and resources in their own region to help address these issues.

Agenda topics will include:

- The financial impacts of proactive drought planning
- Basic components of drought contingency plans including sample plans, agency policies and other factors to consider
- Communication strategies between permittees and federal agencies
- What's in your agency file?
- Panel presentations featuring local agency staff and permittees discussing effective drought contingency strategies
- Learn more about the resources in your area to address range management and monitoring assistance, technical expertise, the roles of your local Cooperative Extension Service and Conservation Districts, and more

More information about the workshops is available on the WDA website at <http://wyagric.state.wy.us/divisions/nrp/mediation-program/drought-workshops>. If you'd like more information, contact Lucy Pauley by phone (307) 777-8788 or email lucy.pauley@wyo.gov. The workshops are made possible in part by a grant from the Western Center for Risk Management, through work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2010-49200-06203.

Workshop Dates (all programs run from 2:00 – 5:30 p.m.)

September 24: Rawlins – Carbon County Library

September 26: Douglas – Wyoming State Fairgrounds

October 1: Buffalo- Johnson County Library

October 2: Sundance – Crook County Library

October 15: Worland – Worland Community Center Complex

October 16: Lander – Fremont County Library

October 22: Pinedale – Sublette County Library

October 23: Kemmerer – Lincoln County Library

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(866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).