Campbell County November Updates - November 29th, 2023

Farm Service Agency | Natural Resources Conservation Service | Risk Management Agency

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# **Message From the County Office**

### **NAP Information**

Producers with NAP coverage in 2023 are urged to report their harvested production. FSA can supply maps for you to record your harvested production on a field-by-field basis. Timely and accurately reporting these yields is key to your farm's Actual Production History (APH) and indemnity payments. Producers with no harvested production must have an appraisal completed prior to grazing the acreage. Failure to do this will result in a reduced indemnity payment.



# Interested in NAP for 2024?

In order to potentially receive benefits in 2024 you must be enrolled in NAP and have purchased coverage for the eligible crop you produce in which a loss occurred due to a qualifying natural disaster. **December 1, 2023** is the final day to enroll fall seeded crops, perennial forage and honey for the 2024 program year.

#### **NAP Service Fees**

NAP offers varying levels of coverage, from 50 to 65 percent of expected production in 5 percent increments. Buy-up levels of NAP coverage are available if the producer can show at least one year of previously successfully growing the crop for which coverage is being requested. For all coverage levels, the NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Beginning, limited resource and targeted underserved farmers or ranchers remain eligible for a waiver of NAP service fees and premium reduction when they file form CCC-860, "Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource and Beginning Farmer or Rancher Certification."

# **Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)**

Producers who will be shearing or who have shorn their sheep and are interested in receiving a wool LDP, must sign the CCC-633EZ page 1, prior to losing beneficial interest. If you have already signed page 1, you will be required to furnish the following information on the CCC-633EZ to receive an LDP:

- 1. Certified or production evidence of wool weights with receipts
- 2. Flock size, which includes the number of ewes, yearlings and rams shorn
- 3. Shearing date
- 4. The breed of your sheep.

# **Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP)**



### **ELAP Assistance for Hail Damaged Grazing Land**

Numerous hailstorms in the county have caused widespread damage to grazing land. The Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) provides emergency assistance to eligible producers for grazing losses that are not covered under other crop disaster programs, such as NAP.

To be considered an eligible livestock grazing loss because of hail, the following conditions must be met:

- Producers must have removed livestock from the hail-affected pasture or fed additional livestock feed above normal quantities, required to maintain the livestock until additional feed becomes available
- Grazing losses must be claimed on a field-by-field basis; therefore, only the pasture type and acres affected by hail can be claimed.

FSA requires that an applicant provides livestock inventory numbers, as specific animal types will be converted to animal unit (AU) equivalents as part of the grazing loss calculation. In addition, producers must provide verifiable or reliable documentation of feed fed above normal quantities and/or proof of removing the livestock from the effected pasture.

## **ELAP Assistance for Feed & Livestock Transportation**

Did you have to purchase feed after May 1 above what you would normally purchase? Contact the Campbell County FSA office at 307-682-8843 ext 2 to inquire about ELAP Livestock & Feed Transportation. This program has been offered for the past two years and is available for feed purchases and livestock transportation through the end of December 2023.



# **Eligibility for Elections for the 2023 County Committee**

Elections for USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Campbell County Committee are underway.

It is important that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the USDA. The 2023 election in Campbell County will be conducted for the representative Local Administrative Area (LAA): LAA 3, the towns south of Interstate 90. Customers can identify which LAA they or their farming operation is in by using our new GIS locator tool available at <a href="fsa.usda.gov/elections">fsa.usda.gov/elections</a>.

To be eligible to vote in the elections, a person must:

- Be of legal voting age or, if not of legal voting age, supervise and conduct the farming operation of an entire farm.
- Have an interest in a farm or ranch as either:

- An individual who meets one or more of the following:
  - Is eligible and capable to vote in one's own right.
  - Is a partner of a general partnership.
  - Is a member of a joint venture.
- Participate or cooperate in any FSA program that is provided by law. A cooperating producer is someone who has provided information about their farming or ranching operation(s) but may not have applied or received FSA program benefits.

The candidate for this year's election is Gwen Geis.

Gwen Geis is nominated in LAA#3, Campbell County, to serve as COC member for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2024. Gwen resides in LAA#3, and has produced cattle, sheep and crops for forty years.

Gwen is an active member of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and has served as past president of the American National Cattlewomen, Wyoming CattleWomen, Campbell County CattleWomen, Campbell County Wool Growers Association, and has recently been appointed to the Wyoming Stock Growers Association as Region 2 Director. In addition, she has served as past vice president of the Wyoming Stockgrowers Association.

County committee election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning Nov. 6, 2023. The last day to return completed ballots to the Campbell County FSA office is Dec. 4, 2023.

For more information on FSA county committees, visit: fsa.usda.gov/elections.

# **Assistance for Distressed Farm Loan Program Borrowers**

The Inflation Reduction Act provided \$3.1 billion for USDA to provide relief for distressed borrowers with certain Farm Service Agency (FSA) direct and guaranteed loans and to expedite assistance for those whose agricultural operations are at financial risk.

Since October 2022, USDA has provided approximately \$1.5 billion in immediate assistance to more than 25,000 financially distressed direct and guaranteed FSA loan borrowers.

FSA is currently accepting and reviewing individual requests for assistance from borrowers who took certain extraordinary measures to avoid delinquency on their direct FSA loans and those who missed a recent installment or who are unable to make their next scheduled installment.

FSA direct loan borrowers with qualifying farm loans who are unable to pay their upcoming installments or have already missed a recent installment payment can request a cash flow analysis from FSA using a recent balance sheet and operating plan to determine their eligibility. This assistance is currently limited to installments due Aug. 1, 2022, through Jan. 15, 2024.

Assistance is also available for borrowers who took certain extraordinary measures between Feb. 28, 2020, through Oct. 18, 2022, to avoid delinquency on their loans, such as monetizing long term or essential assets, incurring additional non-FSA debt, or deferring other essential payment, resulting in reduced farm and household viability.

All requests for assistance must be received by Dec. 31, 2023. For more information, or to submit a request for assistance, producers can contact their local USDA Service Center or visit farmers.gov/inflation-reduction-investments/assistance

# **Important Deadlines**

December 1st: Deadline to Purchase NAP insurance for 2024 December 25th: Office Closed in Observance of Christmas Day January 1st, 2024: Office Closed in Observance of New Years Day



# **Campbell County USDA Service Center**

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**FSA Staff** 

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# **FSA County Committee:**

Gwen Geis - Chairperson Jake Boller- Vice-Chairperson Rori Coates- Member

# **NRCS Staff**

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# **Campbell County Conservation District:**

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Next County Committee Meeting December 13th, 2023