



NEWSLETTER



March 2023

Laramie County FSA
11221A US Hwy 30
Cheyenne, WY 82009

(307) 772-2314 ext. 2
Fax: 855-415-3429

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

Upcoming Office Closures:
May 29th – Memorial Day

Farm Service Agency Staff:
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Theron Anderson
Dave Bowman
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307-322-4050
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Next COC Meeting:
TBD

A monthly bulletin is also sent out through email. Please contact the office if you would like to start receiving them.

Thank you for everything you do for agriculture!

USDA Announces Conservation Reserve Program Signup for 2023

Agricultural producers and private landowners can begin applying for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General signup starting **February 27 through April 7, 2023**. CRP is a cornerstone voluntary conservation program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and a key tool in the Biden-Harris administration's effort to address climate change and help agricultural communities invest in the long-term well-being of their land and natural resources.

Producers and landowners enrolled more than 5 million acres into CRP through signups in 2022, building on the acceptance of more than 3.1 million acres in the largest Grassland CRP signup in history. There are currently 23 million acres enrolled in CRP, with 1.9 million set to expire this year. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is aiming to reach the 27-million-acre cap statutorily set for fiscal year 2023.

General CRP

General CRP helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Additionally, General CRP includes a Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to help increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping producers and landowners establish trees and permanent grasses, enhance wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands.

Grassland CRP

FSA will announce the dates for Grassland CRP signup in the coming weeks. Grassland CRP is a working lands program, helping landowners and operators protect grassland, including rangeland and pastureland and certain other lands, while maintaining the areas as working grazing lands. Protecting grasslands contributes positively to the economy of many regions, provides biodiversity of plant and animal populations, and provides important carbon sequestration benefits to deliver lasting climate outcomes.

How to Sign Up

Landowners and producers interested in CRP should contact their local USDA Service Center to learn more or to apply for the program before their deadlines.

Producers with expiring CRP acres can use the Transition Incentives Program (TIP), which incentivizes producers who sell or enter a long-term lease with a beginning, veteran, or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher who plans to sustainably farm or ranch the land.

More Information

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits.

Rolling Out Revenue Based Disaster and Pandemic Assistance Programs

Beginning January 23, 2023, agricultural producers can begin to apply for two new important programs for revenue losses, from 2020 and 2021 natural disasters or the COVID-19 pandemic. Both programs equitably fill gaps in earlier assistance.

First, you may be eligible for assistance through the Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase Two if you experienced revenue losses from eligible natural disasters in 2020 and 2021. ERP Phase Two is for producers who didn't receive assistance from ERP Phase One.

You may also be eligible for the Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP) if you experienced revenue losses in calendar year 2020. PARP is addressing gaps in previous pandemic assistance, which was targeted at price loss or lack of market access, rather than overall revenue losses.

Applications for both new programs are due June 2, 2023, and you can apply for both programs during your same appointment with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA).

Historically, FSA programs have been designed to make direct payments to producers based on a single disaster event or for a single commodity loss. For many of you, this may be the first revenue-based program that you've applied for with FSA.

Why revenue-based programs?

ERP Phase Two and PARP take a much more holistic approach to disaster assistance, ensuring that producers not just make it through a single growing season but have the financial stability to invest in the long-term well-being of their operations and employees.

In general, ERP Phase Two payments are based on the difference in allowable gross revenue between a benchmark year, representing a typical year of revenue for the producer and the disaster year – designed to target the remaining needs of producers impacted by qualifying natural disasters and avoid duplicative payments. ERP Phase Two revenue loss is based on tax years.

For PARP, an agricultural producer must have been in the business of farming during at least part of the 2020 calendar year and had a decrease in revenue for the 2020 calendar year, as compared to a typical year. PARP revenue loss is based on calendar years.

How to Apply

In preparation for enrollment, producers should gather supporting documentation including:

- Schedule F (Form 1040); and
- *Profit or Loss from Farming* or similar tax documents for tax years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 for ERP and for calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020 for PARP.

Producers should also have, or be prepared to have, the following forms on file for both ERP and PARP program participation:

- Form AD-2047, *Customer Data Worksheet* (as applicable to the program participant);
- Form CCC-902, *Farm Operating Plan* for an individual or legal entity;
- Form CCC-901, *Member Information for Legal Entities* (if applicable); and
- Form AD-1026 *Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification*.
- Form CCC-860, *Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning and Veteran Farmer or Rancher Certification*, as certain existing permanent and ad-hoc disaster programs provide increased benefits or reduced fees and premiums.

Most producers, especially those who have previously participated in FSA programs, will likely have these required forms on file. However, those who are uncertain or want to confirm should contact FSA at their local USDA Service Center.

The Agricultural Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC) Programs sign-up deadline is March 15th, 2023.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

2023 Important Dates

Funding

Marketing Assistance Loans

- **Jan. 31:** for prior year harvested peanuts, wool, mohair and LDP only for unshorn pelts
- **March 31:** for prior year harvested wheat, barley, canola, crambe, flaxseed, honey, oats, rapeseed, and sesame
- **May 31:** for prior year harvested corn, cotton, soybeans and other oilseeds, rice, grain sorghum, and pulse crops

Applications for Farm Storage Facility Loans and FSA's farm loan programs are accepted year-round.

Farm Loan Programs

- Farm Operating Loans
- Farm Ownership Loans
- Microloans
- Youth Loans
- Beginning Farmer Loans

USDA also offers other funding opportunities to help farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners finance their business. Visit farmers.gov/loans for more information.

Conservation

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Signup:
February 27, 2023 to April 7, 2023

Safety Net

Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs

- 2023 Deadline: **March 15**

Dairy Margin Coverage Program

- 2023 Deadline: **Jan. 31**

Crop Insurance

Visit ma.usda.gov for crop insurance information and to find a crop insurance agent near you.

Deadlines for Laramie County Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP):

- December 1st for Grasses, perennial forage, and fall-seeded crops
- March 15th for Hemp
- April 1st for spring-seeded crops

Acres Reporting

- November 15th for fall-seeded crops
- January 15th for established alfalfa
- July 15th for spring-seeded crops, CRP and grasses

Laramie County

USDA Service Center

11221 US Hwy 30
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307-772-2314

Contact your local USDA Service Center for program availability. For more information, tools and to find your local USDA Service Center, visit



Looking for conservation solutions, a loan or just experienced a disaster?

The Conservation Concerns Tool, Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, and Farm Loans Tools on Farmers.gov can help identify the assistance you need.

Stay Connected:

Follow [@FarmersGov](https://twitter.com/FarmersGov) on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

Other Important Links:

- usda.gov
- fsa.usda.gov
- nrcs.usda.gov
- ma.usda.gov

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Dates to Remember	
March 15, 2023	Deadline to sign up for NAP for Hemp
March 15, 2023	Deadline to sign up for the ARC/PLC programs
April 1, 2023	Deadline to sign up for NAP for spring planted crops other than Hemp
April 7, 2023	Deadline to sign up for CRP General
May 29, 2023	Office closed in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday
June 2, 2023	Deadline to sign up for ERP phase two and PARP

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact Lori Meier at 307-772-2314 extension 2 or dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunication relay services.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

USDA Encourages You to Consider NAP Risk Protection Coverage Before Crop Sales Deadlines

The Farm Service Agency encourages you to examine available USDA crop risk protection options, including federal crop insurance and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage before the applicable crop sales deadline.

***Deadlines for coverage vary by state and crop.* Spring-seeded crops NAP deadline is 04/01/2023 for Laramie County.**

Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought, hail and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available. You can determine if crops are eligible for federal crop insurance or NAP by visiting the RMA website.

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. Higher coverage levels are available for an additional charge per acre.

Beginning, underserved and limited resource farmers are now eligible for free catastrophic level coverage.

Receive Text Alerts from FSA

If you would like to receive text messages regarding important program deadlines, reporting requirements, outreach events and updates from the Laramie County FSA office; text **WYLaramie** to **372-669**. Standard text messaging rates apply. Contact your wireless carrier for details associated with your particular data plan. Participants may unsubscribe at any time.