

July 2016



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## Weston County FSA Updates

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### Weston County FSA Office

1225 Washington Blvd.  
Suite 2  
Newcastle, WY 82701  
Phone: 307-746-2701  
Fax: 855-415-3437

**County Executive Director:**  
Peggy M. Livingston

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Rob Weppner

**Program Technicians:**  
Heidi Edwards

**County Committee:**  
Tim Tysdal, Chairman  
Chuck Grieves, Vice Chairman  
Randy Oleson, Member  
Robin Riesland, Minority Advisor

**Next County Committee Meeting: August 10 @ 1 p.m.**

### Livestock Forage Program (LFP) Signup

The Weston County FSA Office will be accepting applications for the Livestock Forage Program by appointment only starting July 25, 2016. The program provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses on native and/or improved pastureland with permanent cover. Weston County became eligible for the Livestock Forage Program on June 28th. Currently, livestock producers are eligible for 3 months' worth of livestock feed cost. The monthly feed cost for covered livestock is based, in part, on the number of pounds of corn equivalent per head, determined necessary to provide the energy requirements for the specific kind/type of livestock for 30 calendar days. Calculated payments will be equal to 68% of the lesser of either the monthly feed cost for all covered livestock owned or leased by the eligible livestock producer or by using the normal carrying capacity of the eligible grazing land of the eligible livestock producer. Sequestration of 6.8% will also apply. Please call the Weston County Office at 307-746-2701 to set up an appointment to complete your application.

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## Emergency Loan Program (EM)

FSA provides EM loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine. EM loans may be made to farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain credit from commercial sources and own or operate land located in a county declared by the President as a disaster area or designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as a disaster area or quarantine area. Emergency loan funds may be used to 1) restore or replace essential property, 2) pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year, 3) pay essential family living expenses, 4) reorganize the farming operation, and 5) refinance certain debts. For more information contact Rob Weppner, Farm Loan Manager at the Campbell County FSA Office at 307-682-8843, ext. 2.

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## **Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)**

At their July 13th meeting, the Weston County FSA Committee agreed to request ECP approval/funding for the county from the National Office. The Committee's decision to request was based upon the severity of the current drought and inquiries from producers for possible assistance because normal livestock water facilities have failed. If the County receives approval from the National Office, a signup period of 30 days will be announced. Depending upon the availability of funding, the practice may qualify for cost share assistance on pipelines, tanks, and wells to permit grazing of range, pasture, or forage by livestock. Only those ranches that had adequate livestock watering systems before the drought would be eligible for cost share assistance. There must be adequate range or pasture residue for livestock in the area to be served by a proposed water system at the time of the request. Please contact Weston County Office at 307-746-2701, if you have any questions.

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

On June 28th, ELAP for hauling water to livestock, became available. If you are currently hauling water or anticipate hauling water due to a failed water source (i.e. reservoir(s)) please contact the county office, as we may be able to provide assistance to you. The funding for ELAP is a National pool of money. At the end of the program year, all applications received in the nation are submitted up to the National Office. The amount of requests for funding will determine if payments will be prorated or not.

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