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HAY & PASTURE NEEDED

Folks, I am getting calls from cattlemen around Wyoming and outside the state regarding hay and pasture. These folks need all the help we can give them. The Wyoming Hay List is one resource, but I am asking for more. The UW Extension office can serve as a central contact for those looking for and those having hay or pasture. Call me if you have hay/pasture available from June 1 to Oct. You can also post it on the hay list website at <http://www.wyomingextension.org/haylist/>

A caller today from eastern Wyoming reported that he bought hay from CRP land in eastern Montana. Although his cattle needed it, he turned the truck around and sent it back because the hay was full of noxious weeds. The producer pointed out that noxious weeds are moving around the country right now due to hay shipments.

Park County is blessed with being a quarantine county regarding noxious weeds. You sell a great product. Maybe even think about selling at a fair price that might not be the highest price. The producer who called today reported that he expects no grass on his place this summer.

BLM Drought Procedures

IM 2013-094, Resource Management During Drought, is now available online at the following

link: http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/regulations/Instruction_Memos_and_Bulletins/national_instruction/2013/im_2013-094_resource.html

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) provides general guidance regarding Bureau of Land Management (BLM) program management in the face of drought. It also provides specific livestock grazing program guidance. Although this guidance is centered on the biological resource programs that have direct impacts on the long-term health of rangelands, the communication and coordination principles apply to many other resource programs as well.

EPA farm fuel tank deadline May 10, 2013

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has written the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan regulation that comes into effect on May 10, 2013 to protect waterways of the US. The new regulations apply to fuel, oil, crop oil, hydraulic oil, surfactant, adjuvant, and other materials stored on a farm or ranch. The SPCC regulations apply to any farm if an oil spill from your farm could reasonably be expected to reach water.

Many farmers and ranchers will find it simple to comply with EPA regulations while others, with larger tanks on one parcel of land, will have to hire a certified engineer and build berms/dikes.

Anyone who stores more than 1,320 gallons in above-ground tanks (55 gallons or more each) or 42,000 gallons in buried tanks on one parcel of land is subject to the regulation. Do not add together the storage capacity on different parcels you own or lease. A farm may have a plan for each parcel where storage exceeds 1,320 gallons.

Farmers must prepare an Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure plan by May 10, 2013. The plan includes requirements for measures such as security, employee training, overfill prevention (alarms), system inspection, emergency contacts, and secondary containment (dikes, remote impoundments, or double-walled tanks) if required. In many cases, farmers can write a simple plan by writing down what they already do and have in place.

Farms/ranches with 10,000 gallons or less of aboveground storage capacity; AND in the 3 years before developing and certifying your plan you had no oil spills to water larger than: 1,000 gal in a single spill OR 42 gal each from two spills within any 12-month period, AND has no above ground oil storage containers with a capacity greater than 5,000 gal are “Tier I” farms. You may use the short SPCC Plan template to create your SPCC Plan and self-certify. A sample form and a blank template for Tier I are available on the EPA website.

If your farm has 10,000 gallons or less of aboveground storage capacity; AND in the 3 years before developing and certifying your plan you had no oil spills to water larger than: 1,000 gal in a single spill OR 42 gal each from two spills within any 12-month period, then your farm is a “Tier II” farm. Create a full SPCC Plan and self-certify. A sample form and a blank template for Tier II are available on the EPA website. If the farm has an above ground tank larger than 5,000 gallons the plan must be certified by a professional engineer. Larger tanks will require emergency berms, dikes, etc.

Sign and put the plan document in your office desk drawer. This written plan must be reviewed and updated when your farm fuel equipment changes. Employee training and inspections must be logged on it. It must be reviewed at least every five years.

I have attached Tier I sample and blank forms for your use. Information for agriculture, examples of Tier I and blank templates are also available at http://www.epa.gov/osweroel/content/spcc/spcc_ag.htm .

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For further information contact UW CES Educator, Sandra Frost, at 307-754-8836 or sfrost1@uwyo.edu.

Issued in furtherance of Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Glen Whipple, Director, Extension, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82071.

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