

I would like to announce my candidacy for Alternate Area Executive for the Northwest Area of NASCOE.

I serve as the CED for the Sheridan and Johnson County FSA offices in Wyoming. I consider myself fortunate to come from a cattle ranching background. Prior to coming to FSA, I was an Agriculture and shop teacher, which was a great leadup to working here as many days feel like herding cats here too. I have been with FSA for about 8 years, starting as a COT in Colorado and then holding a few CED positions in both Colorado and Wyoming, with a wide variety of agricultural operations. In 2023 I got the opportunity to move home and took the CED position in Sheridan, Wyoming. In my spare time I enjoy fly fishing, collecting wild socks, traveling, and camping in the Big Horn Mountains in the summer with my two Corgis.

I am running for this position because I care deeply about the people within this organization and FSA county office employees. I have witnessed the dedication and service within this agency and feel the desire to serve our members through this position. My approach to leadership is grounded in a simple belief: more than one truth can exist at the same time. Progress comes from bringing those perspectives together, not dismissing them. I am committed to fostering open communication and advocating for practical solutions that support both employees and the mission we serve.

Like many of you, I've experienced the realities of our workplace: overflowing plates, growing workloads, staffing shortages, and the occasional moments where you open your email and briefly consider a new career- maybe something like lighthouse keeping. I also know that the only way things will improve is if we work together.

I am grateful for the support of my incredible team in the Sheridan-Johnson office, the dedicated county office staff in Wyoming, my DD, and of my family in my quest for this position. I would appreciate your vote to become the next Northwest Area Alternate Executive.

All the best,

Courtney Yelton