



U.S. Department of
Agriculture

Siskiyou County FSA
215 Executive Ct. Ste. C
Yreka, CA 96097
Phone (530)842-6123
Fax (530)842-1027

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

County Committee
Charle Martin – Chair
Bruce Fiock – Vice Chair
Andy Hickey - Member
Sam Hopkins – Advisor

Staff
Joe Ulics – CED
Katherine Lewis FLO
Susanna Black – PT
Alice Lycan – PT
Tammy Sullivan - PT

Dates to Remember

*At this time the Crop
Disaster Program
(CDP) and the
Livestock
Compensation
Program (LCP) do
not have a final sign
up date.*

*The office will be
closed for the
following Holidays*

Memorial Day
May 26

Independence Day
July 4th

Farm Service Agency
March 2008

Siskiyou County FSA News

2007 Livestock Compensation Program

Siskiyou County was recently approved to implement the Livestock Compensation Program for Non-irrigated pasture losses suffered in 2007. In this program livestock producers can receive a payment for drought related losses they may have suffered on non-irrigated pastures including rangeland, improved pastures, timberland, etc. Currently a final date to sign up has not been announced. Ranchers interested in this program should contact our office to set an appointment. The following information will be needed to complete an application:

1. Livestock numbers in Siskiyou County on January 1, 2007.
2. Dryland pastures with acreages, carrying capacities, normal grazing dates and estimated losses.
3. Leases

Participants will also need to complete an AD-1026, CCC-502 and CCC-526 if not done so already. Please call our office if you have any questions or to set an appointment.

Crop Disaster Program Signup

Siskiyou county farmers who suffered 2005, 2006 or 2007 crop losses , and who had purchased a NAP or Crop Insurance policy are reminded that applications for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) are currently being taken. To be eligible for CDP, farmers must have had a crop loss or quality loss in excess of 35% which was caused by adverse weather conditions and must have purchased a NAP or Risk Management Crop Insurance policy for that crop and crop year. Please call our office if you have any questions or would like to set up an appointment. A final date to sign up has not been announced yet.

Program Update

Once we receive word, we will be implementing programs associate with the Farm Bill. These programs include the DCP program, Continuous CRP, etc.

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Power of Attorney

If you're too busy getting work done around the farm to come into your local FSA office to conduct business and complete your paperwork, here's a solution. Retain an agent to act on your behalf for programs and transactions authorized under the 2002 Farm Bill and most other FSA administered programs. This can be done by completing an FSA-211, Power of Attorney. The form is available at your local USDA Service Center or on-line at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Forms must be obtained and completed outside USDA Service Centers offices must be notarize. To find out more, talk to the staff.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

Civil Rights Complaint Process

Any person, class or group of persons may file a discrimination complaint within 180 days of an alleged discriminatory action. Complaints may be filed in writing or orally with the agency head, any designated agency official or the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Assistance in filing a complaint can be obtained by calling or visiting any FSA office

Record Changes

If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA office as soon as possible after they occur. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and fines if you are participating in our program

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse. There are important exceptions to the rule. Check with the county office staff for details

FSA Farm Loans Available For Beginning Farmers or Rancher

Regular farm ownership loan are available for beginning farmers or ranchers. These loans offer financing up to \$200,000 and a maximum term of 40 years.

The interest rate is currently 5.75 percent. The rate for "limited resource producers" is 5.00 percent.

The regular farm ownership loan funds may also be used in joint financing where FSA lends up to 50 percent of the amount financed and another lender provides 50 percent or more. FSA may charge an interest rate of not less than 4 percent with terms up to 40 years.

SISKIYOU COUNTY ELIGIBLE FOR USDA EMERGENCY FARM LOANS

Farmers and ranchers in Siskiyou County are able to apply for Emergency Farm Loans through the USDA Farm Service Agency. Siskiyou County is contiguous to Shasta County which received USDA designations of emergency due to drought in 2007. The authorization from FSA to accept Emergency Loan applications under this disaster designation expires July 16, 2008. Some of the eligibility requirements for Emergency Loans are: Applicant must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of normal production directly related to drought in 2007. Applicant must be able to repay the loan and any other loans and be unable to obtain credit elsewhere. The applicant must have adequate security for the emergency loan and must purchase multi-peril crop insurance if it is available for the applicant's crops. All applicants must complete a certification of disaster losses, which reflects the exact date(s) and nature of the designated disaster and how it caused the loss or damage. Farmers and ranchers in Siskiyou County interested in Emergency Loans can contact Katherine Lewis, the FSA Farm Loan Officer for Modoc and Siskiyou Counties, at 530-842-6123.

Attention Producers, Landowners

Do you intend to clear timber areas to create or to expand existing crop areas?

Are you converting a pasture field into a crop field?

Are there any areas on your farm that you are considering cropping that have not been cropped in recent years?

Is there a wet spot in a field that you want drain to make cropping easier?

Are you disturbing a wildlife habitat area of any type?

Are you doing anything different on your farm this year?

These are highly erodible and wetlands provision questions that need to be considered each year by producers to assure that they may remain eligible for USDA benefits. If you have any question or concern that something you plan to do on your farm could jeopardize your eligibility for benefits, please contact your Natural Resources Conservation Service representative before you begin work.



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Got Computer?



Your home computer could save you time when filing for FSA programs and benefits. There are now several government programs and web sites designed to enable you to enroll in USDA programs, obtain information to improve the effectiveness of your farming operation, or track your USDA payments or account balances. Contact your local FSA office for assistance with establishing your internet access.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD)

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Ave, SW, Washington, D>C>< 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.