



NEWSLETTER



Idaho Farm Service Agency

February 2014
County Newsletter

County Offices:

Bannock

Ben Evans, CED*

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Bear Lake

Vacant, CED

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847-1264

Benewah/Kootenai

Randy Primmer, CED

900 E St, PO Box 263
Plummer 83851-0263
686-1260

Bingham

Tyler Kendall, CED

Dustin Carter, FLM*

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Blackfoot 83221-1684
785-2090

Bonneville

Megan McGuire-Watts, CED

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Idaho Falls 83401-2122
522-6250

Boundary/Bonner

6813 El Paso, PO Box 98

Bonnors Ferry 83805-8569
267-2707

Butte/S. Custer

Tony Potter, CED

125 S Water, PO Box 69
Arco 83213-0069
527-8268

WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE CONFERENCES IN IDAHO

During 2014 there are two opportunities to participate in conferences focused on Women in Agriculture. The first will be held February 22, 2014 at the Nampa Civic Center and the second will be March 15, 2014 via live telecast from Washington State University. This broadcast will be available in two Idaho locations: Idaho Falls and Bonners Ferry. You can register and find more information on their respective websites at: <http://idwomeninag.wordpress.com/> and <http://womeninag.wsu.edu/>.

MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS (MAL)

Short-term financing is available by obtaining low interest commodity loans for eligible harvested production. A nine-month Marketing Assistance Loan provides financing that allows producers to store production for later marketing. The crop may be stored on the farm or in the warehouse.

Loans are available for producers who share in the risk of producing the eligible commodity and maintain beneficial interest in the crop through the duration of the loan. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity, responsibility for loss because of damage to the commodity and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, it is ineligible for a loan, even if you regain beneficial interest.

MAINTAINING THE QUALITY OF LOANED GRAIN

Bins are ideally designed to hold a level volume of grain. When bins are overfilled and grain is heaped up, airflow is hindered and the chance of spoilage increases.

Producers who take out marketing assistance loans and use the farm-stored grain as collateral should remember that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of the grain through the term of the loan.

UNAUTHORIZED DISPOSITION OF GRAIN

If loan grain has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff, it is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized dispositions are severe and a producer's name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call before you haul any grain under loan.

EMERGENCY LOANS FOR DESIGNATED COUNTIES

Every county in Idaho, with the exception of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai and Benewah, was declared either a primary or contiguous disaster county due to natural disasters primarily drought. Under this designation, producers with operations in any primary or contiguous county are eligible to apply for low interest emergency loans.

Emergency loans help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding and other natural disasters or quarantine.

Producers have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000.

For more information about emergency loans, please contact your local FSA office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

Canyon/Ada/Owyhee
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454-8696

Caribou
Chad Bybee, CED
390 E Hooper, Soda Springs
83276
547-4396

Cassia
Cary Curtis, CED
1351 E 16th St
Burley 83318-2406
678-1157

Elmore
Jeff Groat, CED
795 S Haskett
Mtn. Home 83647-3378
587-3303

Franklin
Layne Peterson, CED
Todd Tueller, FLM
98 E 800 N, Ste 2
Preston 83263-5388
852-0482

Fremont
Tauna Saurey, CED
1210 S. Industrial Park Road
St Anthony 83445-5014
624-7391

Gem/Boise/Valley
Jeff Groat, CED
1805 Highway 16, Ste 4
Emmett 83617-9076
365-3527

Gooding/Camas
Harold Boggs, CED
820 Main St, Gooding 83330
934-8472

Idaho
Julie Fowler, CED
102 South Hall
Grangeville 83530
983-1050

Jefferson/Clark
Lisa Eaton, CED
210 S. 5th West
Rigby 83442-5219
745-6664

FSA ALLOWS LENDERS TO USE EVALUATIONS INSTEAD OF APPRAISALS FOR LOANS OF \$250,000 OR LESS

Lenders that originate Farm Service Agency (FSA) guaranteed loans may now use internal real estate “collateral evaluations” to support loan requests of \$250,000 or less, rather than appraisals.

This policy change will allow lenders more flexibility and a faster underwriting process, and is consistent with industry standards.

Lenders must follow their regulator’s “Interagency Appraisal and Evaluation Guidelines” and apply these same policies to FSA guaranteed loans as non-guaranteed loans. In addition, lenders should request an appraisal when they would do so for unguaranteed loans even if the loan is under the threshold, such as when the expected loan-to-value is above their established standards.

A description of the method of establishing the real estate value – whether appraisal or evaluation – needs to be described to FSA in their credit presentation.

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

The noninsured crop disaster assistance program (NAP) is a federally funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed. These benefits are only available for crops for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is not available. Application for coverage must be filed by the applicable crop’s application closing date.

Production records for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than the acreage reporting date for the crop for the following year. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to Agency specifications. NAP Losses must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event or when loss becomes apparent.

MICROLOAN PROGRAM

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan (ML) program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of beginning, niche and small family farm operations.

FSA offers applicants a Microloan designed to help farmers with credit needs of \$35,000 or less. The loan features a streamlined application process built to fit the needs of new and smaller producers. This loan program will also be useful to specialty crop producers and operators of community supported agriculture (CSA).

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses. As financing needs increase, applicants can apply for a regular operating loan up to the maximum amount of \$300,000 or obtain financing from a commercial lender under FSA’s Guaranteed Loan Program.

Individuals who are interested in applying for a microloan or would like to discuss other farm loan programs available should contact their local FSA office to set up an appointment with a loan official.

Jerome/Lincoln/Blaine
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Beth Sant, FLM
310 W. Nez Perce Ave.
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324-4325

Latah
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882-4960

Lemhi/N. Custer
Tony Potter, CED
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756-4262

Lewis/Clearwater
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937-2291

Madison
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Curtis Warner, FLM
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Rexburg, ID 83440-5307
356-5701

Minidoka
Nick Treasure, CED
Kelli Bott, FLM
98 "C" S 200 West
Rupert 83350-9133
436-4777

Nez Perce
Tricia Uhlenkott, CED
Bardell Faux, FLM
1630 23rd Ave, Ste 1201
Lewiston 83501-6350
746-9621

Oneida
Kim Jenkins, CED
137 N. 100 West
Malad City 83252-1236
766-4719

RURAL YOUTH LOANS

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

- Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:
- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above

Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

Note: The requirement to reside in a city with population less than 50,000 has been removed.

Power
Deb Duba, CED
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American Falls 83211-5418
226-5139

Teton
Bart Linderman, CED
275 Old Railroad Way, Driggs 83422
354-2680

Twin Falls
Lance Phillips, CED
1441 Filmore, Ste B
Twin Falls 83301-3380
733-5380

Washington/Adams/Payette
Kim Royer, CED
849 E 9th St, Weiser 83672
549-428

Dates to Remember	
March 17	NAP deadline for Spring-planted crops excluding mixed forage

Selected Interest Rates for February 2014	
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.00%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	4.25%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency Loans	3.00%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 years)	2.375%