



## May 2011

### Jefferson/Clark FSA

Service Center  
210 S 5<sup>th</sup> W

Rigby ID 83442

Phone: (208) 745-6664

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#### Hours:

Monday – Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

#### CED:

Ben Evans

#### Staff:

Lisa Eaton, PT  
Joy Lopez, PT  
Elaine Roker, PT

#### County Committee:

Lee Burtenshaw  
George Ellsworth  
Robert McCulloch  
Kevin Small  
Andy Wagoner

#### Advisor:

Susan Stewart

#### Jefferson/Clark County Committee

#### Meetings dates:

June 14, 2011  
September 13, 2011  
December 12, 2011

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## DCP & ACRE Signup Deadline June 1<sup>st</sup>

**DCP Program** Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue until **June 1, 2011**. It is the responsibility of the farm operator to get all the required signatures back to the Office by 4:30 PM on June 1<sup>st</sup>. All returned contracts being mailed must be postmarked by June 1<sup>st</sup> or will be ineligible regardless of the date of signature. Faxed signatures must be received by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ACRE Program** The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program deadline is **June 1, 2011**. Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to traditional Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. Producers in ACRE will receive a 20% reduction in direct payments and a 30% reduction in loan rates. Also, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments.

A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program through the 2012 crop year, the last crop year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill.

## ACRE Proven Production Deadline!!!

For Producers enrolled in ACRE for 2010 you have until July 15<sup>th</sup> to provide production for crop years 2005 – 2010.

*Failure to provide production or request the county average yield will make you ineligible for the ACRE/Direct and ACRE Payment (if applicable) for 2010.*

## Crop Reporting Deadline!!!!

The acreage reporting deadline is **June 30<sup>th</sup>**. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs including DCP/ACRE and CRP.

Crops that are not reported to the FSA office by June 30<sup>th</sup> will be subject to late-filed provisions that include inspection fees for each farm.

Crops planted after June 30<sup>th</sup> has 15 days where they can still be reported to FSA without late-filed provisions & fees being assessed.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.



## Form CCC-927/928 to IRS – Deadline!!!

Did you Receive Payments from FSA or NRCS for 2010? If you want to keep the money you must submit forms to the IRS by **June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011**.

Form CCC-927 (individuals) or CCC-928 (Entity including Trusts) will be verified by the IRS that your Adjusted Gross Income you certified to is correct. FSA receives only a yes or no answer, (no tax information is received).

These forms are available online or at your

local FSA Office.

## ***SURE Signup***

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) ends July 29, 2011. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. This requirement does not apply to crops that are not of economic significance or where the administrative fee for the NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the crop coverage.

A farm enrolled in SURE is eligible when either:

- a portion of the farm is located in a county covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration (USDA Secretarial Declarations only) or a contiguous county; or,
- the actual production is less than 50% of the normal production.

Clark County qualifies because of the first bullet; they are contiguous with a qualifying Montana County.

## ***Nominations sought to fill the FSA County Committee Ballots***

For the purpose of county committee (COC) elections, counties are divided into local administrative areas, more commonly referred to as LAAs. Each LAA is represented on the committee by one producer who is elected by all active producers in that LAA and serves a three-year term. Single counties are divided into three LAAs and combined counties may have from three to five LAAs. Each year an election is held in an LAA to replace or re-elect the committee member whose three-year term is expiring. This year LAA #2 and #4 will be conducting elections. LAA #2 is that area East of I-15 & South of Hwy 22 in Clark Co. LAA #4 is that area South of Hwy 33 and west and north of the Snake River in Jefferson County.

Nominees must complete and sign form FSA-669A, included in this newslett, or available at FSA Office, or online at: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/fsa0669a\\_commiteelectform.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_commiteelectform.pdf).

Nomination forms for the 2011 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2011.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in a FSA program may be nominated for candidacy. The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service

Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, large or small. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

County Committee (COC) members are a critical component of FSA operations. The intent is to have the COC reflect the makeup of the producers and to represent all constituents. This means wherever possible, minorities, women or socially disadvantaged producers need to be on the committee to speak for these underrepresented groups.

County committees provide local input on commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities, emergency programs and payment eligibility.

FSA county committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decision and operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal rules, regulations and laws.

### **Election Period**

June 15, 2011 – COC nomination period begins.

Aug. 1, 2011 - COC nomination forms (FSA-669A) due at the local USDA Service Center

Nov. 4, 2011 – COC ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 5, 2011 - Last day to return completed COC ballots to the USDA Service Center

Jan. 2, 2012 - Newly elected COC members take office.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria as follows:

- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate

Candidates must not have been:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or
- any other felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

For more information about county committee elections, contact the county office staff.

FSA-669A  
(03-31-11)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency

**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE</b>	
		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		5. COUNTY	
		6. LAA	7. STATE
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.			
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).	

**9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE**

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<u>ETHNICITY</u>	<u>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</u>	<u>GENDER</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM**

Complete the form as follows:

**ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

**ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.

**ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.

**ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.

**ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)

**ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**

### ***2011 Dates to Remember!***

<b>Ongoing</b>	: Continuous CRP signup
<b>May 30<sup>th</sup></b>	: Office Closed for Memorial Day
<b>May 31<sup>th</sup></b>	: Final date to request loan/LDP on 2010 crop corn, dry peas, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, safflower seed, small chickpeas, soybeans, sunflower seed
<b>June 1<sup>st</sup></b>	: Deadline to sign into DCP/ACRE
<b>June 30<sup>th</sup></b>	: Crop reporting deadline
<b>June 30<sup>th</sup></b>	: Deadline to provide production evidence for producers' with NAP Insurance
<b>July 4<sup>th</sup></b>	: Office Closed for the Independence Day
<b>July 15<sup>th</sup></b>	: Deadline to provide production evidence for producers enrolled in the ACRE Program
<b>July 29<sup>th</sup></b>	: Deadline to apply for the SURE Program for 2009 crop year losses
<b>August 1<sup>st</sup></b>	: Deadline to Request Recons for farms enrolled in DCP/ACRE
<b>September 1<sup>st</sup></b>	: Office Closed for Labor Day



### ***May 2011 Interest Rates***

2.625%	Farm Operating – direct
5.000%	Farm Ownership – Direct and Conservation Loans
1.500%	Farm Ownership – Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher
3.750%	Emergency
1.250%	Commodity Loans
2.875%	FSFL (Farm Storage Facility Loans) with 7-year loan terms
3.500%	FSFL with 10-year loan terms
3.750%	FSFL with 12-year loan terms