



**USDA
Lemhi/North Custer
County FSA
Mountain Rivers FSA
News - May 2011**

945 Riverfront Dr.
Salmon, ID 83467
208-756-4262 phone
208-756-4705 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/id

Hours

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

County Committee

Larry Whittier
Ryan Hughes
Kimberly McConnaghy
Kurt Bird

**Lemhi/North Custer County
Staff**

Tony Potter, CED
Rhonda Tewalt, PT
Dustin Carter, FLM
Curtis Warner, FLM

For farm loan questions:
Lemhi County producers call
the Rexburg office at 1-866-
805-9707

Custer County producers call
the Blackfoot office at 1-208-
785-2090

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DIRECT & COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP)

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue until **June 1, 2011**. The DCP program is the annual program which provides guaranteed direct payments based on contract acres established on the farm. Counter Cyclical payments may also be earned depending on market prices for the covered commodities. Advance payments may be requested at any time with final payments issued after October 1.

It is the responsibility of the Farm Operator to get all the required signatures back to the Office by June 1st. Faxes will be received until 4:30 PM on June 1st. All contracts returned to the FSA office by mail must be postmarked by June 1st in order to be timely filed.

To avoid the lines and long waits the last week of DCP signup, come in today and sign this year's contract!! For more information on DCP rules contact the Lemhi/North Custer County office at 208-527-8268.

ACRE Program Deadline!!!

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) is a revenue based program that looks at farm and state guarantee price and yield triggers. If both triggers are below the guarantee threshold additional payments are made for the actual acres of commodities raised on the farm up to the total amount of base acres on the farm. Typical eligible commodities in Lemhi and Custer Counties are Wheat, Barley, and Oats. Each crop has its own guaranteed price. The deadline for ACRE is the same **June 1st** deadline as the DCP program. For more information contact the office or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

Office Closed

The office will be closed May 30th, 2011 for the Memorial Day Holiday.

Crop Reporting Deadline!!!!

The acreage reporting deadline for 2011 is **June 30th**. Crops that are not reported to the FSA of-

fice by 4:30 PM on June 30th will be subject to late-filed provisions that include inspection fees for each farm.

Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Only crops planted after June 30th have 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 crop's final planting date.

Producers insured with Multi Peril Crop Insurance should make certain that crop reports are consistent with both FSA and crop insurance agents. Under the 2008 Farm Bill more compatibility of producer data between Risk Management Agency and Farm Service Agency is necessary.

SURE – 2009 Signup

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. **SURE sign up for crop year 2009 losses runs from Jan. 10 to July 29, 2011.**

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. Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following conditions are required to trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition

• crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm

Who Can Hold Office

- To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate
- That producers are not paid more than once for the same loss

Contact the FSA office for more information regarding the SURE program

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee

2011 FSA County Committee Elections

- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers.

- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services

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.

Nominations

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve. The COC reflect the makeup of the producers and to represent all constituents. This means wherever possible, minorities, women or lower income producers need to be on the committee to speak for these underrepresented groups.

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.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members in an FSA program may be nominated for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates.

The 2011 election is for LAA#1 which includes the May/Ellis/Pahsimeroi Valley area

forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records.

Election Period

Who Can Vote

June 15, 2011 - The nomination period begins. The nomination form can be found on Page 3. Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program.

Aug. 1, 2011 - Last day to file nomination forms (FSA-669A on following page) at the local USDA Service Center. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote.

Nov. 4, 2011 - Ballots mailed to eligible voters

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

Jan. 1, 2012 - Newly elected county committee members

FSA-669A
(03-24-10)

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)		TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
		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"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White	<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 2, 2010.

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.**



**PRESORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Kansas City, MO
 PERMIT #BM-2175**

Dates to Remember	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
June 1	DCP Sign up closes
June 1	ACRE Sign up closes
June 30	2011 Crop Reporting Deadline
June 30	2010 NAP & ACRE Production Reporting Deadline
July 29	2009 SURE signup ends
Aug 1	Reconstitutions requested
May Interest Rates	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Direct Farm Operating Loans	2.625%
Direct Farm Ownership and Conservation Loans	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency Loans	3.750%

Online Newsletters Available

In order to reduce costs newsletters are no longer being mailed every month. We will be posting monthly newsletters to the following website:
www.fsa.usda.gov/id

By selecting Newsletters in the left-hand box you can access the information by county.

If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you each month please provide us with your email address.

COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Lemhi/North Custer County FSA Committee normally meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1 PM. Due to budget constraints these meetings will be consolidated as much as possible. Meetings will be held on June 7th and September 6th. Please contact the office for more information on COC meeting schedules.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, 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, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."