

Roosevelt County FSA Office
PO Box 519
Culbertson, MT 59218
Phone (406) 787-6262

County Committee Members

Mary Nesbit
William Clay Petersen
Dennis Loendorf

FSA Office Personnel

Carol Y. Ritter-Fellman, CED
Julie Williams, Chief PT
Darcia Larsen, PT
Dale Friedrich, PT
Julane Poland, PT
Judy Grimsrud, PT
Jill Davidson, PT
Andrea Sorg, Field
Sarah Stevens, Field

Agricultural Lending

Opportunities

Questions regarding obtaining credit to start or enlarge a farming or ranching operation; financing agricultural operating expenses; or livestock, machinery purchases should be directed to:

Pat Turner, Loan Manager
Bruce Johnson, Loan Officer
Patti McGinnis, Technician
at 406-433-2103 Ext. 108

Dates to Remember:

June 15 – COC Nominations Began

July 15 – Crop Acreage Report Deadline

July 15 – Final NAP Production Reports due for 2009 and Final Date to File a 2009 NAP Crop Application for Payment

July 15 – Final Date to Timely Report Forage Losses for NAP

July 15 – Deadline to Report Production for ACRE

August 1 – Farm Reconstitution Request Deadline

August 2 – Last Day for FSA to Accept COC Election Nominations



Roosevelt County
June 2010

COC Election Approaching

Beginning **June 15, 2010**, the Roosevelt County FSA Office started accepting nominations of candidates for a County Committee (COC) position that will soon be vacant.

For COC election purposes Roosevelt County has been divided into three local administrative areas (LAA). Each LAA is represented by one member on the county committee. Only one LAA holds an election each year. This year the LAA open in Roosevelt County includes owners and operators who live east of Poplar and west of the Big Muddy.

The nominee must sign the nomination form in order to be nominated as a COC member. A nomination form is included in the 3rd page of this newsletter. The form is also available at the County FSA Office or by logging on to the Montana FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>.

County committee members are the local voice of how FSA programs are administered to meet local community and resource needs.

Nomination forms must be submitted to the FSA County Office by **August 2, 2010**.

The current County Committee members will be holding an open house on Wednesday, July 7, 2010 for any eligible voter interested in running for the position or interested in finding out more about the County Committee's role within FSA. See the back page of this newsletter for more details.

2010 Crop Certification Process is Underway

Crop year 2010 map packets have been mailed to all known producers in the county. Postcards have also been mailed to each producer notifying them of their scheduled appointment and which program technician in the office will be assisting the producer. Appointments are not set in stone and can be changed by contacting the applicable program technician ahead of time.

Certification Reminders: Producers are reminded to complete the maps according to the instructions included in the map packet. Be sure to include the crop planted, the intended use for the crop, shares for the crop, and the planting date. Additional information that will be very helpful to our office is whether the crop is non-irrigated or irrigated. Please mail a completed copy of the maps back to our office at least a week prior to your scheduled appointment. **The final date to complete the crop year 2010 certification process is July 15, 2010.**

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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 program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Responsibilities for CRP Contract Holders

CRP contract holders have certain responsibilities for carrying out the terms and conditions of the CRP contract.

Those include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Control all weeds, insects, pests and other undesirable species to the extent necessary to ensure that the establishment and maintenance of the approved cover is adequately protected and there is no adverse impact on surrounding land.
- ✓ Establish and maintain the required vegetative or water cover and other required practices.
- ✓ No activity may be conducted on CRP acres without authorization. **If utility companies or oil companies plan to access CRP acreage, the program participant MUST request permission to trespass prior to the activity beginning.**
- ✓ Prior approval must be received from FSA before any harvesting, grazing or other commercial use of the forage may begin.

Important: If CRP land is sold and the new owner chooses not to continue the CRP contract, the previous CRP participant(s) will be required to repay all payments received on the contract plus interest and liquidated damages. Liquidated damages are equal to 25 percent of the annual rental payment on those acres not contracted by the new owner.

Filing a Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Notice-of-Loss

To qualify for assistance under NAP, production losses or prevented planting must have occurred as a result of an eligible cause of loss. An eligible cause of loss is any of the following: damaging weather, such as drought, freeze, hail, excessive moisture, or excessive wind; or adverse natural occurrences, such as earthquake or flood; or a condition related to damaging weather or an adverse natural occurrence, such as excessive heat, disease or insect infestation. Wildlife damage and weeds are **not** considered eligible causes of loss under NAP.

A notice of loss must be provided within 15 calendar days after the: disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the producer for yield losses; or final planting date for prevented planting.

If a Notice-of-Loss is filed after the established final planting date and the intent is to reseed to another crop intended for harvest, such as barley for grain, which is covered under crop insurance, a NAP payment cannot be received on the original failed crop.

Montana is not a double cropping state. If the intent is to destroy the crop, summer fallow it, or reseed to another crop **not** intended for harvest, representative strips must be left in the field so that a loss adjuster can be sent out closer to normal harvest time to appraise the original seeded crop. In this situation, the original seeded crop would still be eligible for a payment.

Area NAP participants are reminded that the Roosevelt County FSA Committee has established July 15th as the final date to timely report NAP forage losses for the 2010 crop year.

July 15, 2010 is also the final date for NAP participants to submit crop year 2009 production evidence for crops that were covered in 2009. Failure to submit this documentation may lead to a substantially reduced APH.



FSA-669A (03-24-10) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

Form sections 1-8: NAME OF NOMINEE, ADDRESS OF NOMINEE, NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION, INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED, COUNTY, LAA, STATE, NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION, SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE, DATE, SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR, DATE.

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.

Form sections for ETHNICITY, RACE, and GENDER with checkboxes for various categories.

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 non-governmental entities that have a statutory or regulatory authority and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for this information collection. The requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information may result in the individual's name being removed from the County FSA Committee ballot.

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995, 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 for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to review instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data, reviewing the collection of information, the provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, a

PRESORT STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID BOZEMAN MT 59715 PERMIT #54

The Roosevelt County FSA Committee will be hosting an "Open House" on Wednesday, July 7, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the County FSA Office located in Culbertson. This "Open House" will be for the benefit of producers who would like to learn more about the County Committee System. It will give area farmers and ranchers the opportunity to ask current members any questions they might have about the County Committee System. Interested producers that cannot attend on this day are encouraged to contact the County FSA Office and a similar meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

To Hold Office a Person Must:

- 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

SURE Signup

Signup for the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) began on January 4, 2010 and continues. SURE will provide financial assistance to producers who have suffered crop losses during crop year 2008 due to natural disaster. Producers who have not signed up for this program and are interested in applying should contact our office immediately.

We also expect to begin signup for the 2009 SURE program sometime this summer. Watch our newsletters for more information concerning this program.

ACRE

July 15, 2010 is the final date for producers participating in ACRE to submit production data for previous years to be used to establish benchmark and crop year 2009 ACRE yields that will be used when calculating ACRE payments.