



Ely FSA Office News

August 2009

Ely USDA – FSA Service Center

Ely FSA Office
HC 33, Box 33453
Ely, NV 89301-9402

Phone (775) 289-4990
FAX (775) 289-6629
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours
Monday – Friday
7:30 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee

Max Reid, Jr. Chairman
Lee Mathews Vice-Chair
Gordon Eldridge Member
Annette Harris Member
Kelly Miller Member

Staff

Clayre Moiola, CED Ext 100
Elko 738-6445 Ext 108
Vi Braden, PT Ext 101
Cathy Yardley, FLO
(775) 738-6445 Ext 106
Micki Wines, FLO
(775) 738-6445 Ext 105

NRCS Office

HC 33, Box 33451
Ely, NV 89301-9402

Phone (775) 289-4065
FAX (775) 289-6629

Staff

Vacant, DC Ext 105
Clint Anderson, RMS Ext 106



New Nevada State Executive Director

The Ely FSA Office would like to extend a warm welcome to Nevada’s new State Executive Director, **Clinton Koble** who most recently served as the Executive Director of the Nevada Rural Development Council in Carson City, Nevada where he specialized in community strategic planning and leadership. He also served in Carson City as the Western Region Representative for the Rural Nevada Development Corporation in Ely, Nevada providing small business assistance and housing programs for Nevada's rural communities. While serving in that capacity, Mr. Koble performed small business counseling services for the Nevada Small Business Development Center. Working with and for the rural communities took Mr. Koble back to his rural roots. Mr. Koble grew up on a farm in North Dakota that remains in his family today. He received his B.A. degree in Political Science and History from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, N.D.

COC Nominating Closed, Voting Starts Nov. 6

By now you should be aware that the deadline for FSA county committee nominations has already passed on August 3, 2009.

Voting Begins Nov. 6

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning Nov. 6, and must be returned to the county office by the close of business on Dec. 7, or postmarked by midnight Dec. 7, 2009.

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote.

No one can be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

For additional clarification about county committee elections, contact your local county office staff.

DCP & ACRE Enrollment Deadline

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program has been extended until August 14, 2009. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications. Signup in the ACRE option is also available through August 14, 2009.

FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service will save you time, reduce paperwork and speed up contract processing at FSA offices. It is available to anyone eligible to participate in the DCP Program. To access this on-line service, you must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

NAP Deadlines and Program Changes for 2010



The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) deadlines for various crops are coming up -- **Oct. 31, 2009 for forage** and **Dec. 1, 2009 for grazing**. Contact your local office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov for deadlines and details for your crops. When low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to natural disaster, NAP can provide financial assistance. NAP coverage may be continued for each subsequent year for the same crop or crops, if the producer pays the applicable service fee by the next year's application closing date.

Eligible producers must apply for coverage of non-insurable crops and pay the applicable service fees at their local FSA office. The service fee is \$250 per crop or up to \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 per producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers are not subject to annual fees.

NAP coverage may be continued for each subsequent year for the same crop or crops, if the producer pays the applicable service fee by the next year's application closing date.



Selected Interest Rates for August 2009	
Farm Operating - Direct	3.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.000%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Down Pmt	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	3.125%
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%

NRCS Happenings

In January, Bruce Petersen became the State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Nevada. One of his goals is to help everyone understand NRCS and Farm Bill Programs. NRCS is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture with their primary responsibility being to help private landowners protect and conserve natural resources. In Nevada, there are 9 field offices in addition to the State Office that is located in Reno.

Each field office is run by a district conserva-

tionist. Some offices have additional staff, such as range conservationists, soil scientists, and engineering technicians, who help landowners solve natural resource problems. Conservation technical assistance is the mainframe of our agency. They work with landowners to identify resource issues and solve them on a voluntary basis. For example, if an irrigation system needs improvement, you can call your NRCS field office and invite the district conservationist out to your property. He or she will evaluate your system and make suggestions on how it can be improved. They will also look at your crop productivity, potential for erosion, and other factors that may be affecting your bottom line and causing resource problems, and help identify ways to correct them. This assistance is free and totally voluntary.

However, if problems are identified and financial assistance is needed to help cover the costs of installing the conservation practice, that's where Farm Bill programs come in. If you are interested in obtaining further information, please feel free to contact your local NRCS office at any time with a request for assistance, resource concern or question. They can be found on the Web at www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov, or in the phone book under US Government. Bruce can be reached at (775) 857-8500 if you want to talk. The local NRCS number in Ely is: (775) 289-4065.

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

If producers or their spouses believe they





would qualify as socially disadvantaged, they should contact their local FSA office for details. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

New Payment Limitations

The 2008 Farm Bill provisions stipulate that for the 2009 crop year and later, Direct Attribution will be used to limit the total payments to individuals and entities. In other words, all program payments made to individuals or entities will be attributed to the individual and to the entity. That means if the individual is a member of a farming entity (corporation, trust, etc.) that payment will now be attributed to the individual partners or members in addition to the entity.

Another change for 2009 is that all participants must make an active contribution in an entity. All partners, stockholders, or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make a contribution, whether compensated or not compensated, in the form of the following:

- active personal labor, or
- active personal management, or
- a combination of active personal labor and active personal management to the farming operation

Note that there are exceptions for spouses. For more detailed information on this and other programs please contact your local FSA office.

Changes in Direct Deposit

There will be changes in the Payment system for producers earning payments under the Farm Service Agency programs. Earned payments are now processed through National Payment System by the County Office, direct deposited into the producer's bank accounts normally taking 3 days. There will now be a 1 day delay in receipt of funds via direct deposit. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA) requires that Federal payments be processed through the Treasury Offset Program (TOP), so that any delinquent Federal debt can be offset. Currently the description on the payee's bank statement reads, "USDA-FSAKCMOCDSP"; after August 3, 2009, the description on the bank statement will read, "FSA TREAS 310" for all payments



that are disbursed by the Treasury. In summary, there may be a 1 day delay in receipt of funds via direct deposit, the potential for all payments to be offset through TOP and the description on the bank statement reading "FSA TREAS 310".

Wetland Compliance

Producers renting or purchasing land that may have a converted wetland status need to check with the county office to learn if there are restrictions. The last thing FSA wants to do is to deny a producer benefits due to wetland noncompliance.

The Farm Bill provides that, **unless exempt**, persons **are ineligible** for benefits under certain programs administered by USDA if they:

- plant an agricultural commodity on wetland that was converted after December 23, 1985
- convert a wetland after November 28, 1990

FSA may not approve any loan or loan guarantee to drain, dredge, fill, level or otherwise manipulate a wetland, or to engage in any activity that results in impairing or reducing the flow, circulation or reach of water except in the case of activity related to the maintenance of previously converted wetlands.

There are some permitted uses for wetlands. Contact your local office to learn what permitted uses and restrictions and Wetland compliance provisions impact your land.

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

Cathy Yardley, Farm Loan Officer in the Elko Office will retire at the end of August. Cathy came to the Elko Office as a Farm Loan Officer Trainee in October of 1998 from the Winnemucca FSA Office. Cathy completed her training and became a Farm Loan Officer in 2001. Cathy has helped many farmers and ranchers in the area realize their dreams of becoming landowners or livestock owners throughout her career. Please stop by or call Cathy and wish her well in her new adventure of retired life. 775-738-6445 ext. 106

ELY FSA Office
HC 33 Box 33453
Ely, NV 89301-9402



PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DAVIS, CA
PERMIT #22



Dates to Remember	
Aug 3	County Committee Deadline
Aug 14	Last Day to complete 2009 Acreage Report for all other crops (including grazing)
Aug 14	DCP & ACRE signup deadline
Sep 7	Closed for Labor Day
Sep 15-17	Closed for State Training
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program

Visit our Web site at
[**www.fsa.usda.gov/nv**](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nv)

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.