



# NEWSLETTER



## Columbia and Walla Walla County Farm Service Agency

February 2012

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**Columbia County**  
202 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St  
Dayton, WA 99328  
509-382-2421 ext 2  
509-382-4084 fax

**Walla Walla County**  
325 N 13<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
509-522-6347 ext 2  
509-525-2811 fax

**Office Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**Office Staff**  
**Columbia**  
Christy Bell, PT

**Walla Walla**  
Nicole Armijo, PT  
Norma Colunga, PT  
Lee Walters, PT

**Farm Loan**  
Houston Bruck  
[houston.bruck@wa.usda.gov](mailto:houston.bruck@wa.usda.gov)  
509-924-7350

**Next County Committee Meeting:**  
March 21, 2012 – Dayton Service Center

**Dates to Remember:**  
**March 15** - NAP closing date for spring planted crops, small grain forages, mustard, radish, summer planted buckwheat  
**April 6** - CRP signup deadline  
**May 28** - Office closed for federal holiday  
**June 1** - DCP/ACRE signup deadline  
**June 1** - SURE 2010 loss signup deadline  
**June 30** - Acreage reporting deadline  
**July 15** - 2011 ACRE production deadline

### FSA Web Sites

State- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>  
National- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>  
USDA- <http://www.usda.gov>



## County Newsletters

As many are aware, Farm Service Agency (FSA) has been under a tight budget for the past couple years. This has allowed for new and innovative ways to provide better service to our producers. **Due to budget constraints, this will be the last printed newsletter for 2012;** however county offices will still be producing newsletters and program updates for the public. Delivery of these newsletters and updates will utilize email addresses. Direct mailings for your operation from the county offices will continue as well as County Committee election material.

FSA is announcing a new more efficient, timely option for receiving important program updates. We are offering free online communication through GovDelivery electronic news service. Newsletters and program updates will be sent via email to your home and/or farm office or your Smartphone affording you immediate notification of farm program news. By managing your GovDelivery online account, you can establish your subscriber preferences by choosing to receive federal farm program information by topic, state and/or by county. You can select as many subscriber options as you want.

To sign up for this service please visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>. Also on the reverse side of this newsletter form AD-2047 provides FSA with your intent to sign up for electronic newsletters and updates. Please complete blocks 1A, 1B, 3, 4, 8A, 8B, and 8C. In block 4, select "No", this indicates your desire to receive newsletters and updates via email, it does not affect direct mailings or County Committee election material. Once completed, please return the form to your local county office. If you do not have email, copies of our latest newsletter will be available at the county office. Please contact the county office if you have any questions.

## Conservation Reserve Program Sign up

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign up starts Monday, **March 12, 2012** and ends Friday, **April 6, 2012**.

CRP is a voluntary program that helps agricultural producers use environmentally sensitive land for conservation benefits. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to control soil erosion, improve water and air quality and develop wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Rental rates are tied to county average rental rates and the productivity of the soils in the offered acreage. Accepted contracts for CRP sign up 43 will begin on Oct. 1, 2012.

Eligibility and ranking scores are based on several factors, including but not limited to native versus introduced grass and shrub species, addition of pollinator habitats, and soil types. Eligible land must have been planted to an annual crop or conserving use, such as CRP, in at least four years between 2002 and 2007. Alfalfa or other multiyear grasses and legumes grown in a rotation not to exceed 12 years may be eligible. In addition, the land must have a weighted average erosion index of 8 or greater, be in the state air quality or wildlife Conservation Priority Area, or be CRP expiring in 2012.

Offers will be ranked using the Environmental Benefits Index. Points will be awarded based on the environmental and habitat benefits of the proposed cover. More points are awarded for native covers. Existing CRP covers may need to be replanted or enhanced to maximize the score. Extra points will be awarded for the most erosive land and bids that include pollinator habitats. Please contact the county office to schedule an appointment. Be aware there are no late file provisions for this program, all interested participants must be signed up no later than the April 6<sup>th</sup> deadline. Visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/crp> for additional information.

## DCP/ACRE Signup

Signup to participate in the Direct Counter-Cyclical (DCP) Program and for the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program began on **January 23, 2012**, and continues through **June 1, 2012**. Appointments are encouraged and may be scheduled by contacting our offices. The notable changes for 2012 under these programs include a change in the percentage of base acres on which payment is calculated to 85% (up from 83.3%), and elimination of the advance payment option on direct payments which will now be issued in full during October 2012.

Producers participating in the ACRE program are required to provide production for the previous crop year annually. This production must be submitted and certified by June 30th of the following year. 2011 production must submit and certified by **June 30, 2012**. Please bring your production evidence with you when you sign up for the 2012 ACRE program.

**\*Special Accommodations:** Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in any meeting, event or function should contact the county office. FSA is committed to making programs accessible to all customers.

This form is available electronically.

Form Approved – OMB No. 0560-0265

AD-2047  
(08-04-09)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency  
Rural Development  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

CUSTOMER DATA WORKSHEET REQUEST FOR SCIMS RECORD CHANGE  
(FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY)

(See Page 2 for Privacy Act and Public Burden Statements)

PART A – CUSTOMER INFORMATION

1A. Customer's Full Legal Name or Business Name

1B. Customer or Business Address (including Zip Code)

1C. Home Telephone Number (Area Code)

1D. Business Telephone Number (Area Code)

1E. Other Telephone Number (Area Code)

2. SSN or Tax ID Number (9 Digits)

3. E-Mail Address

4. Customer Wishes to Receive Mail?  
☐ YES    ☐ NO

5. Producer is Customer of One or More of the Following Agencies. (Check Appropriate Agency(ies) below:)  
☐ FSA    ☐ RD    ☐ NRCS    ☐ Not Participating

6. Is the Customer a Multi-County Producer?    ☐ YES (If "YES," list States and/or Counties below:)    ☐ NO

7. Reason for Request (Check appropriate box(es) below:)  
☐ New Producer    ☐ Address Change    ☐ Telephone Change    ☐ Sale/Purchase    ☐ Life Event  
☐ Other (Specify):

8. Enter the name of the customer requesting the record change(s). If documentation is received by Fax or from a trusted source (i.e., USPS), attach documentation to this form. Only Part A, Item 1A and Part B shall be completed. If the request was received by telephone, complete applicable blocks necessary to document the change(s) and enter the requestor's name in Item 8A. Requestor's signature is not required. (The only time the customer is required to sign item 8B is when they are physically at a Service Center and providing FSA with applicable information.)

8A. Name of Customer Requesting Change

8B. Signature

8C. Date of Record Change (MM-DD-YYYY)

PART B – SERVICE CENTER ACTION

9A. Agency Who Received Request: (Check one below:)  
☐ FSA    ☐ NRCS    ☐ RD

9B. Initials of Employee Receiving Request (If Different than Item 12A)

9C. Date Service Center Employee Received the Request (MM-DD-YYYY)

10. How the Request for Change was Received:  
☐ Office Visit    ☐ Telephone    ☐ FAX    ☐ USPS    ☐ Other (Specify):

11. Remarks if Applicable:

12A. Signature of Employee Updating SCIMS if not initialed in Item 9B.

12B. Date Service Center Employee Updating SCIMS (MM-DD-YYYY)

FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR/AREA CONSERVATIONIST USE ONLY.

13A. I concur/do not concur the above items have been properly updated.    ☐ Concur    ☐ Do Not Concur

13B. Name of District Director/Area Conservationist for Spot Check

13C. Signature of District Director/Area Conservationist for Spot Check

13D. Title

13E. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)

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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 OMB Circular A-123, the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act of 1982, and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The information will be used to document a request for critical producer data changes within the Service Center Information Management System (SCIMS). 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 USDA/FSA-2, Farm Records File (Automated). Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility to request changes within SCIMS.

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 0560-0265. 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 criminal and civil fraud, privacy and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.