



June 2008

FERRY & OKANOGAN COUNTY FSA NEWS

Ferry County FSA

P.O. Box 323
84 E. Delaware
Republic, WA 99166
Phone (509) 775-3390
Fax (509) 775-3170

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Luanne Finley, Chairperson
Dave Konz, Vice-Chairperson
Kathy Olson, Regular Member

Office Staff

Gary Breiler, CED
Virginia Lane, PT



Okanogan County FSA

1251 2nd Ave. S. Rm 103
Okanogan, WA 98840
Phone (509) 422-3292
Fax (509) 422-0532

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Ray Colbert, Chairperson
Stan Stout, Vice-Chairperson
Jeff Delfed, Regular Member
Marcia Henneman, Advisor
James McCuen, Advisor

Office Staff

Gary Breiler, CED
Stu Skidmore, FLM
Jose Limon, FLO
Judy Adams, PT
Sandy Hinger, PT
Cliffene Coyne, PT

Next COC Meetings:

Ferry – TBA
Okanogan – June 26

Meetings start at 10:00 AM

CED – County Executive Director
FLM – Farm Loan Manager
FLO – Farm Loan Officer
PT – Program Technician

FSA Web Site Address:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

WA State Web Site:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>

ACCESSIBILITY

Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations may contact the county office. FSA is committed to making programs accessible to all customers.



COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED

The 2008 County Committee elections nomination process is underway through August 1, 2008. In 2008, Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3 in Ferry County and LAA#3 in Okanogan County are up for election. Area #3 in **Ferry County** includes all land lying south of Township 35 (Southern portion of the county). Luanne Finley currently represents this area and is completing her third term on the Committee. Due to term limit provisions, Luanne will be ineligible to run in this year's election. She has had a long distinguished tenure with the Ferry County FSA Committee. Area #3 in **Okanogan County** encompasses the northern portion of the county. It includes parts of Omak and runs north to the Border. This area is currently represented by Ray Colbert. If you are unsure of your voting area, please contact the appropriate FSA county office. Nominating petitions have been mailed to all eligible voters and must be returned by **August 1, 2008**.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM SIGNUP CONTINUES

Signup continues in the 2005, 2006, 2007 Crop Disaster Program (CDP). Production loss applications are currently being processed for damage due to weather related conditions. Eligible producers must have obtained Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage for the applicable year. Please contact our offices for an appointment or if you have any questions. No signup ending date has been announced.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM DEADLINE ANNOUNCED

Signup for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) will end **July 18**. Livestock producers that suffered losses from natural disasters may be eligible for payment based on their feed loss and livestock numbers. The major disaster that qualifies producers in Ferry and Okanogan counties is the 2005 and 2007 drought. The beginning of the disaster period had been determined to be January 1 for each year. Producers must apply in the county where their FSA records are kept. Eligible livestock must have been in the county on the beginning date of the disaster (January 1). When applying for the program, producers need to provide their livestock numbers as of January 1 for the year selected, their rangeland pasture acreage (for leased pastures, we need a copy of the lease). Producers who are interested in applying for LCP benefits should contact our office for an appointment.

2008 ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE

2008 crop acreage reports are now being accepted. **August 15, 2008** (note: this date has been extended from the original date of June 30) is the last day to timely certify your acreage. **NAP producers** must still report by **June 30**. Planting dates need to be provided. Producers are required to file acreage reports for Conservation Reserve Program participation, Non-Insured Assistance Program, Marketing Assistance Loans, Loan Deficiency Payment and the Direct & Counter Cyclical Program. **We are taking appointments for certification. Please contact our offices to schedule yours.**

NAP PRODUCTION DEADLINE

June 30 is the deadline for turning in 2007 and prior year production for Actual Production History (APH) to calculate the 2008 APH's for the Non-Insured Assistance Program. Failure to provide production evidence can result in either a zero for production or a reduced production level. It is always best to update your yields with actual figures.

VOLUNTARY MODIFICATION OF CRP CONTRACT FOR CRITICAL FEED USE

On May 27, 2008, USDA announced that certain acreage enrolled in CRP would be available for haying and grazing after the August 1, primary nesting season. CRP participants may now request to voluntarily modify CRP contracts for critical feed use, such as haying and grazing. Prices for most field crops have advanced to record or near record levels in recent months reflecting strong demand, tight supplies, and competition for acres. The increased demand for commodities and resulting higher prices has impacted the livestock industry. Producers are authorized to hay up to 50% of each field. When grazing, participants must leave at least 25% in each field ungrazed for wildlife or graze all of the CRP acreage at no more than 75% of the stocking rate, as determined by NRCS. Participants requesting to modify the CRP contract for critical feed use will be required to pay an administrative fee of \$75 before County Committee approval. No payment reduction will be assessed for any producer requesting to modify the CRP contract. Contact the county office for more information and to sign up for the critical feed use of CRP acreage.

EQIP SIGNUP DEADLINE

July 15 is the application cut-off date for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) in order to be considered for 2009 fiscal year funding. This program is a voluntary cost-share assistance program through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The program provides private landowners with conservation of natural resources on grazing land, dry cropland, forestland, irrigated cropland and orchard. EQIP is designed to improve productivity, conserve resources plus enhance habitat for local, native wildlife. This earlier than normal sign-up deadline provides an advantage of allowing sufficient time to develop a high quality conservation plan and allow producers more time to consider the costs and benefits of the practices before making a final commitment. Additional details about the program can be found on the Washington NRCS website at: <http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov>. You can contact NRCS using the same telephone number as FSA, then dialing extension three.

NOTICE: LIMITED SERVICE AT FERRY COUNTY FSA OFFICE

Program Technician, Virginia Lane, will be out of the Ferry County FSA Office until July 14. Gary Breiler, County Executive Director, will be in the Ferry County office 2 days a week. He will be there on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. if you wish to come into the office. Please call first in the event of any unforeseen circumstance. If you need assistance or have any questions, you can contact the NRCS office next door to leave messages or you can call Gary at the Okanogan County FSA office at (509) 422-3292 ext. 2. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Thank you for your patience.

RMA ANNOUNCES LIVESTOCK RISK PROTECTION PROGRAM

In June 2007, Risk Management Agency (RMA) announced the availability of the Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) program in all counties in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. LRP plans of insurance include Fed Cattle, Feeder Cattle, Lamb and Swine. LRP covers a change in price peril, protecting the policyholder against downward price risk during the insurance period. It does not cover any other peril (e.g., mortality, condemnation, physical damage, disease, individual marketing decisions, local price deviations, or any other cause of loss). Sales for the 2009 crop year will begin July 1, 2008 and continue through June 30, 2009. Cattle, swine and lamb producers are encouraged to contact a local livestock insurance agent to learn additional details. Federal crop insurance program policies are sold and delivered solely through private crop and livestock insurance companies. A list of livestock crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers or at the RMA Web site address: <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents>.

OFFICE CLOSURE

This office will be closed on July 4, 2008 in observance of Independence Day.