



# North Puget Sound Area's Farm Service Agency

Snohomish/N King - Clallam/Jefferson Counties  
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Ph (425) 334-3131 ext 2 Fax (425) 335-5024  
March, 2009

### Office Staff

Travis Martin, Acting CED  
Holly Hedblom, PT  
Naomi Devlin, PT

### Farm Loan Staff

Mark Turner (360) 354-5658 ext 2  
mark.turner@wa.usda.gov

### Office Hours

Weekdays/ 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### E-mail us at:

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### Dates to Remember

3/16- NAP spring crop signup deadline  
3/19- COC meeting/10:00 @ service ctr  
4/3- ECP signup ends  
6/1- DCP signup ends

### 2009 County Committee:

Meetings scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of  
each month at 10:00 a.m.

Kirk Salvatore	Chair
Kjell Stangeland	V Chair
Troy Smith	Member
Jason Roetcisoender	Member
Andy Werkhoven	Member
Fong Cha	Advisor
Linda Neunzig	Advisor

### Websites:

National USDA  
<http://www.usda.gov>

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

Washington State FSA  
<http://www.usda.gov/wa>



### NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

FSA's NAP coverage insures producers against catastrophic crop losses of more than 50% due to adverse weather events. Earned payments are paid at 55% of the average market price for each crop and your approved yield.

To be eligible for 2009 coverage, **spring planted crops** including certain vegetable seed crops (beets, spinach), annually tilled crops including but not limited to corn for silage and barley, and produce, such as sweet corn, pumpkins, potatoes, and cucumbers **must** be enrolled in NAP by **Monday, March 16**.

The nonrefundable administrative cost is **\$250 per crop** to a maximum of **\$750 for all crops in one administrative area**; or for multi-county producers, up to a maximum of **\$1875 for all crops** grown in all counties. Coverage begins 30 days after the application is filed or after the crop is planted, whichever is later. **NAP** is available only for crops not covered by Federal Crop Insurance policies provided by private insurance agents.

Call the office at **(425) 334-3131** for more information or to enroll.



### EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ECP)

The North Puget Sound Area FSA has been authorized to implement and has received funding for the ECP for those landowners who suffered physical damages due to flooding in January 2009. **Signup** began February 17, 2009 and **will continue through close of business, Friday, April 3, 2009**. Funding is available to restore eligible farmland, permanent fences, and conservation structures including but not limited to, open or closed drainage systems, wells, pipelines, and buried mainlines.



ECP provides cost share up to 75%, with a payment limitation of \$200,000 per person, and is **limited to 50 percent of the agricultural value** of the affected land. **ECP benefits are intended for situations where the problem is so significant that Federal assistance is required to complete the practice.**

Please call **(425) 334-3131 ext 2** for more information or to make an appointment to enroll in this program. There is a minimal amount of paperwork, however producers should allow approximately **45 minutes for signup**.



### DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP)

**DCP signup** is underway and will continue through **June 1, 2009**. **Regulations no longer provide for a late-filed signup** as in the past. Accordingly, enrollment is **not permitted after June 1, 2009**. All producers on the contract with more than a zero share **must** sign by this date.

Additionally, all supportive documentation such as eligibility forms and cash leases **must** be submitted by **September 30, 2009** for contract approval. CCC-509s that are not signed, or those that have not submitted necessary documents will be considered withdrawn and will **not** be approved.

**Advance** direct payments are authorized at 22% of the annual payment and can be issued upon completion of all applicable forms and contract approval. **Final** direct payments are authorized after September 30, 2009. **Counter-cyclical** payments are authorized when the effective price for the commodity is less than the target price of the commodity. Payments are issued at the end of the marketing year for the commodity.

Direct payment rates established under the 2002 Farm Bill continue under the 2008 Farm Bill as follows:  
**Wheat** \$0.52/bu **Corn** \$0.28/bu **Barley** \$0.24/bu **Oats** \$0.024/bu

**EMERGENCY LOANS** are available to agriculture producers who cannot obtain credit from conventional lending sources, at normal rates and terms. The current EM loan rate is 3.75% and a limit of **\$500,000**. The loan can be used to restore or replace essential property, pay family living expenses, reorganize the farming operation, or refinance certain existing operating debt. Emergency loans are considered temporary, and borrowers are reviewed periodically to determine eligibility for a return to conventional loans.

**YOUTH LOANS** of up to \$5,000 are available to rural youth ages 10 – 20 who are participating in 4-H, FFA, or a similar organization. To qualify, the applicant must comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements, reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people, and conduct a modest income producing project in a supervised program. Funds can be used to buy livestock, seed, equipment, and supplies; buy, rent, or repair equipment; pay operating expenses for the project.

FSA also offers direct operating loans, farm ownership loans, and guaranteed loans as well as loans for beginning farmers and ranchers, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Contact **Mark Turner** at **(360) 354-5658 ext 2** for additional loan information.



#### REMINDERS

- **All FSA payments** are now issued through the National Payment Service (NPS). Those producers who do not have a **Direct Deposit** form on file will receive a paper check from NPS approximately 7 to 10 days after the payment is issued. Electronic transfers will occur within 3 – 5 business days.
- **Contact this office** if the structure of your farming operation has changed, or if you are no longer interested in receiving this newsletter.
- **Signup is ongoing for the following programs:**
  - ★ Conservation Reserve Enhancement
  - ★ Conservation Reserve-Continuous Signup
  - ★ Farm Storage Facility Loan



#### PAYMENT LIMITATION

The **2008 Farm Bill** provides new payment eligibility rules. Payments are now limited by direct attribution to individual and legal entities. Payments to a person are combined with that person's share of payments from entities in which that person holds a share interest. Payments are attributed through 4 levels of ownership in legal entities. Eligibility still requires significant contributions of land, capital, equipment, active personal labor, active personal management, or a combination. **Program payment limits for 2008 – 2012:**

**CRP/CREP** \$50,000 per fiscal year (Oct – Sept), includes annual rental, SIP and PIP, excludes cost share

**DCP** Direct \$40,000 Counter-cyclical \$65,000

**LDP** Unlimited

**NAP** \$100,000 per crop year

**DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (DAP)** include Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish [ELAP], Livestock Feed [LFP], Livestock Indemnity [LIP], and Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program [SURE]. DAP payments cannot exceed \$100,000 for any crop year, but can include more than one type of disaster claim.



**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS** will be provided upon request for those persons with physical handicap, or vision or hearing impairment. Please contact Travis Martin at 425-334-3131 ext 104 for assistance.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotapes, 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, Room 326-W Whitten Building, 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Ave. SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.