



# 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, 2010

## Office Staff

Holly Hedblom, Acting CED/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:

[holly.hedblom@wa.usda.gov](mailto:holly.hedblom@wa.usda.gov)  
[naomi.devlin@wa.usda.gov](mailto:naomi.devlin@wa.usda.gov)

## Dates to Remember

3/15- NAP spring crop signup deadline  
4/22- COC meeting/10:00 @ service ctr  
6/1- DCP signup ends  
6/30- Crop report deadline

## 2010 Area Committee:

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

Troy Smith	Chair
Jason Roetcisoender	V Chair
Andy Werkhoven	Member
John Gunning	Member
Rick Williams	Member
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 2010 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, and cucumbers **must** be enrolled in NAP by **Monday, March 15**.

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.



## BIOMASS CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The BCAP proposed rule was posted for public display on February 3, 2010. This action terminated authority to approve program requests for enrollment until further notice.

Producers who have an approved AD-245 page 1 on file can continue to submit delivery documentation for program payments to the county office through March 31, 2010. Certain exceptions could allow payments for deliveries to qualified BCF's to be extended through April 30, 2010. Contact the county office for additional information.

A public comment period is in effect through close of business April 9, 2010. Interested parties are encouraged to examine and comment on the proposed rule published on the Federal Register



## SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SURE)

Signup for **2008 SURE** disaster program is underway. An ending date has not been announced, however, producers are encouraged to call the office for additional information regarding this program. Eligibility requirements include but are not limited to the following criteria:

- Suffered at least a **10% production loss** on a crop of economic significance (a crop that contributed at least 5% of the value of all crops grown on the farm)
- Obtained crop insurance through FCIC or NAP coverage through FSA for all crops grown on the farm (or obtained a special 'buy in' waiver). Exceptions include socially disadvantaged, beginning, or limited resource farmers and ranchers.
- A producers' "**farm**" is considered **all crops on all farms nationwide**
- Payments are equal to 60% of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance/NAP coverage on the farm.

## PAYMENT LIMITATION

The **2008 Farm Bill** provides changes to payment eligibility rules which limit payments to individual and legal entities by 'direct attribution'. Maximum program payments per year follow: Direct \$40,000; Counter-cyclical/ACRE \$65,000; Disaster (SURE, LFP, LIP, ELAP) \$100,000 combined; TAP \$100,000; CRP/CREP rental & incentive \$50,000; LDP and marketing loan gains unlimited; NAP \$100,000.

## DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP)

**DCP signup** is underway and will continue through **June 1, 2010**. **Regulations no longer provide for a late-filed signup** as in the past. Accordingly, enrollment is **not permitted after June 1, 2010**. All producers on the contract with more than a zero share **must** sign by this date.

**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, 2010. **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



**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. Funds can be used to buy livestock, seed, equipment, and supplies; buy, rent, or repair equipment; or pay operating expenses for the project.

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



**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.



## REMINDERS



**Signup is ongoing for the following programs:**

- ★ Conservation Reserve Enhancement  
Conservation Reserve-Continuous Signup
  - ★ Farm Storage Facility Loan
  - ★ **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 4-7 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.

**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS** will be provided upon request for those persons with physical handicap, or vision or hearing impairment. Please contact Holly Hedblom at 425-334-3131 ext 100 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.