

Cascade County FSA Office  
12 3<sup>rd</sup> ST NW  
Great Falls, MT 50404

406-727-7580

### County Committee Members

Loretta Standley, Chairperson  
Carl R Mehmke, Vice Chairperson.  
Craig Essebaggers, Member

### FSA Office Personnel

Janet Smith, FLM.  
Nancy Fulton, FLPT.  
Heather Boberg, PT.  
Sharon Good, PT.  
Scott Hitchcock, PT.  
Jill Lorang, PT.  
Nicole Pietrykowski, PT.  
Dean Hodges, Fieldman  
Mark G. Person, CED.

### Dates to Remember:

**May 15-July 15** – FSA State  
Committee established Primary  
Nesting Season for CRP

**May 15-August 1** – Primary Nesting  
Season for CRP contracts affected by  
the National Wildlife Federations  
settlement agreement with FSA

**June 2** – Critical feed program signup

**June 15** – COC Nominations Open

**Notice of Loss** – filed within 15  
calendar days of the natural disaster  
occurrence or the date the damage to  
the crop or loss of production was  
apparent

**July 15** – deadline to provide 2007  
production for NAP APH

**July 15** – 2007 NAP Application for  
Payment Deadline

**July 15** – Acreage report deadline

**July 18** – LIP/LCP Deadline

**August 1** – Deadline for  
restitutions

**September 30 – October 1** – Women  
Stepping Forward for Agriculture  
Symposium, Billings



# Cascade County FSA June 2008

## LIP and LCP Signup Announced

The deadline date for the  
2005-2007 Livestock  
Compensation Program  
(LCP) and Livestock  
Indemnity Program (LIP) has  
been **set for July 18, 2008**.



LIP provides payments to  
eligible livestock owners and contract growers who incurred the  
death of livestock because of a natural disaster. LCP provides  
payments to eligible livestock owners and cash lessees who  
suffered feed losses or increased feed costs because of a  
natural disaster.

Signup began on September 10, 2007 for the two programs  
that provide aid to livestock producers who suffered eligible  
livestock or livestock feed losses between January 1, 2005 and  
December 30, 2007 because of a natural disaster.

## CDP Quantity payments

Signup for the quantity (production loss) loss portion of the  
2005/2007 Crop Disaster Program (CDP) began October 15,  
2007 and continues. Although no ending signup date has been  
announced, we encourage all producers who have not yet  
signed up for CDP to do so as soon as possible. Payments will  
be delayed on all CDP production loss applications that are not  
approved and paid prior to receipt of the Quality loss software,  
which is expected to be issued around June 20, 2008. Signup  
dates for quality loss CDP applications will be announced in the  
near future.



**COC Election Approaching**

Beginning **June 15, 2008**, nominations are being accepted for candidates for County Committee (COC) positions.

A county or area served by the COC is divided into local administrative areas (LAA). Each LAA is represented by one member on the county committee. Only one LAA holds an election each year. This year the LAA open in Cascade County is LAA #1 the Northern part of Cascade County.

FSA-669A (02-25-08) Page 2		U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency		Form Approved - UMB No. 0560-0229
<b>NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION</b>				
1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or print Nominee's Full Name)		<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE</b>		
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE				
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.  <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)		
4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE		4B. DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)		6A. COUNTY
				6B. LAA NO.
				7. STATE
<b>8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE</b>				
<b>VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:</b> The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.				
<b>ETHNICITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino		<b>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> America Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		<b>GENDER</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
<b>INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM</b>				
Complete the form as follows:				
<b>ITEM 1</b> Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be: A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election. B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member. C. Willing to serve if elected.				
<b>ITEM 2</b> Enter the nominee's current address.				
<b>ITEM 3</b> The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.				
<b>ITEM 4</b> The nominee must sign and date.				
<b>ITEM 8</b> Completing this item is voluntary.				
<b>ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1.</b>				
<b>NOTE:</b> The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.  <small>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 0560-0229. 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. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.</small>				

### FSA Announces Critical Feed Program

FSA has announced the authorization of certain acreage enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to be available for haying and grazing after the **primary nesting season ends which is August 1<sup>st</sup> in Montana**. No rental payment reduction will be assessed on contracts being utilized for the critical feed use. However, a \$75 fee will be charged per contract to process the contract modification. The fee must be paid prior to the local FSA county committee approving the contract modification. The fee is not refundable.

Beginning June 2, 2008, eligible CRP participants may sign up for the critical feed use practice at their local FSA office. Participants must submit a modification to their conservation plan. This modification for critical feed use is only for 2008. All haying and grazing must be completed no later than November 10, 2008. The critical feed use practice may be used on CRP acreage that was hayed or grazed in 2007 either under the Managed Haying and Grazing provisions or the Emergency Haying or Grazing provisions.

CRP participants may use their CRP acreage for haying or grazing or may lease the privilege to any other individual. CRP participants may not hay and graze the same acreage. CRP participants must leave at least 50 percent of each field unhayed. Only one cutting of hay is permitted. CRP participants wishing to graze their CRP acreage must leave at least 25 percent of each field ungrazed for wildlife or graze all of the CRP acreage at no more than 75 percent of the stocking rate as determined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or a Technical Service Provider (TSP).

Eligible acreage includes acreage devoted to: 1) CP1, Establishment of Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes; 2) CP2, Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses; 3) CP4B, Permanent Wildlife Habitat – Corridors; 4) CP4D, Permanent Wildlife Habitat; 5) CP10, Vegetative Cover – Grass – Already Established; 6) CP18B, Establishment of Permanent Vegetation to Reduce Salinity; 7) CP18C, Establishment of Permanent Salt Tolerant Vegetative Cover. Acreage is eligible 12 months after the cover is fully established.

### Filing a Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Notice-of-Loss

To qualify for assistance under NAP, production losses or prevented planting must have occurred as a result of an eligible cause of loss. An eligible cause of loss is any of the following:

- damaging weather, such as drought, freeze, hail, excessive moisture, or excessive wind; or
- adverse natural occurrences, such as earthquake or flood; or
- a condition related to damaging weather or an adverse natural occurrence, such as excessive heat, disease or insect infestation.

Wildlife damage and weeds are **not** considered eligible causes of loss under NAP.

A notice of loss must be provided within 15 calendar days after the:

- disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the producer for yield losses;
- final planting date for prevented planting.

If a Notice-of-Loss is filed prior to the final planting date established for the specific crop, the producer is expected to replant the crop. If the Notice-of-Loss is filed after the established final planting date and the intent is to reseed to another crop intended for harvest, such as barley for grain, which is covered under crop insurance, a NAP payment cannot be received on the original failed crop.

Montana is not a double cropping state. If the intent is to destroy the crop, summer fallow it, or reseed to another crop **not** intended for harvest, representative strips must be left in the field so that a loss adjuster can be sent out closer to normal harvest time to appraise the original seeded crop. In this situation, the original seeded crop would still be eligible for a payment.

**NAP crops with an intended use of forage that will not be cut for hay but will be grazed must be appraised by FSA.**

***Inside this Issue***

**LIP & LCP Deadline  
Critical Feed Loss Program  
CDP Quantity Payments  
COC Nomination Form  
Filing a NAP Notice-of-Loss  
Sod Buster**

***Important Dates to Remember***

**June 2 – Critical Feed Program Signup Begins  
June 15 – COC nominations open  
Notice of Loss – 15 calendar days of the natural  
disaster occurrence or the date the damage to  
the crop or loss of production was apparent  
July 15 – Acreage report deadline  
August 1 – Reconstitution Deadline**

**2007 Census of Agriculture**

It is not too late to turn in your Census of Agriculture. USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) wants everyone who received a census form to return the form or call NASS toll free at: 1-888-424-7828. Even if you are a landlord or have a few chickens or a horse, NASS wants to account for your form. Your information can be taken over the phone by calling the toll-free number.

For further information contact the Montana Ag Statistics Service at 1-800-835-2612.

**New Breaking/Sod Busting**

Producers are reminded that lands in Native Sod (never farmed) must be broken out and farmed under a recognized USDA conservation plan if the lands are considered Highly Erodible. Please contact FSA prior to breaking or beginning to farm Native Sod. Program Payments are at jeopardy if you break and then seed the new breaking without an approved conservation plan. If the new breaking is seeded to an Agricultural Commodity and the land is highly erodible then it is probable that the you would not be able to implement an approved conservation system.

Again, contact FSA before you begin to farm lands that have not been previously included on your farms conservation plan with USDA. Protect your benefits.