

Central Oregon FSA Newsletter

Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson Counties **September 2009**



Central Oregon Farm
Service Agency

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Your FSA Staff:

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Your County Committee:

Ken Miltenberger, Chairperson
Adam Barney, Vice-Chairperson
Mike Macy, Regular Member
Brigette Whipple, Regular

County Committee Election

This years election will be held in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 3, covering Crook County & (LAA) 4 covering Deschutes County. Ballots will be mailed no later than November 6, 2009. Please don't forget to sign your ballot return envelope. Ballots must be received by our office no later than 4:30 p.m. on December 7, 2009. The following nominees have expressed that they are willing to serve if elected:

Biographies of Candidates-LAA #3

Adam Barney is nominated in LAA #3, Crook County, to serve as COC member for a 3-year term. Adam Barney resides in the Prineville area and has been involved in his family ranch operations production of garlic, carrots, grass seed, wheat, peppermint, hay, and cattle for 16 years. Adam is an active member of Cattlemans and a current member of the COC.

Biographies of Candidates-LAA #4

John Gunzner is nominated in LAA #4, Deschutes County, to serve as COC member for a 3-year term. John resides in the Terrebonne area and has produced hay and livestock for 23 years. John is an active member of Mid Oregon Beef Co-op.

Ken Mitenberger is nominated in LAA #4, Deschutes County, to serve as COC member for a 3-year term. Ken resides in the Alfalfa area and has produced hay, and cattle for 36 years. Ken is an active member of the Farm Bureau, Central Oregon Hay Growers, Cattlemans, board of Central Electric Co-op, Mid Oregon Beef Co-op, and a current member of the COC.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

Changes to the Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program have been implemented in accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill, which will allow producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers FSFL on behalf of the USDA Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

The maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$ 500,000. Participants are required to provide down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. Loan terms of 7, 10, or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans: **1) wheat, barley, oats harvested as whole grain; 2) corn, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain; 3) Pulse crops- lentils, small chickpeas, and dry peas; 4) hay; 5) Renewable biomass; 6) Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables- cold storage.**

For more information please visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov



THE NEW PAYMENT LIMITATIONS FOR 2009

The 2008 Farm Bill provisions stipulate that for the 2009 crop year and later, **Direct Attribution** will be used to limit the total payments to individuals and entities. In other words, all program payments made to individuals or entities will be attributed to the individual and to the entity. That means if the individual is a member of a farming entity (corporation, trust, etc.) that payment will now be attributed to the individual partners or members in addition to the entity.

Another change for 2009 is that all participants must make an **active contribution in an entity**. All partners, stockholders, or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make a contribution, whether compensated or **not** compensated, in the form of the following:

- active personal labor, or
- active personal management, or
- a combination of active personal labor and active personal management to the farming operation;

Note that there are exceptions for spouses. For more detailed information on this and other programs please contact your local FSA office.

BIOMASS CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (BCAP)

The new Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) is of interest to biomass conversion facilities and those who own, chip and transport biomass material to these facilities.

Chippers and producers with conversion facilities contracts to prepare and deliver materials can apply for matching payments under the collection, harvest, storage and transportation (CHST) component of BCAP. Once an agreement is signed between FSA and a biomass conversion facility and funding is provided, the facilities can begin accepting materials under this program.

The matching CHST payments are paid at a rate of \$1 for \$1 per dry-ton equivalent received by a qualified biomass conversion facility, not to exceed \$45 per dry-ton equivalent. A biomass owner is eligible to receive payments for two years. The purpose of the matching payments is to assist biomass handlers with the CHST cost of delivering biomass to a qualified biomass conversion facility. Once a facility becomes qualified, eligible material owners or producers who deliver biomass to that facility may be eligible to receive CHST payments.

Eligible material owners or producers, who market eligible material to a qualified biomass conversion facility, may apply for the matching CHST payment at their FSA county office. An application must be submitted and approved before the eligible material is sold or delivered to a qualified biomass conversion facility. After the product is delivered, a material handler must provide FSA with documentation of product quantity, quality and payment rate. County offices will validate payment requests with information in the county office and information provided under the terms of MOUs with the qualified biomass conversion facilities. CHST payments will not be authorized until appropriate environmental analysis is completed. Contact your FSA state office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov for more information.

DO YOU NEED A FARM LOAN?

We have the following programs available for
those qualified individuals in need of
financing:

Operating Loans

Equipment Loans

Real Estate Loans

Debt Refinancing

Loans for Minorities and Women

Loans for Beginning Farmers

Youth Loans for FFA or 4-H Members



Call (503) 399-5741 Sharilyn Millette – Ext. #115

Return Service Requested

2010 NAP Coverage

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available. Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s)

from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee. Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits: Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weight or other means of determining quantities of hay are required. File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to

drought, hail, etc. * Some of the 2010 NAP crop closing dates have past but there are still additional commodity closing dates approaching quickly please don't delay in applying or submitting fees. Contact the county FSA office for the 2010 NAP crop closing dates.

*** Remember, NAP and/or Federal Crop Insurance is required on all crops to remain eligible for FSA Disaster Programs!**

Upcoming Dates to Remember



October /2009

October 1, 2009

October 12, 2009

November 11, 2009

November 26, 2009

November 30, 2009

Begin making Final DCP & CRP Annual rental payments
2010 NAP final date-contact for crops under this closing date
USDA Service Center closed for the Columbus Day Holiday
USDA Service Center closed for the Veterans Day Holiday
USDA Service Center closed for the Thanksgiving Day
Holiday
2010 NAP final date-contact for crops under this closing date

Special Accommodations

FSA programs are available to all eligible interested persons. Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required please contact the FSA office.

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