

Central Oregon FSA Office

Central Oregon FSA Staff

Cameron Kirsch, CED
Debby Carter, PT
Amy Bell, PT

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00a.m. – 4:30p.m.

County Committee Members

Adam Barney
William DuRette
Ken Miltenberger
Brigette Whipple

Phone: 541-923-4358 Ext 2
Fax: 541-923-4713

August 2007

County Committee (COC) Election

This years election will be held in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1, covering The Confederative Tribes of Warm Springs in Jefferson County. Ballots will be mailed no later than **November 2, 2007**. 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 3, 2007**. The following nominees have expressed that he/she is willing to serve if elected:

Biographies of Candidates-

Brigette Whipple is nominated in LAA-1 covering The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs to serve as COC member for a 3-year term. Brigette resides in the Warm Springs area and has been involved with producing livestock for 25 years. Brigette is an active member of Metolius Grazing Group and a current member of the County Committee.

The Non- Insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Provides financial assistance to eligible producers affected by natural disasters on non-insurable crop(s) losses. The natural disaster must have reduced your expected production of the crop by more than 50% and pays 55% of the approved price. Eligible crops include commercial crops and other agricultural commodities produced for food (including livestock feed) or

fiber for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is unavailable. For a producer to establish an APH, production records must be submitted for at least four previous consecutive crop years and not more than ten consecutive crop years. Once an APH is established for a crop(s), production must be submitted each year by the production reporting date. The production reporting date is June 30 of the subsequent crop year. For example, the deadline to submit production for a 2007 crop is June 30, 2008. Once an APH is established, there cannot be a break in continuity. A break in continuity may negatively impact the APH during a year in which an application for payment is made. Failure for a producer to have an established APH on file could result in reduced or no benefits under NAP in the event of a crop loss. Producers who have paid for NAP coverage and suffer a weather related crop loss must notify the FSA office by completing form CCC-576 within 15 days of the date of the weather event or are aware of the crop damage. An inspection must be performed on any acreage for which the intended use has changed or for any acreage that will not be taken to harvest prior to destroying or abandoning crop acreage.

The 2008 NAP Sales closing dates are as follows...

Aug. 31, 2007...Carrots, Onions, Radish, Cabbage, Flowers, Greens,

Herbs (except peppermint) Canola, and other fall planted crops not mentioned

Oct. 1, 2007... Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Turf Grass Sod, Garlic, Mushrooms, Grass seed, Clover seed, Mint, Alfalfa Hay, Grass hay, Small Grain Forage (fall or spring), other forage crops, Grazing, Ornamental Nursery & other perennials not mentioned
March 15, 2007... Beans & All other spring crops not otherwise mentioned.

To apply for coverage you must pay the applicable service fees at your local FSA office. The service fee is equal to \$100 per crop per county or \$300 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$900 per producer for all counties.

Report all Farm Changes

If there have been any changes in the operation of your farm, such as new owners, operators, changes in land, addresses, etc..., please notify our office as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in delayed, incorrect or denied payments.

Direct Deposit

Under Direct Deposit provisions, if you have changed your financial institution we must have a new direct deposit form (SF-1199A) completed along with a written statement directing us to terminate your old direct deposit on file. Failure to do so may result in delayed payments. If you have any questions, please contact our office.

FSA's 2007 National Compliance and Spot Check Review

FSA is committed to delivering accurate program payments to America's agricultural producers. The accuracy of payments not only benefits farmers and ranchers, but also maximizes taxpayer dollars and government efficiency.

As part of the 2007 National Compliance Review, FSA's National office is requiring local FSA county offices to conduct compliance reviews and spot checks of certain producers selected by the National Office through a statistical sampling method. A statistical sample of FSA employees, County Committee (COC) and State Committee (STC) members have also been selected for review using this same process.

FSA may review a producer's operations in multiple states and counties, depending on the scope of the producer's operations. FSA will review both the accuracy of the representations made by the selected producers in connection with participation in FSA programs as well as the producer's compliance with applicable program requirements. The reviews may need to be conducted at various times throughout the year depending on the FSA programs in which the producer is participating. FSA appreciates the cooperation of its customers as the agency continues to enhance its operations. FSA's goal is to ensure that program dollars are delivered effectively and efficiently so America's farmers and ranchers can provide safe and abundant food, fiber and fuel for consumers at home and abroad.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a voluntary land retirement program that helps agricultural producers protect environmentally sensitive land, decrease erosion, restore wildlife habitat, and safeguard ground and surface water. Like CRP, CREP is administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). By combining CRP resources with state, tribal, and private programs, CREP provides farmers and ranchers with a sound financial package for conserving and enhancing the natural resources of farms. CREP addresses high-priority conservation issues of both local and national significance, such as impacts to water supplies, loss of critical habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife species, soil erosion, and reduced habitat for fish populations such as salmon. CREP is a community-based, results-oriented effort centered around local participation and leadership. Like CRP, CREP contracts require a 10 to 15 year commitment to keep lands out of agricultural production. CREP provides annual payments for the life of the contract to participants who offer eligible land. A federal annual rental rate, including an FSA state committee-determined maintenance incentive payment, is offered, plus cost-share of up to 50 percent of the eligible costs to install the practice and an additional 25% is paid by the State of Oregon. Other incentive payments are Sign-up Incentive payment of \$100 times total acreage enrolled, Practice Incentive Payment of 40% of eligible costs, a Cumulative Incentive Payment equal to 4 times the basic rental payment when 50% of a five mile segment of stream is enrolled. For more information please contact our office.



FARM YOUTH LOANS AVAILABLE

Rural youth ages 10-20 may be eligible for loans to establish and operate income-producing projects that are modest in size. These loans can finance nearly any kind of income-producing project. Some common projects include livestock, lawn and garden service, repair shops, aquaculture and roadside stands. These projects must be in connection with the local FFA, 4-H, or other similar organization and be part of an organized and supervised plan of work. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

These loans provide youths with excellent practical business experience and a valuable educational experience. They also give youth an opportunity to build a credit history, which is very important these days.

LAND CONTRACT GUARANTEE FOR BEGINNING FARMERS

The Land Contract Guarantee Program involves land sales contracts used for transferring land from sellers to beginning farmers. Beginning farmers are defined as not having farmed for more than 10 years.

Under the program, sellers are provided a 10-year guarantee. In the event the buyer does not pay an installment, FSA will provide the scheduled payment to the seller through an escrow agent. The guarantee is limited to two installments and the contract cannot exceed \$500,000

***For more information regarding any Farm Service Agency Loan program- Please call (503) 399-5741 Sharily Millette- Ext. #115 or Kathey Naegeli-Ext #113**

Sharilyn.Millette@or.usda.gov

Kathey.Naegeli@or.usda.gov