



June 2008

# Klamath County News

## Klamath County USDA Service Center

Klamath County FSA  
2316 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St, Suite C  
Klamath Falls OR 97601  
541-883-6924 (phone)  
541-882-9044 (fax)

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or/klamath.html>

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### County Committee

Lester Strum, Chair  
Ron Stewart, Vice  
Garry Freitag, Member  
Gerda Hyde, Advisor

### County Executive

**Director** Jennifer Simon,  
ext 107

### Farm Loan Officer

Dorothy Scull ext. 104

### Farm Loan Manager

Jim Jutson

### Staff

Rowena Chase PT ext 108  
Dawn Rose, PT ext. 102  
Mary Hope, PT ext. 105



## \*DCP Signup NOW\*

The 2008 DCP program is now open. For the 2008 year only those farms with more than 10 base acres are eligible for payment. Farms with less than 10 base acres will be eligible for payment if entirely owned by a social disadvantaged or limited resource producer. Base acres with fruits or vegetables planted on them are ineligible for payment. Producer must also file an acreage report certifying crops grown for this year. Producers may elect to receive an advance equal to 22% of the total DCP payment per farm. The deadline to apply for DCP is September 30 while the acreage reporting deadline is August 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact the office and make an appointment to complete your contract and acreage reports.

## Signature Authority

If you have previously filed an FSA-211 granting authority to someone to sign on your behalf, that authority may have expired with the farm bill. If you have granted or received authority please contact the office to verify that the form is still valid. If you are a member of a corporation or other entity we may need new authority as well. **This forms will need to be updated prior to signing any documents for 2008.** We will be reviewing these forms when you sign up, however if you would like to find out before you come in please call us.

## LCP Program Deadline

July 18 will be the final date to apply for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP). This program is for producers who suffered feed losses on non-irrigated pasture. Klamath County producers are eligible for 2005 - 2007 losses. This is a county specific program and other counties may be eligible for other years.

## Farm Bill

No doubt you have heard something about the new farm bill. At this time the information FSA has is limited. There will be changes to FSA programs, however the exact changes and how they affect Klamath County farmers are not yet known. Once we receive sufficient information we will do our best to inform you through newspaper articles, newsletters and public meetings. In the meantime we still have the authority to approve new CREP contracts, approve Crop Disaster and Livestock Compensation Program application, DCP and take acreage reports.

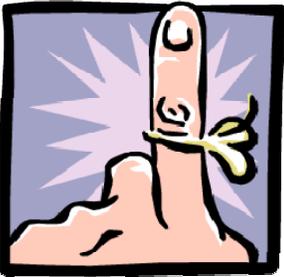
## \*Direct Loan Limits Increase\*

With enactment of the new Farm Bill on May 22, 2008, the maximum direct loan amount that FSA is authorized to make under its Operating Loan (OL) program and Farm Ownership (FO) program has been increased from \$200,000 to \$300,000. This is welcome news for FSA farm loan customers, and helps the Agency's loan programs keep pace with rising operating costs and the cost of farm and ranch land.

Although direct Farm Ownership loan funds are somewhat limited until the beginning of the new fiscal year on October 1, 2008, direct Operating Loan funds remain available. If you have any questions about these expanded direct loan limits or the availability of loan funds be sure to contact our county office.

## Acreage Reporting Deadline

Now that it is summer and crops are growing we ask that you take the time to complete your acreage reports. Acreage reports may be necessary to establish eligibility for future programs. If you had to replant crops due to die off this spring you will also want to report those crops that were replanted or that you were prevented from planting. The deadline for Klamath County is **August 15**. Please come by the office to report your acreage or call to have maps sent to you.



*Program Reminders*

### CRP & NAP Certification

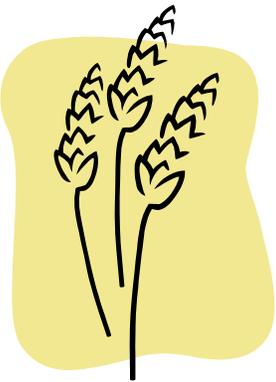
Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. And, crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

### Prevented Planting:

Prevented planting is to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

### Failed Acreage:

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.



## COC Elections

Nominations are being accepted for the County Committee. This year's election is LAA 2 which serves the Midland, Keno Worden area. Eligible candidates are those owners/operators that participate in FSA programs. Nominations must be received in the county office by close of business on August 1, 2008.

## Crop Disaster Quality Program

Did you suffer quality losses for an insured crop for the 2005, 2006 or 2007 year? Quality losses may include: 35% or more of your potato crop being counted as culls or B's, Onion Crop having a large amount of white rot or receiving less than a contracted price for your crop.

For hay crops a quality test must have been performed and that test must include all production for that cutting on that unit. If you think you may qualify please contact the county office at 883-6924.

The **quality** portion of the crop disaster program is open now. No deadline has been announced.

## EQIP

A reminder that EQIP applications are accepted on a continuous basis. The ranking cutoff and criteria for 2009 EQIP funding will be announced at a later date.

## 2008 WOOL, MOHAIR AND UNSHORN PELT PAYMENTS

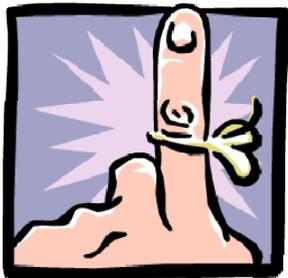
Eligible producers may apply now for loan deficiency payments (LDP) for unshorn pelts produced during the 2008 and wool and mohair sheared in 2008. You will need to have a CCC-633EZ on file at the time you deliver your crop to be eligible for the LDP. If you have not filed your 633EZ please contact the county office. The program provides price support payments for eligible commodities when the county price falls below or is deficient of the loan rate, thus creating a payment rate.



## CRP-Critical Feed Use

Beginning June 2, 2008 CRP participants may request to voluntarily modify CRP contracts for critical feed use, such as haying and grazing.

This critical use provision is being allowed since the prices for forage and grain are at record high prices and have impacted the livestock industry. A \$75 administrative fee per contract does apply.



*Program  
Reminders*

## Changing Faces

Dawn Rose has joined FSA as a permanent program technician. Dawn will be in charge of disaster programs and the DCP program. You may remember Dawn who worked in our office in 2006 and 2007. Dawn replaces Joe Hess who has been appointed the County Executive Director for the Jackson-Josephine County office in Medford.

The Klamath Soil and Water Conservation District welcome T.J. Woodley as the manager. T.J. previously worked for the district and NRCS in Tulelake. The district also welcomed Karen Smith as the office manager. Karen had previously worked for FSA. Good luck to all in their new positions.

## Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) can make and guarantee loans to eligible socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders. Contact the local FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer for more details and assistance in applying.



## Farm Reconstitutions

In program terminology, farms are constituted to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug. 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

**Estate Method** — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

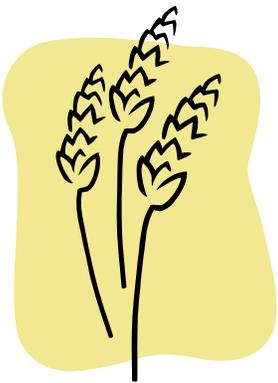
**Designation of Landowner Method** — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

**DCP Cropland Method** — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

**Default Method** — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

## Report Changes

Remember to report any changes to your operation to the Farm Service Agency. Changes include bank account, change in owners on property, change in your corporations. Reporting these changes will help us provide better service to you.



Dates to Remember	
June 15	COC Nomination Ballots are Mailed Out
July 4	Office Will be Closed for the 4 <sup>th</sup> Of July Holiday
July 18	Signup Deadline for Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)
August 15	Acreage Reporting Deadline
September 30	Direct and Counter Cyclical Program Deadline
No Deadline announced	Crop Disaster Program Quality and Quantity portions

Visit our Web site <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information ( Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.