



October 2007

# Lake County News

Lake County  
Farm Service Agency  
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**Hours**  
Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**  
Alice Dinsdale  
Martin Murphy  
Jim McNeley

**Office Staff**  
Marti Hamilton  
Maryanne Webster

## **Crop Disaster Program (CDP)**

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005 through 2006 and for 2007 crops if the crop was planted before February 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to receive benefits.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.

The maximum benefit available is \$80,000. Producers eligible for CDP may also receive benefits under LIP. Sign-up for CDP began October 15, 2007.

## **Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)**

LCP compensates livestock producers for grazing or stored feed losses resulting from natural disasters occurring between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007. Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared Presidential disaster areas between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007 are eligible. Grazing losses must be attributed to the declared disaster event (drought, excessive moisture, etc.)

Currently Lake County producers are only eligible for losses that occurred between December 31, 2005 and January 4, 2006 as a result of severe storms and excessive moisture in contiguous Nevada counties.

Several congressmen have requested that the legislation be amended to extend the coverage for this program through December 31, 2007. Producers will be notified as soon as possible if the legislation is amended.

## **County Committee Elections**

The Farm Service Agency County Committee election will be held this year on December 3, 2007. A 3-year term is open in Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3—Christmas Valley, Fort Rock, Silver Lake. Eligible voters in LAA #3 should begin receiving ballots in the mail during the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Completed ballots must be either received by the county office or postmarked by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please participate in this important process and return your completed ballot to the county office.

## **Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Applicants**

The Farm Service Agency can make direct and guaranteed loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family-size farms and ranches. A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Direct loans may be made to applicants by FSA for both farm operating and farm ownership loans. Guaranteed farm loans also may be made for ownership or operating purposes, and may be made by any lending institution subject to federal or state supervision (e.g., banks and units of the Farm Credit System) and guaranteed by FSA. FSA typically guarantees 90 or 95 percent of a loan against any loss that might be incurred if the loan fails. Persons who are primarily and directly engaged in farming and ranching on family-size operations may apply. Socially disadvantaged loan applicants do not receive automatic approval. Individual applicants under this program must meet all requirements for FSA's regular farm loan program assistance.

## **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 and State Committee members has 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 producer in connection with participation in FSA programs as well as the producer's compliance with applicable program requirements. 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.

Producers selected for a 2007 national compliance and spot check review have been notified of their selection.

### **Important Dates**

November 12, 2007—Office closed in observance of Veteran's Day

November 22, 2007—Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

December 3, 2007—Final date to return county committee election ballot for LAA #3

December 25, 2007—Office closed for Christmas holiday

January 1, 2008—Office closed for New Year's holiday

### **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.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD) USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.