

Missoula – Mineral  
FSA County Office  
3550 Mullan Rd, #106  
Missoula, MT 59808

### County Committee Members

Paul Hanson – Chairman  
Ray Rugg – Vice Chair  
Bob Schroeder – Member  
Denley Loge – Member  
Jody Wills - Member

### FSA Office Personnel

Collette Rulison – Acting CED  
Shay Hanson – Office Clerk

### Dates to Remember:

**Notice of Loss** – 15 calendar days following disaster

**July 16** – Acreage reporting deadline

**Aug 1** – Deadline for Reconstitutions

**Aug. 1** – Final Date for Nominations for COC

**Aug. 3** – Deadline for DCP Signup

**September 25-27** – Tribal Outreach Forum, Bozeman

**October 2-3** – Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium, Dillon



# Missoula - Mineral Co. FSA May 2007

## Loan & LDP Final Availability Dates

Loans and LDP's are available to eligible producers who have:

- ❖ Reported acreage of the crop for which a loan or LDP is requested.
- ❖ Complied with all other program provisions

Request for loans and LDP's shall be made on or before the final availability date. Following are the final availability dates for crops harvested in 2006 for eligible grains, oilseeds, pulse crops, wool & mohair and honey:

Commodity	Availability Date
Corn, Grain sorghum, Mustard seed, Safflower seed, Soybeans, Sunflower seed, Dry peas, Lentils and Small chickpeas	May 31, 2007
Wool/mohair for wool/mohair clipped in calendar year 2007	January 31, 2008

## 2007 Final Year of DCP Program Under 2002 Farm Bill

The sign-up deadline for the 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program has been extended from June 1 to August 3, 2007.

The extension applies only to the enrollment time frame and does not extend the annual DCP contract period beyond September 28, 2007. A late-file fee of \$100 will be assessed for farms that are enrolled after August 3, 2007 but no later than September 28, 2007. Applications filed after September 28, 2007 cannot be approved.

We encourage you to signup early to avoid the \$100 late file fee. Contact the office to set up an appointment.

## LOAN and LDP Violations

**Incorrect Certification** is either of the following:

- ❖ Certifying a quantity in excess of the quantity eligible for loan or LDP
- ❖ Making any fraudulent representation with respect to obtaining loans or LDPs.

**Unauthorized Removal** is the movement of any farm-stored loan quantity from the storage structure where the commodity was stored or structures that were designated when the loan was approved to any other storage structure whether or not the structure is located on the producer's farm without prior written authorization from the COC. Unauthorized removal is considered a violation if the producer does not maintain control of the commodity or CCC loses first lien on the collateral.

**Unauthorized Disposition** is the conversion of any loan quantity pledged as collateral for a farm-stored loan without prior written authorization from the COC.

### Consequences of Loan and LDP Violations may be:

- ❖ Assessment of liquidated damages and other administrative actions, and shall be liable for monetary amounts as specified in the applicable regulations and terms and conditions of the applicable forms.
- ❖ Criminal prosecution under Federal Law.

## Farm Reconstitution

A completed farm reconstitution to divide or combine farms will result in the termination of the Direct & Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) contract. The farm producers may enroll the base acres for a crop year by signing a new DCP (CCC-509) for the resulting farm (s). This must be done by August 3 or 30 days after written notification that the farm reconstitution has been completed. If a CCC-509 is signed between

August 3 and September 28, a \$100 user fee will be assessed. The fee is waived if the reconstitution is requested by August 1 and all signatures are obtained within 30 days following the written notification. The failure to timely enroll the base acres may

## COC Election Approaching

Beginning **June 15, 2007**, 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 Missoula County is LAA 1 (Missoula and Frenchtown Valley). This year for Mineral County is LAA 5 (St. Regis to Superior area).

The nominee must sign the nomination form in order to be nominated as a COC member.

Nomination forms are also available at the county office or by logging on to the Montana FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>.

Please remember that as a county committee member you are the local voice of how FSA programs are administered to meet your local community and resource needs.

Nomination forms must be submitted to the FSA county office by **August 1, 2007**. Ballots will be sent to eligible voters beginning November 2, 2007. The final day for voters to submit their voted ballots is December 3, 2007.

## Measurement Service Charges

On farm measurement is charged at:

- Basic farm fee of \$30.00;
- Plus an hourly rate of \$16.00 for the first hour and \$8.00 for each additional ½ hour after the first hour. The minimum is 1 hour.

The hourly rate includes the time to travel from the FSA county office to the farm, complete the measurement service and return to the county office.

An "Initial Fee" is required at the time the measurement service is requested and the fee must be collected before the measurement service is performed. The initial fee will be the basic rate plus the hourly minimum. Once the service has been completed the actual fee will be calculated. The initial fee will be subtracted from the calculated fee and a letter will be

subtracted from the calculated fee and a letter will be sent informing you of the additional amount owed. If the amount is \$9.99 or less then an additional fee is not required.

### Measurement Service Charges (cont.)

In-office measurements are charged at:

- a basic farm rate of \$15.00 plus a 30-minute minimum rate of \$8.00.

Bin site measurements will be calculated according to the farm number and the physical location of the bins:

- for one farm with multiple bin sites, only one FSA-409 (a written request to have acreage measured by FSA) is required;
- for multiple farms and all the grain is stored in bins at one site, only one FSA-409 is required where the bin site is physically located;
- for multiple farms with a different bin site for each farm, a separate FSA-409 is required for each farm and bin site.

### Youth Summer Camps Available

#### **Montana**

#### **Envirothon –**

Lewistown,  
April 23 & 24,  
2007.

Contact Shonny

Nordlund at 406/538-7401, ext. 101

[shonny.nordlund@mt.nacdn.net](mailto:shonny.nordlund@mt.nacdn.net)

**Montana Range Days –** Conrad, June 18-20, 2007. Contact Kody Farkell at 406/278-7611 ext. 101 for further information.

#### **Montana Youth Range Camp –**

Roundup, July 23-27, 2007. Contact the Lower Musselshell Conservation District at 406/323-2103.

#### **Montana Natural Resources Youth**

**Camp –** Lubrecht Experimental Forest northeast of Missoula, July 22-27, 2007. Contact your local Conservation District.

For complete camp information logon to the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation web site at: <http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/camps/default.asp> or by calling 406/444-6667.

### 2007 Acreage Reports

2007 acreage reports are being accepted now in the office. All acreage reports need to be accurate and filed by the final reporting date of **July 16, 2007**.

Certification is mandatory if any of the following apply:

- ◆ You receive DCP payments
- ◆ You have acres enrolled in CRP
- ◆ Loans or LDP's will be requested; including Wool, Mohair and Honey (*All cropland on the farm must be certified to be eligible for DCP and loan program benefits*).

- ◆ Acreage is covered by NAP  
Failure to report accurately may result in loss of program and price support benefits.

### Conservation Compliance

Federal regulations discourage the production of crops on highly erodible cropland unless the land is protected from erosion by an approved conservation system. Status reviews are conducted to ensure producers follow a conservation plan on highly erodible land.

In addition to the highly erodible land, a person may not plant an agricultural commodity on wetland converted after Dec. 23, 1985, or convert a wetland to make agricultural production possible after Nov. 28, 1990.

Failure to comply with these provisions will cause a person to be ineligible for USDA benefits. County Committees may review noncompliance situations for good faith and provide relief in approved cases.

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***Important Dates to Remember***

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