



SERVICE CENTER

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Morrow County FSA

PO Box 786

Heppner, OR 97836

541-676-9011 x 2 (phone)

541-676-9624 (fax)

Hours

Monday—Friday

8:00 am—4:30 pm

County Committee

Chair: Todd Lindsay—LAA 2

Vice Chair: Tim Rust—LAA 1

Member: Anne Morter—LAA 3

Staff

Lorrie Fox

Adam Doherty

Bobbette Lovgren

Director

Darcy Vial

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Livestock Indemnity Program Deadline

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster. Using funds from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 902 of the Trade Act of 1974, the program is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in



1st Deadline:

September 13

excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011. **Producers must sign up for Jan. 1 2008 through July 12, 2009 losses by September 13, 2009.**

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.

The application deadline date for the 2010 NAP coverage is:

[October 1](#) Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeets.

[November 20](#) Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberrys, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, honey, nectarine, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts.

[November 30](#) All forage and grazing crops except oat forage and grazing.

[March 15](#) Beans, broccoli, cantaloupe, camelina, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, oats, pears, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelons.

Producers who already have coverage on 2009 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2010, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops.

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 weights 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.

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

CSP Meeting

There will be a NRCS CSP Stewardship Program informational meeting at the Heppner USDA Service Center on:

**Thursday, Sept. 10th
9:00 am—Heppner**

**Tuesday, Sept. 8th
9:00 am—HAREC**

FSA Annual Payments

Do you have all of your Payment Eligibility documents in to the FSA office?

FSA will begin making DCP, ACRE, CRP and GRP annual payments the first part of October. Please contact the FSA office if you have had any banking changes, or entity changes.

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.

NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program

Agricultural producers and operators of non-industrial private forests are urged to apply for the new Conservation Stewardship Program before **September 30** to be considered for this year's funding. Through this voluntary program, producers have the opportunity to receive conservation payments through the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

NRCS is accepting applications on a continuous basis. Applicants will be evaluated and ranked for funding competitively within the state, based on the conservation they agree to install and maintain on their land.

Conservation Stewardship Program rules were recently approved, and signup for the 2009 funding cycle closes on **September 30**. As more applications are accepted through the continuous signup in future years, competition for enrollment is likely to increase. "Due to the shorter timeframe, we encourage producers to sign up as soon as they can," Oregon NRCS State Conservationist Ron Alvarado said.

In Oregon, individuals, entities and tribes have the opportunity to enroll just over 200,000 acres of working cropland, grazing land, or non-industrial private forestland in Fiscal Year 2009. Payment rates have not been established, however national estimates for projected payment ranges have been released.

Conservation Stewardship Program - Nationally Estimated Range for Annual Payments -	
Cropland	\$12 to \$22 per acre
Non-industrial Private Forestland	\$6 to \$12 per acre
Pastureland	\$7 to \$14 per acre
Rangeland	\$5 to \$10 per acre
Establishment of Resource-Conservation Crop Rotations	\$12 to \$16 per acre

Final payment rates will be determined this fall, and pre-approved 2009 applicants will be notified of their payments, which cannot exceed \$40,000 per year. Those who then decide to enter into a program contract will receive their first annual payment in October of 2010.

For participation in 2009, applicants must complete the following steps before September 30:

- Complete a Self-Screening Checklist to determine if the program is a good fit.
- Work with the local USDA Service Center to verify program eligibility.
- Submit a program application form.
- Submit an operation map, aerial photograph or overlay.

Once these steps are completed, NRCS will work with applicants to gather further information about the land, select additional conservation activities, conduct field visits, and develop a stewardship plan.

Questions? Contact Tom Bennett at the Heppner NRCS Office at 541-676-5021 x113

COC Voting Begins November 6, 2009

Voting Begins Nov. 6

COC Election ballots for LAA I will be mailed to eligible voters beginning Nov. 6, and must be returned to the county office by the close of business on Dec. 7, or postmarked by midnight Dec. 7, 2009.

The nominee for LAA I is Tim Rust, Echo.

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA pro-

gram. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote.

No one can be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

For additional clarification about county committee elections, contact your local county office staff.



Farm Loans Available

Loan applications are being accepted for farm operating and ownership purposes. Operating loans include annual operating expenses, farm equipment and livestock purchases, and refinancing related debt. Ownership loans include the purchase or enlargement of a farm, or the construction and/or repair of buildings. Loan guarantees are available to lenders where FSA provides up to a 90% guarantee of loss on the principal of a farm loan. The loan purposes are similar to FSA's Direct Loans, except refinancing real estate debt is also eligible under the Guarantee Program.

FSA's ability to partner with commercial lenders provides for useful tools in meeting your credit needs. FSA can provide for just a portion of your credit needs i.e. a tractor purchase, etc. when we work in consultation with your commercial lender.

FSA provides Direct and Guarantee loan assistance for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged producers as well. An applicant is considered a Beginning Farmer if they have not operated a farm for more than 10 years. Youth loans are available for 4-H and FFA members' ages 10 through 20 who want to start any income producing enterprise recommended by their leader.

*More Farm
Loan Program
Questions?*

*Contact the
FLP Staff in
Pendleton at
541-278-8049*

Ext. 2

Marketing Assistance Loans

A Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) is available for producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, a producer must maintain continual beneficial interest in the crop from harvest through the earlier of the date the loan is repaid or CCC takes title to the commodity. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if the producer regains beneficial interest.

Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. For commodities to be eligible they must have been produced by an eligible

producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical and/or ACRE Programs to be eligible for commodity loans.

Violating provisions of a marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans.

The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

USDA – FARM SERVICE AGENCY
MORROW COUNTY OFFICE
PO BOX 786
HEPPNER, OR 97836

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Dates to Remember:

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|--------------|---|
| September 13 | LIP Deadline for losses prior to July 12, 2009 |
| September 10 | CSP Stewardship Program Informational Meeting—Heppner, 9:00 am |
| September 15 | CRP Public Meeting to solicit comments—Spokane, WA |
| September 30 | NRCS Stewardship Program CSP Deadline—Round I |
| October 1 | NAP Deadline—Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeet, triticale grain |
| November 20 | NAP Deadline—Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberrries, chest nuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, honey, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts |
| November 30 | NAP Deadline—All forage and grazing crops, except oats. All grasses and legumes for seed. |
| TBA | SURE Crop Disaster Program Sign-Ups |
- *Within 15 Days of damage becoming apparent—File NAP Notice of Loss

The United States 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 programs. (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 Adjudication and Compliance, 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.

eGov is available on-line: Producers have the ability to apply for program assistance via their home computers. Interested producers must first obtain a level 2 clearance before using this system. You can register online at www.egov.usda.gov or you can visit our office to obtain the required Level 2 authority. Once this is done, your ID is verified by the FSA office, and your account is activated, you can go on-line to do USDA business. Level 2 authority will allow you access to: Loan Deficiency Program, Direct & Counter Cyclical Payment Program, Farm Loan Program, Financial Ser-