



September 2007

FERRY & OKANOGAN COUNTY FSA NEWS

Ferry County FSA

P.O. Box 323
84 E. Delaware
Republic, WA 99166
Phone (509) 775-3390
Fax (509) 775-3170

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

County Committee

Kathy Olson, Chairperson
Luanne Finley, Vice-Chairperson
Dave Konz, Regular Member

Office Staff

Gary Breiler, CED
Virginia Lane, PT



Okanogan County FSA

1251 2nd Ave. S. Rm 103
Okanogan, WA 98840
Phone (509) 422-3292
Fax (509) 422-0532

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Jeff Delfeld, Chairperson
Ray Colbert, Vice-Chairperson
Stan Stout, Regular Member
Marcia Henneman, Advisor
James McCuen, Advisor

Office Staff

Gary Breiler, CED
Stu Skidmore, FLM
Judy Adams, PT
Sandy Hinger, PT
Jose Limon, FLO
Cliffene Coyne, PT
Candi Wilson, SCEP

Next COC Meetings:

Ferry – October 4th
Okanogan – October 4th

Meetings start at 10:00 AM

CED – County Executive Director
FLM – Farm Loan Manager
FLO – Farm Loan Officer
PT – Program Technician

FSA Web Site Address:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

WA State Web Site:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>

ACCESSIBILITY

Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations may contact the county office. FSA is committed to making programs accessible to all customers.



DISASTER PROGRAMS FOR CROPS, LIVESTOCK AND FEED

FSA is offering three ad hoc disaster programs to provide financial relief to farmers and ranchers who suffered losses caused by natural disasters in recent years. The **Crop Disaster Program (CDP) signup begins October 15, 2007** for agricultural producers who suffered yield losses. A later signup will be announced for quality crop losses. End dates for the program signups have yet to be announced. The Crop Disaster Program provides payments to producers who suffered damage to their crops. Damage includes decreased yields or prevented plantings. It also includes lower prices received due to impaired crop quality. The program covers losses that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007 if the crop was planted, or prevented from being planted, before February 28, 2007. Producers may claim losses for multiple crops but must choose one crop year if losses occurred in multiple years. Producers must have obtained crop insurance or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year for which the claim benefits. Yield loss must exceed 35 percent to be eligible for the Crop Disaster Program. Producers suffering losses in any county may apply for the Crop Disaster Program.

Sign-up has begun for the **Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)**. It compensates livestock producers for feed losses occurring between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007 due to a natural disaster. Sign-up has also begun for the **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**. This program pays producers for the physical loss of livestock due to natural disasters that occurred during the same January 1, 2005 to February 28, 2007 timeframe. Producers who suffered losses in multiple years must choose one year for each program application, in order to receive payments. In order to qualify, the county had to receive a Secretarial or Presidential Disaster Declaration or be in a contiguous county.

There have been no sign-up ending dates announced for these programs. For additional information about the LCP, LIP or CDP check the Farm Service Agency website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>. Please contact us to schedule an appointment if you wish to apply for any of these programs or if you have any questions.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The nomination period for the 2007 County Committee Elections closed on August 1st. The candidates for these elections will be:

- ◆ **Okanogan County Candidates:** Jeff Delfeld and Maurice Joy.
- ◆ **Ferry County Candidates:** Kathleen Olson and Llois Copelan.

The election will take place by mail-in ballot, from mid- November through December 3rd. More information on the candidates will be provided in the next county newsletter. Thanks to those who have been nominated and stated their willingness to serve on the County Committee.

NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DEADLINE

The Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) provides catastrophic coverage on crops considered to be non-insurable by USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA). Participants with NAP coverage are reminded that a written notice of loss (Form CCC-576) for crop losses must be reported promptly to our office within 15 days after a disaster event occurred, or when damage to the crop became evident. This is very important as failure to timely report disaster occurrences could make a crop ineligible for any NAP benefits. Lastly, if the disaster affected NAP crop is not going to be harvested a field appraisal prior to destruction or abandonment of the crop is required, which is the same procedure that is followed with crop insurance.

Producers may now purchase NAP coverage for 2008. The cost of the coverage is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer per county. Upcoming sales closing dates for coverage are as follows:

- ◆ **September 30** – Forage (hay and seed) crops and perennial grazing coverage.
- ◆ **November 20** – Orchard crops.

FINAL DATE FOR DCP LATE FILED APPLICATIONS

September 30th is the final contract deadline for 2007 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program. Contract revisions (changes of owners or operators) with all signatures must be obtained and returned to our office no later than September 28, 2007. Final DCP payments will be issued by mid-October.

CONSERVATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) serving Central Washington State has announced the 2008 sign-up for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and will be accepting applications for Fiscal Year 2008 funding through November 2, 2007. EQIP is a voluntary cost-incentive program that assists private landowners with the identification, rehabilitation and protection of natural resource concerns on grazing land, forestland, cropland, orchards and wildlife habitat.

Agricultural producers earning more than \$1,000 in annual income from an agricultural enterprise can submit applications at local USDA service centers through the close of business on Friday, November 2, 2007. Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to inquire as soon as practical. For application forms and program information, contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office at the appropriate county Agriculture Service Center. Telephone numbers are: Okanogan County (509) 422-2750 ext.3; Nespelem Sub-Office (509) 634-2320; Ferry County (509) 775-3473. **Bilingual services and forms are available.**

AGENCIA DE SERVICIOS AGRÍCOLAS (FSA) APROVÓ TALLER DE ADMINISTRACIÓN FINANCIERA (FSA Approved Financial Management Workshop)

El Centro para Agricultores Latinos, Un programa de Recursos de Desarrollo de Comunidades Rurales, proveerá un taller educativo para ayudar a los agricultores a manejar sus registros financieros y aprender a llenar las aplicaciones de préstamos del FSA con su información financiera. Durante este taller, los agricultores aprenderán como desarrollar un plan de Agricultura, el cual es requerido como un requisito en las aplicaciones de préstamos con el FSA. El taller educativo será dado en Español con una terminología financiera simple de entender.

Manejo Financiero del Prestatario - FSA
Martes a Viernes, 6, 7,8 y 9 de Noviembre, del 2007
5:00pm-9:00pm
Incubadora de Negocios Pequeños
22 Sur 3rd Ave, Yakima, WA 98902

El taller es requerido para aquellos agricultores que consideran aplicar para préstamos del FSA por primera vez, o para aquellos que han obtenido un préstamo del FSA por un periodo de dos años. Se recomienda registrarse lo mas pronto posible, hay cupo limitado. Para registrarse ó para mas información, llame al (509) 453-3157.

OFFICE CLOSURE

This office will be closed on October 8, 2007 in observance of Columbus Day.