

July 2007

Sheridan Co. FSA Office  
119 N. Jackson  
Plentywood, MT 59254  
406-765-1550

### County Committee

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Gordon French    | Chair      |
| David Friedrioch | Vice Chair |
| Kevin Wilson     | Member     |
| Ardelle Hart     | Advisor    |

### FSA Office Personnel

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Donna Hilyard, CED       | ext. 102 |
| Donelda Buckalew, PT     | ext. 105 |
| Karen Budd, PT           | ext. 104 |
| Kathy Gray, PT,          | ext. 100 |
| Josie Johnson, PT,       | ext. 109 |
| Marcia Rice, PT,         | ext. 112 |
| Michael Sandoval, PT     | ext. 110 |
| Randy Stadstad, Field    | ext. 103 |
| Stacy Buckley, Loan Mgr. | ext. 111 |

### Dates to Remember:

**July 16 – Deadline** to drop off crop certification maps

**July 16 – Deadline** to submit 2006 NAP production reports

**July 16 – Deadline** to file 2006 application for NAP payment

**August 1 – Reconstitution** Deadline for FY 2007

**August 1 – Deadline** to submit COC Nomination forms

**August 3 – Signature deadline** on 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP)

**September 3 – Labor Day – Office Closed**

**September 28 – Final date** for late filed 2007 DCP contracts

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



Farm Service Agency

## Sheridan County FSA Newsletter

### File Your Acreage Reports by July 16

Yearly acreage reports are required for producers to be eligible for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Non-insured Crop Disaster Program (NAP) and Price Support Programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported and certified to maintain this eligibility. Failure to report accurately may result in loss of program and price support benefits.

Acreage reports will be accepted from an owner, operator or tenant as well as those with power of attorney for these individuals. **The deadline for reporting acreage is July 16, 2007.** Maps filed after that date are subject to late-filed fees, a visual farm inspection, and mandatory spot checks unless the County Committee determines that the late filing was beyond the producer's control.

## Make Hay while the Sun shines

### Managed Haying and Grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Managed haying and grazing can begin only after you have filed a written request to hay or graze, and only after you receive written confirmation that the request has been approved. The managed grazing period is July 16<sup>th</sup> through November 12<sup>th</sup> for the number of days shown in your revised conservation plan. The managed haying period is July 16<sup>th</sup> to October 13<sup>th</sup>. Managed haying is allowed once every 5 years on the same acreage. No more than 50 percent of a field or contiguous fields may be hayed per year. Managed grazing is allowed once every 3 years on the same acreage. Once the haying or grazing is complete, you will need to file a written report of the total number of acres hayed or grazed, the tonnage of hay, and the number of livestock owned. **NOTE:** a few contracts may have August 2<sup>nd</sup> begin dates for haying and grazing, and may only be hayed once every 10 years. You will be notified of the appropriate dates when you are signing up for haying or grazing.

**REPORT NAP CROP LOSSES AND CHANGES**

Did you have hail on a crop you have a NAP policy on?? Did you have an area that drowned out? If so, a CCC-576 Notice of Loss must be filed within 15 days of the disaster. For other types of disasters that would cause low yield, the CCC-576 should be filed within 15 days of when the damage becomes apparent.

If you will be changing the intended use of the crop (haying instead of harvesting as grain; or grazing instead of haying or harvesting, for example) or abandoning the crop (summer-fallowing instead of taking a crop to harvest), you must first let FSA know so we can do a crop appraisal. Failure to promptly notify FSA of a NAP crop loss or change in intended use can cause ineligibility for NAP benefits.



**2005 County Committee Election**

Nominations are being accepted until AUGUST 1, 2007 for candidates for County Committee (COC) positions. Producers are reminded that county committee members are the local voice on how USDA programs and benefits address local natural resource and economic needs and disaster situations.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the following basic eligibility criteria:

- Be of legal voting age and meet either of the following conditions:
  4. Be eligible to vote as an individual or member of a general partnership or joint venture in the LAA in which the person is a candidate;
  5. Represent a legal entity, other than a general partnership or joint venture, that is eligible to vote in the LAA in which the person is a candidate and meet each of the following:
    - a) be designated by the corporation, limited partnership, estate, trust, or other business enterprise to be its sole candidate for membership on the applicable committee;

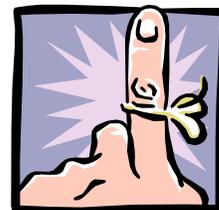
- a) be a corporation stockholder or authorized representative for an heir to an estate, a beneficiary of a trust, or an individual having an ownership interest in any entity, excluding general partnerships and joint ventures.

2. A person must reside in the LAA in which the person is a county committee candidate.
3. A person will be ineligible to run for a county committee position if they have been removed or disqualified from holding a county committee position, alternate, or employee; removed from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement, or any other felony; or dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

The nominee must sign the nomination form in order to be nominated as a COC member. A nomination form follows in this newsletter. 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>.

**2007 DCP Contracts have August 3 Deadline!**

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.



# COC Election Approaching

Nominating petitions are being accepted until **AUGUST 1** for candidates for a County Committee (COC) position. Nominations forms are available at the county office or by logging on to the Montana FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>. Please sign and submit a nominating petition by 8/1/07!

A county 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 Sheridan Co. is Area 3, which is located in Townships 35 through 31, Ranges 56 through 59 (generally south of Highway 5 and east of Highway 16). LAA 3 is currently represented by David Friedrich. David is unable to run again as his term limit of 9 consecutive years will be up in December.

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| FSA-669A (05-17-05) Page 2  |  | Form Approval - OMB No. 0560-0229   |  |
| FSA-669A<br>(05-17-05)  |  | U.S. Department of Agriculture<br>Farm Service Agency   |  |
| <b>NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION</b>  |  |   |  |
| 1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or print Nominee's Name exactly as it should be on ballot)   |  | <b>TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE</b>   |  |
| 2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE   |  |   |  |
| 3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION<br><i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.<br><input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.  |  | 5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE<br>(MM-DD-YYYY)   |  |
| 4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE  |  | 4B. DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)   |  |
|   |  | <b>DATE OF ELECTION IS 1st MONDAY OF DECEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR</b>   |  |
| <b>8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE</b>  |  |   |  |
| VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.  |  |   |  |
| ETHNICITY<br><input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino   |  | RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)<br><input type="checkbox"/> America Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American<br><input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander<br><input type="checkbox"/> White |  |
|   |  | GENDER<br><input type="checkbox"/> Male<br><input type="checkbox"/> Female  |  |
| <b>INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM</b>  |  |   |  |
| Complete the form as follows:   |  |   |  |
| <b>ITEM 1</b> Enter the nominee's name as it is to be shown on the ballot. The nominee must be:   |  |   |  |
| A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.  |  |   |  |
| B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.  |  |   |  |
| C. Willing to serve if elected.   |  |   |  |
| <b>ITEM 2</b> Enter the nominee's current address.  |  |   |  |
| <b>ITEM 3</b> The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.  |  |   |  |
| <b>ITEM 4</b> The nominee must sign and date.   |  |   |  |
| <b>ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1.</b>   |  |   |  |
| <b>NOTE:</b> The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.<br><br>According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE. |  |   |  |

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
 Sheridan County FSA Office  
 119 N. Jackson  
 Plentywood, MT 59254

PRESORT STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 BOZEMAN, MT 59718  
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## *Inside this Issue*

**DCP signature deadline**  
**Acreage reporting deadline**  
**NAP notice of loss**  
**CRP hay/graze requests**  
**COC Election Information**  
**COC Nomination Form**

### *Important Dates to Remember*

**July 16 – Deadline** to submit acreage report maps  
**August 1 – Deadline** to submit a nominating petition  
**for County Committee election**  
**August 3 – Deadline** to timely enroll in DCP  
**September 3 – Labor Day – Office Closed**  
**September 28 – DCP contract late-filed signature deadline.**

### **2005 County Committee (COC) Election Dates**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| August 1   | Nomination forms must be returned to county office  |
| November 4 | COC Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters       |
| December 5 | Completed ballots must be returned to county office |
|            |   |

### **Expiring CRP Contracts with Base Acres**

**Attention:** Currently, the 2002 Farm Bill provides for restoration of lost base acres when a CRP contract expires. That provision ends September 30, 2007 with the expiration of the 2002 Farm Bill. FSA will not know how base acres will be treated until the new Farm Bill is implemented.

### **Hull-less Barley and Oats**

Hull-less barley and hull-less oats are not eligible for 2007 price support activities. According to the United States Grain Standards Handbook (Book II, Barley & Oats) detailed definition of barley and oats, the term "barley" shall not include hull-less or black barley. Since the hull-less variety does not meet the definition of barley or oats, it is considered to be a non-standardized grain and therefore not eligible for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) or Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs).