



June 2007

SPOKANE-PEND OREILLE COUNTY FSA

Spokane Pend Oreille County FSA

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Spokane Valley, WA 99212
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Pend Oreille County Producers for which 447 is a local call can dial 447-4216 for a toll free call.

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Jim Ryan, Chairman
Charlotte Yergens, Vice-Chair
Regina Clausen, Member
Louise (Lou) McLam, Member
Sherman Norton, Member

Office Staff

Randy L. Primmer, CED
Randy.primmer@wa.usda.gov
Lorri Anderson, PT
Kay Kjack, PT
Betty Diedesch, PT
Dave Olson, PT
Cassie Wyman, Intern

Farm Loan Staff

Steven King, FLM
Steve.king@wa.usda.gov
Chris Sletager, FLO
Jo Anne Krupke, FLT

Next COC Meeting

June 14, 2007 @ 9:00 a.m.
Regular Business

FSA/USDA National Website:

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

Washington State FSA Site
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>

2007 Loan Rates Announced

Spokane County

SWW	\$2.74/bu
HRW	\$3.19/bu
HRS	\$2.97/bu
DURUM	\$3.27/bu
Barley	\$2.07/bu
	(\$86.25/ton)
Lentils (CWT)	\$13.31
Peas (CWT)	\$6.63



The County Committee and the office staff would like to thank all the producers for being patient during the 2007 crop year. The Improper Payments Review has been very time consuming and has put all the other work months behind the normal schedule. CED Primmer state, “the producers have been very understanding and cooperative” making our life a lot easier. Thank you for your cooperation.

ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE IS JUNE 30

Our office is currently taking appointments for acreage reporting for crop year 2007. Because the Improper Payment Review process took so much additional time the staff is quite a ways behind on acreage reporting this year. **We are asking that you call our office and get your name on our register to certify. We will then call you to arrange for an appointment as we work through the list.** If we do not get all the reporting done by the June 30th deadline the register will be used to schedule appointments for those on the register. **Those producers will be considered timely filed because they are on the register. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.**

DIRECT & COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP) SIGNUP DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL AUGUST 3, 2007

The deadline to signup for the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) has been extended to August 3, 2007. Problems with FSA’s computer system and the Improper Payment Review caused agency officials to extend the deadline to ensure adequate opportunity for all producers to signup and participate. Producers who have not returned all the required signatures or have not enrolled by August 3 have until September 30th to late file a request to participate. A late fee of \$100 per farm will be charged for late filing.

NONINSURED CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM PRODUCTION REPORTS REQUIRED

2006 NAP participants have until June 30, 2007 to turn in their 2006 production history. This production is used to determine the units Actual Production History (APH) for 2007. Failure to turn in the production results in inaccurate yields on the unit.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominations for the County FSA Committee are now being accepted. Nomination is done by petition that must be delivered to the County FSA Office by August 1, 2007. Only one valid nomination is required. If no petitions are received, the County FSA Committee must complete the slate of three candidates. The election will be held by mail ballot. All ballots must be returned or postmarked by December 3, 2007. All farm owners, operators, and their spouses in the applicable Local Administrative Area (LAA) are eligible to be a candidate and to vote in the election. Any farm producer who is not listed on FSA’s records should contact their local FSA office so the records may be updated. FSA encourages the nomination of under-represented group candidates including minorities and women. Nomination forms are being sent to all eligible producers in a separate mailing and are also available upon request from the county FSA office. In Spokane County LLA #2 is up for election. This is the Northwest part of Spokane County currently represented by James Ryan. Jim is eligible for re-election. In Pend Oreille County the LLA area up for election is area 4. This is the Southern part of the county currently represented by Charlotte Yergens. Charlotte is eligible for re-election. Producers are encouraged to get involved by nominating candidates of their choice to represent them on the FSA Committee.

WEED CONTROL ON CRP

Last year our office inspected Conservation Reserve Program acreage on approximately 275 contracts in Spokane County. This inspection was required for extensions and re-enrollment of contracts. Many producers had or currently have required actions to complete to be eligible for the extension or re-enrollment. Please follow your conservation plan for weed control, seedbed preparation and seeding in a timely manner. Many producers were required to mow or shred their CRP for control of weeds, mainly Dalmatian toadflax. Our office only required one mowing operation to remain in compliance with the CRP contract, in most cases, where there was an acceptable grass stand. However, follow-up actions this year to control the Dalmatian toadflax should be done in most cases. Remember, producers are responsible to control weeds that can move off the field to surrounding land. If you have a need to be out mowing the weeds during the primary nesting season you must request permission and be approved to control those weeds during the primary nesting season. County office employees will be out spot checking CRP acreage again this year. Failure to control weeds is a contract violation and the committee can assess standard payment reductions or termination of the contract in severe cases.

THE PRIMARY NESTING SEASON AND CRP WEED CONTROL

The primary nesting season for all CRP contracts that were written with haying or grazing provisions and approved prior to 9-26-06 is April 1 to July 1. For those contract approved after 9-26-06 the primary nesting season is April 1 to August 1. For those newer CRP contracts that do not have certified grass stand the primary nesting season provisions do not apply. Care should be taken to protect nesting birds but weed control is important during the establishment period of these grass/legume stands.

SALES CLOSING DATE FOR 2008 NAP INSURANCE

Producers who had 2007 Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) insurance should have gotten a letter informing them that they have continuous coverage and they need to submit the required administrative fee if they wish to continue coverage for 2008. The sales closing date for mustard, canola, value loss crops (Christmas trees, nursery, turf grass sod, carrots, radish onions and cabbage for seed or fresh is August 31, 2007. Perennial crops like bluegrass and hay have a sales closing date of October 1. Tree fruits have a closing date of November 20.

SUMMER INTERN WORKING IN OUR OFFICE

Cassie Wyman is a senior at Washington State University majoring in General Agriculture with a minor in Animal Science. She will be working with the office staff administering farm programs and farm loan programs. Cassie was raised on a dairy farm and later raised beef cattle, orchard crops and grew hay. Her background and education will be helpful as she learns the administration of FSA programs. The committee and staff welcome Cassie and look forward to working with her.

FARM RECORD CHANGES

One item that has come out of all this records review is the fact that FSA is not being informed timely about changes in names of farming operations. A large number of ownerships of land have been changed from individual owners to Living Trusts, Revocable Trusts and Limited Liability Companies (LLC). Most changes are discovered when a death occurs and we find this out based on the will. If you have not updated our office on these record changes please provide the information and the paperwork that documents these changes.