



## March 2012

### Lower Columbia Area FSA (Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, and Wahkiakum Counties)

11104 NE 149<sup>th</sup> Street, C-500  
Brush Prairie, WA 98606  
(360) 883-1987 ext. 2  
Fax: (360) 885-2284

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

### County Committee

Ken Bajema LAA4, Chair  
Gary Boldt LAA2, Vice-Chair  
Erin Thoeny LAA1, Member  
Gordon Calvert LAA5, Member  
Joe Shulke LAA3, Member

### Office Staff

Taylor Murray, CED  
Wes Taylor, PT

### Farm Loan Staff

Jeff Peterson, FLM  
Ruth Wynn, FLT  
1554 Bishop Road, Suite 100  
Chehalis, WA 98532-8710  
(360) 748-0083 ext. 2  
FAX: (360) 740-9745

### Next COC Meeting

Wednesday, March 21, 2012  
10:00 am

### Dates to Remember

**March 15** - NAP closing date  
for spring planted crops, small  
grain forages, mustard, radish,  
summer planted buckwheat

**March 15** – Deadline for  
RMA's AGR-Lite – whole farm  
revenue insurance

**May 1** - NAP closing date for  
value loss crops

**May 28** - Office closed for  
federal holiday

**June 1** - DCP/ACRE signup  
deadline

**June 1** - SURE 2010 loss  
signup deadline

**June 30** – Deadline to file  
acreage reports for all crops

**June 30** – Deadline to submit  
2011 crop production  
certification for NAP covered  
crops

**July 4** – office closed for  
federal holiday

### FSA Web Sites

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

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

USDA- <http://www.usda.gov>

## LAST PRINTED NEWSLETTER

The Farm Service Agency is moving toward a paperless operation. FSA's budget allows for this last printed newsletter only. If you wish to receive important program announcements and deadline reminders, enroll in the new GovDelivery system. You will receive newsletters and bulletins via email or text message instead of a hard copy through the mail.

FSA, like many other organizations, is trying to work smarter and be more efficient. Moving to electronic notifications via email will help conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars. County Committee ballots will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers.

You may subscribe to receive electronic updates by going to the USDA GovDelivery sign-up page found at the following web address: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>.

The form on the reverse side of this newsletter informs FSA of your intent to receive newsletters electronically. Complete blocks 1A, 1B, 3, 4, 8A, 8B and 8C. Select "No" in block 4 and return the form to the county office. The selection only applies to newsletters and bulk mail. You will still receive direct mail for your operation and county committee ballots. Staff can assist you with subscribing for electronic newsletters.

## 2012 DCP/ACRE SIGNUP UNDERWAY

We are currently taking appointments to sign up for 2012 DCP/ACRE program. The deadline to sign up is **June 1, 2012**. Please call the office to set up an appointment.

All producers with a crop share interest on DCP base acres must have a share in direct and counter-cyclical payments. Changes on the farm before or after enrolling in DCP/ACRE must be immediately reported to the local FSA office. Examples include ownership changes, producer changes (individuals and entities), and change in crop shares arrangements.

## NEW AGI FORMS REQUIRED FOR 2012

FSA and NRCS program participants, including all members of participating entities, must meet certain Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) requirements to qualify for benefits. Starting for the 2012 crop year, a new AGI form has been developed that both reports whether an applicant or member meets the AGI requirements and authorizes the IRS to confirm that information for FSA.

The new form also reflects an additional AGI limitation applicable only to 2012 direct payments. In addition to the \$500,000 average nonfarm AGI and the \$750,000 average farm AGI limitation, a \$1 million average AGI limitation will be applicable for 2012 direct payments.

New this year, most power-of-attorney authorizations will not work for this form. The form will have to be signed by the participant or entity member themselves. IRS will not accept FSA power-of-attorney forms. These new AGI forms are available today from your county office or on the FSA internet site.

## Updating Farm Ownership Records

To bring agency documents in line with state law, FSA asks that producers update their farm ownership records and program contracts to include their spouses. DCP/ACRE, CRP and other contracts signed from this point forward should include spouses, but this will not affect the share disbursement. FSA does not dictate how spouses are awarded contract shares. To prove that any property is separately owned, you must provide adequate documentation, other than a deed, to demonstrate your separate ownership.

FSA is in the midst of a drive to update a variety of producer records to streamline contract and program processes. Accurate records help ensure farmers and ranchers receive payments quickly and without problems. Also, updating FSA's farm ownership records to include spouses will guarantee that these spouses receive COC election ballots, since these spouses are eligible to vote in elections.

You can help by reviewing your FSA records and new contracts. Please let the office know if your spouse is missing from these documents. Contact this office for more information.

## Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for interests in partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities, or in certifying Adjusted Gross Income on CCC-931 forms.

Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

## Accessibility

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in any meeting, event or function should contact the county office. FSA is committed to making programs accessible to all customers.

This form is available electronically. Form Approved – OMB No. 0560-0265

<b>AD-2047</b> (08-04-09)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Farm Service Agency Rural Development Natural Resources Conservation Service		
<b>CUSTOMER DATA WORKSHEET REQUEST FOR SCIMS RECORD CHANGE</b>				
<b>(FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY)</b>				
<i>(See Page 2 for Privacy Act and Public Burden Statements)</i>				
<b>PART A – CUSTOMER INFORMATION</b>				
1A. Customer's Full Legal Name or Business Name		1B. Customer or Business Address (Including Zip Code)		
1C. Home Telephone Number (Area Code)	1D. Business Telephone Number (Area Code)	1E. Other Telephone Number (Area Code)		
2. SSN or Tax ID Number (9 Digits)	3. E-Mail Address	4. Customer Wishes to Receive Mail? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
5. Producer is Customer of One or More of the Following Agencies. (Check Appropriate Agency(ies) below:) <input type="checkbox"/> FSA <input type="checkbox"/> RD <input type="checkbox"/> NRCS <input type="checkbox"/> Not Participating				
6. Is the Customer a Multi-County Producer? <input type="checkbox"/> YES (If "YES," list States and/or Counties below.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
7. Reason for Request (Check appropriate box(es) below:) <input type="checkbox"/> New Producer <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Change <input type="checkbox"/> Sale/Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Life Event <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):				
8. Enter the name of the customer requesting the record change(s). If documentation is received by Fax or from a trusted source (i.e., USPS), attach documentation to this form. Only Part A, Item 1A and Part B shall be completed. If the request was received by telephone, complete applicable blocks necessary to document the change(s) and enter the requestor's name in Item 8A. Requestor's signature is not required. <i>(The only time the customer is required to sign Item 8B is when they are physically at a Service Center and providing FSA with applicable information.)</i>				
8A. Name of Customer Requesting Change		8B. Signature		8C. Date of Record Change (MM-DD-YYYY)
<b>PART B – SERVICE CENTER ACTION</b>				
9A. Agency Who Received Request: (Check one below.) <input type="checkbox"/> FSA <input type="checkbox"/> NRCS <input type="checkbox"/> RD		9B. Initials of Employee Receiving Request (If Different than Item 12A)		9C. Date Service Center Employee Received the Request (MM-DD-YYYY)
10. How the Request for Change was Received: <input type="checkbox"/> Office Visit <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> FAX <input type="checkbox"/> USPS <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):				
11. Remarks if Applicable:				
12A. Signature of Employee Updating SCIMS if not initialed in Item 9B.			12B. Date Service Center Employee Updating SCIMS (MM-DD-YYYY)	
<b>FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR/AREA CONSERVATIONIST USE ONLY.</b>				
13A. I concur/do not concur the above items have been properly updated. <input type="checkbox"/> Concur <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Concur				
13B. Name of District Director/Area Conservationist for Spot Check			13C. Signature of District Director/Area Conservationist for Spot Check	
13D. Title			13E. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	

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**Note:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is OMB Circular A-123, the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act of 1982, and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The information will be used to document a request for critical producer data changes within the Service Center Information Management System (SCIMS). The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for USDA/FSA-2, Farm Records File (Automated). Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility to request changes within SCIMS.

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 0560-0265. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 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.

The provisions of criminal and civil fraud, privacy and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**