



# NEWSLETTER



**Skagit-Island-San Juan Area  
FSA Office  
December, 2011**

2021 E. College Way Ste 212  
Mount Vernon WA 98273  
(360) 428-7758 ext 2  
(360) 848-1077 – fax  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>

**Office Hours**

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**Office Staff**

Sandra Starbuck, CED  
Ellen Medeiros, Program Tech  
Susan King, Program Tech

**County Committee**

Mark Wesen, Chairperson  
Todd Gordeon, Vice-Chair  
M.R. Buffum, Member  
Len Engle, Member  
Ernesto Roque, Member

More information may be found at  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>

**Dates to Remember:**

Anytime – Winter crop reporting – call  
for appointments

1/23/12 – DCP signup begins

3/15/12 – NAP signup spring crop  
deadline

6/1/12 – 2012 SURE signup ends

**Merry Christmas and Happy New  
Year from FSA in Mount Vernon!**



**FSA Area Committee Election Results**

The results of the recent election for the Skagit-Island-San Juan Area FSA Committee are as follows: Todd Gordon, from Skagit County, was elected to a 3-year term, and Len Engle, from Island County, was re-elected to a 3-year term. We would like to thank those who took the time to vote in this process. Your interest and participation in our annual election process are much appreciated.

**2010 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) Signup**

Signup for the 2010 SURE program is currently underway, in Skagit, Island and San Juan Counties. To be eligible, a producer must have a qualifying loss. A qualifying loss means at least a 10% production loss affecting one crop of economic significance due to a natural disaster on a farm in a disaster county. Producers outside a disaster county, but with production losses greater than or equal to 50% of the normal production on the farm (expected revenue for all crops on the farms), also qualify for SURE. For 2010, Skagit, Island and San Juan Counties are all eligible at the 10% loss level. Signup ends June 1, 2012.

For more information about the SURE program, please contact our office and/or see the following fact sheet:

[http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/sure\\_2011.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/sure_2011.pdf)

**2012 Direct-and-Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)**

Signup for the 2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program begins on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. Those persons who operate a farm with 10 acres of base or less can enroll the farm if at least 50% of the ownership is socially disadvantaged or limited resource producers. Final payments will be issued after October 1, 2012. Payment limitation remains at \$40,000 for each producer with a direct or indirect interest in payments from all farms enrolled in DCP and/or ACRE, if applicable.

## 2012 Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

FSA's NAP coverage insures producers against catastrophic crop losses of more than 50% due to adverse weather events. Earned payments are paid at 55% of the average market price for each crop, and are based on a comparison between your actual yield and your approved yield. A non-refundable administrative fee for NAP is \$250 per crop, to a maximum of \$750 for all crops in the County. For multi-county producers, coverage is a maximum of \$1875 for all crops grown in all counties. Coverage begins 30 days after the application is filed or after the crop is planted, whichever is later. NAP is available only for crops not covered by Federal Crop insurance policies provided by private insurance agents. Coverage is not offered under NAP for crops that can be covered or added by written agreement to an existing crop insurance policy, for example Fingerling Potatoes.

Below for your reference is a checklist of important notes and dates to remember:

- ✓ Report any crop damage within 15 days of the date of the occurrence by calling or stopping by our office and completing a form CCC-576 Notice of Loss form. We can email you the form to complete if you would like. Even if you don't know if the loss is severe enough to affect the yield overall, play it safe and report your loss immediately.
- ✓ Be sure not to destroy any NAP crop acreage prior to requesting a visit from the loss adjuster. If you do not request the adjuster's visit prior to destroying the field, you risk your loss not being eligible for coverage under NAP
- ✓ Remember your sales closing dates: March 15 is the 2012 sales closing date for spring-planted crops. Other 2012 sales closing dates have passed.
- ✓ Remember to certify or bring in your prior years' production for Actual Production History (APH) Yield purposes, by June 30 of the year following the year of harvest. Failure to bring in your production will result in a "0" in your average, which will lower your APH yield.
- ✓ If you are a grower of seed or other contract NAP crops, be sure to bring us a copy of your 2012 contracts. For cabbage seed, we request a copy of your contracts as soon as you can after receiving them. FSA uses all contracts for cabbage seed to establish the state yield and price, and this is why we request copies from you each year.



Sandra Starbuck, County Executive Director, has announced her retirement effective January 1, 2012. Sandra began her career with FSA (formerly ASCS) in Kalispell, Montana, in 1983 and transferred to Washington State in the Clark County office in 1990. She has been a CED since 1994, and has served the Skagit-Island-San Juan County office since 2008. An Open House will be held in Sandra's honor in the Skagit County FSA Office from **noon until 2 pm on January 12**. Be sure to stop by and give Sandra your best wishes! Ellen Medeiros will serve as Acting CED in the interim.