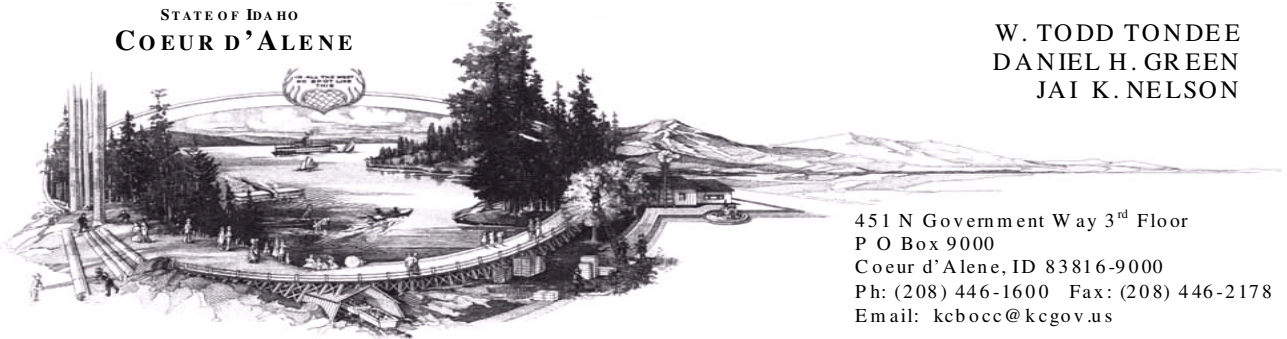


KOOTENAI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

STATE OF IDAHO
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Kootenai County Board of Commissioners

Media Release

June 14, 2011

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners has declared that an agricultural disaster emergency exists within Kootenai County as a result of excessive moisture conditions that have occurred over the last several months. Nearly 5,800 acres of spring wheat were not able to be planted this year and winter wheat that was planted last fall has been negatively impacted due to the wet conditions.

The disaster declaration will be forwarded to Governor Otter's office for his consideration in requesting a U.S. Department of Agricultural Secretarial Disaster Designation. A Secretarial Disaster Designation will allow eligible local farmers and land owners to apply for federal assistance from the USDA Farm Service Agency.

Commissioner Dan Green and Emergency Manager, Sandy Von Behren met with Governor Otter and officials from the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security on Friday to brief them on the status of current flood conditions as well as the financial hardships that local farmers and land owners are experiencing due to the unseasonably wet spring. This meeting took place while the Governor and BHS officials were on a flood assessment tour of the five northern counties.

Dan Green, Commissioner

By: Sandy Von Behren, Office of Emergency Management

Follow-up questions should be directed to Commissioner Dan Green