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## **Budget Proposal More of Same for Wheat Growers**

*Statement of NAWG President Dale Schuler on the Bush Administration's FY2008 budget proposals for agriculture:*

“The majority of the numbers in the Bush Administration’s 2008 budget are in line with USDA’s recently announced 2007 Farm Bill proposals, which would not properly support producers nor restore the principle of commodity neutrality.

“By providing stability to American producers in the form of strong and equitable federal farm policy, farm programs ensure a consistent supply of safe, affordable and abundant food, fiber, feed and fuel for the American people and people all over the world. It is not possible to realize the opportunities agriculture has right now without a strong budget that will keep growers on the land.

“An economic analysis NAWG recently had done showed that wheat has contributed an average of \$21.5 billion a year to the U.S. economy over the term of the past Farm Bill. In addition, more than 200,000 jobs are directly or indirectly related to wheat. It is estimated that 17 percent of jobs in America are somehow related to agriculture along with 15 percent of GDP. That is a return worth the investment.”

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