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Senate Committee to Hold Oversight Hearing on Williamson Act

The Senate Committee on Local Government, Chaired by Sen. Dave Cox (R-Fair Oaks), is holding a legislative oversight hearing on March 3 entitled, “The Williamson Act: Past, Present and Future?”

Legislative staff has contacted CCA to participate in a discussion on the importance of Williamson Act contracts, as a tool to keep land in ranching. CCA staff will remain engaged and ensure CCA is represented in the halls of the State Capitol. Please contact Dawn Clover at dawn@calcattlemen.org or call her at (916) 444-0845 with further questions.

CCA Testifies at Department of Fish and Game Oversight Hearing

On Tuesday, Feb. 9 the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife held an informational oversight hearing on the Department of Fish and Game protecting and managing California’s wildlife and biodiversity.

CCA staff was asked by the committee to provide testimony at the hearing on the stakeholders' perspective panel. CCA was the only landowner representative on the panel and provided comments recognizing the Department's awareness of the ecological importance of private working rangelands and landowner stewardship, having an open door policy with CCA at the leadership level and the awareness that game wardens play an important law enforcement role in many rural areas of the state.

Testimony also highlighted Department challenges, including CCA's opposition the Department's acquisition of lands, the current lack of management of state owned lands and challenges with the current permitting structure. For more information on this hearing contact Tracy Schohr at tschohr@calcattlemen.org.

Maldonado Bid for Lieutenant Governor Moves to Assembly Floor

This week, following a grueling two-hour hearing, the Assembly Rules Committee moved the Governor's appointment of Sen. Abel Maldonado (R-Santa Maria) for Lieutenant Governor to the Assembly Floor with a non-recommendation, a procedural method that moved the process forward, but did not record a yes or no vote of the Committee.

On Thursday, the Senate Floor voted to approve the Governor's nomination of Senator Maldonado, while the Assembly fell short by four votes on his approval. The Governor's legal team believes Maldonado's nomination is still alive because the Assembly did not have 41 votes to oppose the nomination, the same argument was rejected in 1988 following the rejection of nominee Dan Lungren for state treasurer. On Thursday afternoon, the Governor announced he would be swearing in Maldonado. CCA staff will continue to provide updates as they are made available.

32nd Annual CCA Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast set for March 23

Mark your calendars for March 22 and 23! CCA's annual Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast will be held March 23 at the Sutter Club in Sacramento at 6:45 a.m. This unique event offers you the opportunity to interact one-on-one with your elected leaders as well as hear from a slate of speakers about what your government officials and CCA are doing for you.

Following the breakfast, CCA staff will coordinate legislative office visits where you can personally meet with politicians from your area to share the importance of looking out for beef producers. Ag Day at the Capitol is also held on March 23, so you may also visit California commodity groups on the lawn of the capitol building to celebrate agriculture.

In addition, there will be a PAC-200 dinner held at Chops Steakhouse on March 22, the night prior to the breakfast. For information on becoming a PAC-200 member, to RSVP

for the dinner or breakfast or to sign up for legislative visits, contact Chaley Paulson in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or by e-mail at chaley@calcattlemen.org.

Chico State Beef Day to be held Feb. 20

The 19th Annual California State University, Chico (Chico State) Beef Day and Trade Show will be held Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Chico State Farm. Registration for the full-day event will begin at 8 a.m. with presentations set to begin at 9. This event serves as the primary fundraiser for Chico State's Young Cattlemen's Association, so all producers and allied industry affiliates are encouraged to attend.

This year's featured speakers will be Fred Provenza, Ph.D., an animal behavior and management expert from the College of Natural Resources at Utah State University as well as Frank Mitloehner, Ph.D., an air quality specialist at the University of California, Davis, who will talk about his research on livestock contribution to climate change.

In addition to these prestigious speakers, there will also be updates from CCA, University of California Cooperative Extension, California State University, Chico projects, as well as breakout educational sessions in the afternoon.

Cost for attendance is \$8 for students and \$12 for the general public. Registration fees include a Tri-tip lunch prepared by the Butte County Cattlemen's Association. Trade show booth space is available at \$150/space and includes two lunches. This is a great opportunity to support the future leaders of beef production, gain up-to-date information about your way of life and network with other beef producers and advertise your business!

For more information, contact Dave Daley, ddaley@csuchico.edu, (530) 898-6343 or (530) 898- 4539.

Attention Young Cattlemen: CCA Scholarship Applications are now available

Scholarship applications are now available on the CCA Web site, www.calcattlemen.org. Each year, CCA affiliates give nearly \$20,000 in scholarships to California's future beef producers.

Undergraduates, master's degree students or veterinarian students attending or enrolled in a junior college, four-year college or university with current membership standing at CCA may apply. To be considered, students must have graduated from a California high school or are attending college in California must have at least a 2.75 GPA.

If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, applications are due May 24. For more information, contact Megan Huber in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or megan@calcattlemen.org.

Stockmanship and Stewardship Tour Returns to California

The 2010 Stockmanship and Stewardship Tour is coming to an auction market near you! Take this opportunity to learn more about effective stockmanship, low-stress animal handling and being a good steward of your livestock. These efforts raise value, protect the livestock industry and preserve the farming and ranching way of life.

The tour features stockmanship instructor and nationally-recognized clinician Curt Pate, as well as other industry leaders. Programs will be held at the Tulare County Stockyards in Dinuba on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 12:20 p.m.; Escalon Livestock Market in Escalon on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 11 a.m.; and at the Shasta Livestock Auction Yard in Cottonwood on Friday, Feb. 26 at noon.

This event would not be possible without numerous sponsors and supporters. Sponsors of the tour include: Merial, Midcontinent Livestock Supplements, The American Quarter Horse Association, Purina, Miraco Livestock Water Systems, Priefert Ranch Equipment and Tru-Test. California endorsers and supporters of the event include the Livestock Marketing Association, the California Cattlemen's Association, the National Beef Checkoff Program, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the California Beef Council.

For information on any of the tour stops, contact the respective auction markets above. We hope to see you there!

Cattle Fax Weekly Market Highlight February 12, 2009

The fed cattle market picked up more steam this week as prices were \$2 to \$3/ cwt higher. In the North, the bulk of the trade occurred at \$86 to \$88 live and \$140 dressed. The South traded at \$89 to \$89.50. The boxed beef market was modestly higher on the week; storm disruptions on the East Coast as well as smaller slaughter levels made it difficult to judge true buyer interest going into next week. Movement on the beef side was moderate. Feeder cattle values improved by \$2 for the week while calves increased by \$2. Slaughter cows were primarily \$2 firmer. Wet pasture and feedlot pen conditions through much of the country kept movement and demand very slow. Corn prices showed modest gains for the week.

Help Your Business and Your Industry by Joining CCA Today

Do you like what you see here? Are you interested in participating in these important efforts and receiving additional publications about California's beef cattle industry? If you're not yet a member, you can lend your support by joining

the California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) today. CCA is the only membership organization in California dedicated solely to looking out for the interests of ranching families and California's cattle industry.

CCA staff and officers work every day to ensure that our members have a known voice in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C. CCA defends your private property rights; works towards preserving private and public rangeland; protects the health of California's cattle herd; and provides scholarships to help the next generation of ranchers remain in the industry.

Joining this critical effort is simple for cattle producers, landowners and supporters of the industry. Call Stevie in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or email requests for membership information to [**stevie@calcattlemen.org**](mailto:stevie@calcattlemen.org).

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