

April 23, 2010



**CCA Members Celebrate Earth Day's 40th Birthday by Speaking Out
New Legislation Introduced to Redefine Federal Regulatory Powers of Water
State Water Board Holds Instream Flow Hearing in Sacramento
Maldonado Gets Nod from Assembly
AB 1709 Moves Out of Assembly Agriculture Committee
"AG" Diesel Truck Labels Available From CCA
Tehama and Glenn-Colusa Cattlemen's 2010 Range Tour Scheduled for May 1
CCA Scholarship Applications Available, Deadline May 24
Cattle Fax Weekly Market Highlight**

CCA Members Celebrate Earth Day's 40th Birthday by Speaking Out

For those of us involved in agriculture, the benefits ranchers provide for Mother Nature are well known. Unfortunately, the general public is not as aware of the positive impacts ranchers and cattle have on our natural resources. Yesterday, April 22, was the 40th anniversary of Earth Day and to celebrate, many CCA members participated in an Earth Day/Williamson Act public relations campaign to help generate awareness for what ranchers do each and everyday, because no one cares for animals and the environment more than those who have a full-time job of working one-on-one with Mother Nature.

CCA would like to thank those who submitted opinion pieces to newspapers throughout the state. Several of these articles were printed in papers such as the Santa Barbara News-Press, the San Luis Obispo Tribune and the San Francisco Chronicle and outlined both the good that ranchers do for the land and how the environment could be impacted should the governor choose not to fully fund the Williamson Act in his May Budget Revise.

To read a couple of the opinion pieces that were published, visit the CCA Web site, www.calcattlemen.org and look under the "News on the Range" section of the homepage.

New Legislation Introduced to Redefine Federal Regulatory Powers of Water

New legislation was introduced this week by Rep. James Oberstar (D-Minn.) that would remove the navigable from the Clean Water Act thereby enabling the federal government and federal regulatory agencies to regulate all waters, whether navigable rivers or not.

The bill could result in new federal regulatory authority over wetlands, intermittent streams, mudflats, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, stock ponds, groundwater, ditches, pipes, streets, gutters, wet farmland drain tiles, treatment ponds and other places water may flow or stand, regardless of size.

While the state already has the authority to regulate discharges to similar non-navigable waters, this would specifically insert the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in regulating waters currently excluded for federal regulation because of the Constitution's commerce clause.

The legislation presents a huge threat to the private property owners and the states to manage their own waters as they see fit. CCA, NCBA and PLC are opposing similar legislation introduced in the Senate last year. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. For more information, contact Justin Oldfield in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or e-mail Justin@calcattlemen.org.

State Water Board Holds Instream Flow Hearing in Sacramento

Next Tuesday, April 27, the State Water Resources Control Board will hold a special hearing to adopt instream flows for rivers, creeks, streams and tributaries in Northern California flowing into the San Pablo Bay. CCA opposes the current proposal put forward by State Water Board staff because it would negatively impact those applying for a new right to divert water or petitioning to change a current right to divert water. In some cases, petitions to divert water have been on file for decades without the State Water Board taking action in no fault to the water user.

CCA submitted comments opposing the proposed instream flow regulation and requested the State Water Board re-direct staff to return to the drawing board and work closely with all stakeholders to draft a policy that establishes instream flows but also recognizes the reality that water is an essential lifeblood for agricultural and other uses in the North Coast region.

The instream flow regulation is a result of AB 2121 authored by the Assembly Budget Committee and signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2004 that required to State Water Board to develop instream flows for pending applications to divert water in the counties of Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino and Humboldt.

Maldonado Gets Nod from Assembly

On Thursday, the California State Assembly approved the nomination of Sen. Abel Maldonado (R-Santa Maria) for lieutenant governor with a 53-21 vote. Upon Senate confirmation, which is expected to occur next week, Senator Maldonado will become the first Republican Latino to hold state office in 135 years, and will have endured the longest confirmation process in California history.

AB 1709 Moves Out of Assembly Agriculture Committee

Assembly Bill 1709, authored by Assemblymember Connie Conway (R-Ventura), moved out of the Assembly Committee on Agriculture Wednesday with amendments to ensure the continued availability of currently registered animal vaccines.

AB 1709 provides for the transition of state registered vaccines to registration with the United States Department of Agriculture. Currently, California is the only state in the nation with its own registration program and due to a lack of funding and available qualified staff, is not sufficient to meet federal programmatic standards.

CCA will continue to provide updates on this priority legislation. For questions, please contact Dawn Clover at dawn@calcattlemen.org.

“AG” Diesel Truck Labels Available From CCA

CCA is offering “AG” labels for members who registered agricultural trucks with the Air Resources Board in accordance with the Truck and Bus Regulation. Two labels are required per truck with one label to be affixed to each door. Labels will be distributed on a first-come-first-serve basis with roughly 30 labels available. Please call the CCA office if you would like truck labels and indicate how many trucks you’ve registered in the agricultural program. Trucks registered in the agricultural provisions must be labeled by April 30, 2010.

For more information on the truck rule, contact Justin Oldfield in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or e-mail justin@calcattlemen.org.

Tehama and Glenn-Colusa Cattlemen’s 2010 Range Tour Scheduled for May 1

The University of California Cooperative Extension along with the Tehama County Cattlemen’s Association and the Glenn-Colusa Cattlemen’s Association will team up on May 1 to sponsor their 2010 Range Tour. The Tehama County ranches featured in this year’s tour are the Turri Ranch in Flournoy and the Gallatin Ranch near Red Bluff.

The Range Tour will begin at 9 a.m. at the Turri Ranch and will be hosted by Tony Turri as attendees will view a range planting trial of a variety of range grass species. Beginning at 11 a.m., tour participants will meet at Tom and Terri Bengard’s Gallatin Ranch where host Jerry Hemsted will show the ranch’s various burn areas as well as a variety of goatgrass, clover planting and fertilizer plots. Lunch will also be served courtesy of Bengard Ranches.

For more information or to RSVP for this unique tour, contact Josh Davy at (530) 527-3101 or by e-mail at jsdavy@ucdavis.edu. RSVPs need be received by Wednesday, April 28.

CCA Scholarship Applications Available, Deadline May 24

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 veterinary 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 be attending college in California and 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.

Cattle Fax Weekly Market Highlight April 23, 2010

The fed cattle market was primarily steady this week as cattle in the South sold for \$99 while in the North the bulk of the trade occurred at \$160 to \$162 dressed and \$100 to \$100.50 live. Trade volumes were moderate. The boxed beef cut-out was modestly higher for the week as supplies and demand remain well matched. Trimming prices were supportive to the cut-out especially late in the week. Feeder cattle values were even to \$1 lower for the week while calves traded \$2 to \$4 softer due primarily to lower quality offerings. Slaughter cows continued to escalate, ending the week \$1 to \$2 better. Corn prices were even to higher this week although plantings are on schedule for most of the Midwest.

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.

**This newsletter is a publication of the California Cattlemen's Association.
1221 H Street • Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-0845**

Did someone forward this message to you?

To subscribe, or if you would like to have your name removed from our subscriber list, please send an email to stevie@calcattlemen.org or call (916) 444-0845.