

June 11, 2010



2010 CCA/CCW Midyear Meeting Next Week
Legislative Bulletin Notice
North Coast Regional Board Adopts Forest Service Discharge Waiver
Senate Votes Down Resolution to Slow EPA Greenhouse Gas Regulatory Regime
Five Northern Counties Eligible for FSA Drought Relief
Northern California Modified Point of Origin Vote Results
Long Time Supporter of the California Beef Industry Passes
Cattle Fax Weekly Market Highlight

2010 CCA/CCW Midyear Meeting Next Week

CCA and CCW members will gather next week for the 2010 CCA/CCW Midyear Meeting. The event will take place June 16-17, at the Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom. This is your opportunity as a member to give direction to your association and learn more about issues that are facing producers throughout the state.

To get the most out of the Midyear experience, plan to attend and participate in policy committee meetings on Wednesday, June 16, then hit the Cattle-PAC 200 Reception and dinner that evening. Then, get up early for the Thursday morning speaker series featuring Colorado State Professor Bernie Rollin talking about societal changes toward animal welfare, a presentation from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and a member discussion about the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition, all in advance of the board meeting at 11 a.m.

If you have not registered for the event, you can still do so on-site.

Legislative Bulletin Notice

Please be aware that the CCA Legislative Bulletin will not be sent next week due to staff being at the Midyear Meeting and participating in the CBCIA tour. Publication of CCA's Legislative Bulletin will resume on Friday, June, 25.

North Coast Regional Board Adopts Forest Service Discharge Waiver

Despite opposition from CCA and the California Farm Bureau Federation, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board on June 10 adopted a waiver of waste discharge requirements for activities on Forest Service lands in the North Coast region. The waiver will cover all contractor activities that take place on Forest Service lands within the region, including grazing, timber harvesting, road construction and maintenance, etc.

CCA and other agricultural groups argued that the waiver was duplicative of efforts already undertaken by the Forest Service to protect water quality through the administration of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), permits and the use of effective best management practices for rangeland. Grazing is not a significant source of impairment, however the Forest Service agreed to the program after numerous last minute discussions with Regional Board staff. The Regional Board did however, include language at the request of CCA and Farm Bureau that clearly maintains the Forest Service's authority to solely determine compliance with Forest Service permits in the event of a disagreement about water quality between the Regional Board and the Forest Service.

CCA will continue to provide information to members as further details about waiver implementation become available over the next few months.

Senate Votes Down Resolution to Slow EPA Greenhouse Gas Regulatory Regime

Yesterday, by a vote of 47-53, the U.S. Senate failed to pass a resolution to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from moving forward on its over-reaching greenhouse gas (GHG) regulatory regime. By voting down Senator Murkowski's (R-AK) "resolution of disapproval," (S.J. Res. 26), the Senate has voted to allow EPA to unilaterally regulate greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act (CAA) rather than allowing for the complex issue of climate change to be handled through the proper channels of thoughtful Congressional debate.

CCA shared our concerns with California's Senators and NCBA lead a boarder lobby effort against the resolution. In the end, the resolution received the support of every Republican Senator as well as six Democrats - Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Mary Landrieu

(D-LA), Ben Nelson (D-NE), Jay Rockefeller (D-WV), Mark Pryor (D-AR) and Evan Bayh (D-IN).

NCBA has also taken legal action with a coalition of other concerned groups to prevent EPA from moving forward on GHG regulation. The coalition has filed petitions with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and EPA challenging the science behind EPA's "endangerment finding," which provides the foundation for the agency to regulate GHGs from small and large sources throughout the economy (including farms, hospitals, office buildings and schools) under the CAA, stating the act is ill-equipped to address climate change.

As EPA moves forward with its efforts to regulate GHGs under the CAA, we'll see significant negative economic impacts not only on agriculture, but on the entire U.S. economy. Operating permits alone would cost farmers over \$866 million-in addition to increased costs for feed, fuel and other inputs necessary for running agriculture operations. These increased costs will be a direct result of GHG regulations on the energy and other economic sectors.

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

Five Northern Counties Eligible for FSA Drought Relief

While most parts of the state experienced ample rains this year leading to a extended grazing season, a number of counties at the top of the state again experienced lower than average rainfall and have qualified for federal drought relief. Based on livestock grazing losses as determined by the U.S. Drought Monitor, producers in Modoc, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas and Shasta counties are now qualified for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2010 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP).

Producers in those counties who are participating in the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) from the Farm Service Agency or another qualified insurance program on their grazing acres last year can now contact their local FSA office to schedule an appointment to complete eligibility forms for the 2010 LFP.

CCA supported the development of LFP during the 2008 Farm Bill as a permanent program to provide assistance in a timely fashion to producers who experience drought, rather than waiting months for an ad hoc program to be funded in Congress, as in the past. CCA is pleased to see that FSA has made the program available early this year for producers in counties that experienced drought this winter.

Please contact Matt Byrne in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 for more information about the program or with any questions.

Northern California Modified Point of Origin Vote Results

The outcome of the May 18, 2010 vote in Humboldt County to remove the Humboldt/Del Norte area as a modified point of origin saw a 100% favorable vote of cattle owners present and voting. Current law, sponsored by the California Cattlemen's Association in 2006, provides that cattle producers in a modified point of origin area may petition to repeal the point of origin regulations for that area.

Following the vote, The California Department of Food and Agriculture has commenced the regulation process. CCA staff will keep you apprised as the process moves along. For questions, please contact Dawn Clover at dawn@calcattlemen.org.

Long Time Supporter of the California Beef Industry Passes

Bill Jacobs was killed in a single-car accident near his ranch in Sulfur, Oklahoma on May 29. Jacobs joined the faculty at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in 1969 and while on the faculty coached many winning livestock judging teams until he left in 1984 to pursue an opportunity to partner with his father-in-law at the K74 Hereford Ranch in Oklahoma. Please join former Cal Poly students, Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity brothers and friends on Sunday, June 20 from 12 - 3 pm at the Alberti Ranch, Foothill Blvd, San Luis Obispo to celebrate Jacobs' life.

Cattle Fax Weekly Market Highlight June 11, 2010

The fed cattle market was quoted \$1.50 to \$2.50 lower this week with cattle selling for mostly \$92.50 to \$93 live and \$150 dressed. Trade volumes were light to moderate. The boxed beef market was softer as well, led by lower prices for Loins and Rounds. Slower demand resulted in lighter movement for that side of the business. Feeder cattle and calf values were unevenly steady for the week. Overall demand for replacements is staying strong as available supplies begin to slow. Slaughter cows were \$1 to \$2 lower, reflecting slowing demand for trimmings. Corn prices were higher late week as the USDA increased ethanol usage in its latest report which will lower existing supplies.

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.