

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

Senate Confirms Trump EPA Chief

The U.S. Senate Friday confirmed the nomination of Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt to lead the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. On a mostly party-line vote of 52-46, Republicans in the Senate pushed the nomination through, allowing Pruitt to become the next EPA Administrator. The vote followed an overnight rally by Senate Democrats in an effort to delay the vote until next week, after 3,000 some emails between Pruitt and the fossil fuel industry are set to be released. The New York Times says Democrats, environmental groups and even current EPA employees have harshly criticized Pruitt's record of fighting the mission of the agency he will now lead. Pruitt is welcomed, however, by many agriculture groups because of his opposition to the EPA's Waters of the U.S. rule and other regulations.

- [Actualty: Flash Flooding Concerns In Southern California](#)

USDA meteorologist Eric Luebehusen discusses the President's Day weekend storm system in Southern California, expected to bring heavy rains, and due to long-term drought conditions, potential flash flooding events.

Animal science students win mule packing competition

Packing a mule requires skill. Doing it quickly, working with unfamiliar animals, competing in an arena against other collegians, and making sure no equipment falls off before your mule crosses the finish line—that challenge was met by four UC Davis animal science students who took a first-place win in the 2016 Intercollegiate Packing Competition.

[Students saddle up](#)

The first public **UC Davis researchers sequence arabica coffee genome** genome sequence for Coffee arabica,

the species responsible for more than 70 percent of the world's coffee production, has been released by UC Davis researchers. Sequencing of the C. Arabica genome is particularly meaningful for California, where coffee plants are being grown commercially for the first time in the continental United States.

[Read more and watch a video](#)