

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

Japan's just-announced 'safeguard' tariff on frozen U.S. beef could have been prevented with the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement, the U.S. pulled out of, or a bilateral deal.

The U.S. beef industry says had TPP been in effect, or had the U.S. had a bilateral trade deal with Japan, like Australia, Tokyo's automatic 50 percent safeguard tariff from August 1st through next March 31st, could have been avoided. First quarter U.S. sales triggered the tariff.

U.S. Meat Export Federation Chief Phil Seng...tape

Cut #1 :18 OC:... "the case."

Seng says Japan's WTO-permitted 11.5 percent tariff hike could have a big impact on frozen beef sales in the U.S.'s largest beef market, worth \$1.5 billion, close to half of that, frozen...tape

Cut #2 :27 OC:... "pronounced impact."

And Australian frozen beef suddenly has a nearly 23 percent tariff advantage over U.S. beef, while Mexico won a similar deal.

USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue says Japan's higher tariff will impede U.S. beef sales, increase the overall U.S. trade deficit with Japan, hurt Japanese consumers, and harm the trade relationship.

Perdue has asked Japanese officials to address the concerns, though Seng says a decision to suspend the automatic tariff would have to come from Japan's legislature.

CCA Supports House Bill to Delay Implementation of Controversial Truck Log Book Rule

CCA applauds language that was included in the U.S. House of Representatives Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill that will delay the implementation of an Obama Administration-era rule to require truck drivers to utilize an Electronic Logging Device (ELD) to comply with federal Hours of Service (HOS) regulations that govern how long a truck driver can operate his or her vehicle prior to taking a mandatory 10 hour break.

Governor Signs State Legislation, Includes Earmark to Repeal SRA Fee

Legislation signed by Governor Edmund "Jerry" Brown on July 26, 2017 will permanently repeal the current State Responsibility Area (SRA) fee, better described as the "fire tax". The tax is currently collected on residential structures and buildings located in the SRA boundary where emergency and first responder services are more commonly provided by the California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL-FIRE). CCA opposed the SRA fee when it was first proposed in a budget trailer bill several years ago. The tax sought to fill a vacuum in funding rather than put new firefighters and firefighting equipment on the ground. The legislation was also originally adopted with a majority vote, not a 2/3 vote, as required by law to enact new taxes.

The legislation calls for the loss of current funding generated by the SRA fee to be backfilled by funds raised by the state's cap-and-trade program. Both the cap-and-trade program as well as any statutory reference to the SRA fee will be permanently repealed in 2030 without separate legislative action.

CDFW Collars Wolf, Confirms Lassen Pack

On July 5, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) announced the successful collaring of a female wolf in Lassen County on June 30. The female is the first wolf residing in California to be radio-collared; though wolves radio-collared by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife have previously ventured into California, such as OR-7 and OR-25, those wolves have ultimately returned to Oregon.

According the CDFW, "The tracking collar...will collect data relative to her activity patterns, survival, reproduction and prey preferences."

Based on visual markers, CDFW believes the newly-collared wolf to be the female of the previously-identified Lassen Pair, though the Department will test DNA samples collected at the time it trapped and collared the wolf to confirm.

On July 1, CDFW sought to conduct a routine follow-up check on the female wolf. At that time, wildlife biologists encountered what appeared to be the tracks of wolf pups, and a number of photos captured on a nearby US Forest Service trail camera confirmed the presence of at least three pups belonging to what has now been dubbed the Lassen Pack.

According to a CDFW official contacted by CCA, the breeding male of the Lassen Pack has not been seen recently.

CCA is following up with CDFW to determine whether the agency intends to make use of radio-collar data to inform livestock producers (and if so, how), and CCA will also seek to ensure that the presence of wolves does not negatively impact grazing leases on the Lassen National Forest.

For more information, see the CDFW press release [here](#) or contact Kirk Wilbur in the CCA office.

Annual Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association Tour, Butte Valley, Aug. 26

The Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association is hosting its annual Fall Tour in Butte Valley on Aug. 16. During the morning, the tour will kick off at Plant Sciences Inc. in Dorris to hear from the owner who is also a cattle rancher in both Northern California and Oregon. Following the tour, there will be presentations and lunch at the Dorris Community Center where Kasey DeAtley, Ph.D. will speak about practical EPD use to get your herd where you want it and Jeff Stott, Ph.D. will provide an update on Foothill abortion and his pink eye research.

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CCA is happy to report that the House Appropriations Committee approved the report language on July 17, 2017. The full appropriations bill will now be considered

by the full House chamber sometime in the near future. Conversations have already begun with members of the U.S. Senate as they adopt their version of an appropriations bill. Representatives of the House and Senate will meet in conference to provide a final appropriations bill for approval to be sent to the President for his signature. NCBA and CCA will be working to ensure this language will be included in the final conference report.

The rule is set to be implemented in December of this year, and the adoption of this legislation will allow CCA, NCBA and a coalition of other agricultural organizations to provide a permanent fix to the HOS rules governing the transportation of livestock. CCA would like to thank Congressman David Valadao (R-CA) who carried this amendment in the House appropriations bill.

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EPA to Rescind 2015 WOTUS Rule

On Thursday, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) formally released a proposed rule to rescind the 2015 Waters of the United States (WOTUS) Rule, which threatened to greatly extend the agencies' regulatory jurisdiction and impose burdensome regulatory requirements upon ranchers and other landowners.

The move comes after President Trump's February 28 Executive Order directing EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt to rescind the rule and replace it with a definition of

"Waters of the United States" that conforms to the more limited interpretation outlined by late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in *Rapanos v. United States*. Rescinding the 2015 Rule is the first step in that process; once the 2015 Rule is repealed, the EPA will likely give notice of a proposed rulemaking establishing a more limited interpretation of WOTUS.

In the interim, the proposed rulemaking seeks to re-codify the definition of WOTUS that existed prior to the 2015 re-definition. Because the 2015 WOTUS Rule was stayed from implementation and enforcement by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in October 2015 in response to numerous lawsuits (including one filed by CCA), the proposed rule would essentially codify the status quo.

CCA strongly supports the proposal to rescind the 2015 Rule, and will file formal comments to that effect with the EPA prior to the August 28 deadline. Ranchers are encouraged to file comments supporting the 2015 Rule's withdrawal by clicking the "Comment Now!" button [here](#).

For more information, contact Kirk Wilbur in the CCA office.

Settlement Reached in Point Reyes Lawsuit

Recently, the parties in *Resource Renewal Institute v. National Park Service* released the terms of a settlement agreement concerning the litigation at the Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) in Marin County.

In February of 2016, three environmental groups sued the PRNS for failure to timely update its 1980 General Management Plan (GMP) and seeking to halt a Comprehensive Ranch Management Plan for the PRNS aimed in part at providing long-term leases for ranchers at the PRNS. The Point Reyes Seashore Ranchers Association, 24 ranching families and Marin County all intervened in the lawsuit to defend continued agriculture at the PRNS.

The terms of the settlement require the National Park Service to prepare a GMP amendment and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) within four years. The EIS must consider a no action alternative, a no ranching alternative, a reduced ranching alternative and a no dairy-ranching alternative, though the settlement does not preclude the Park Service from examining other alternatives.

Importantly, the settlement also allows the Park Service to issue five-year Interim Leases to PRNS ranchers. While the five-year leases fall far short of the 20-year leases the ranchers have sought, it is an improvement over one-year leases the PRNS issued to some ranching families beginning in 2014.

The PRNS expects to begin the planning process this fall. CCA will be heavily involved in the process and seek a GMP amendment that preserves the rich ranching history of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

For more information, contact Kirk Wilbur in the CCA office.

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For more information, please contact Cari Koopmann Rivers via [email](#).

Yolo County Cattlemen's Association to Host Fall Tour Event | Aug. 24

The Yolo County Cattlemen's Association will be hosting its annual Fall Tour Event on August 24 at the Esparto Fire Hall in Esparto. The program will begin at 5:30 pm and includes speakers and representatives from the California Cattlemen's Association, UC Extension, the Yolo County Sheriff's Department, Yolo County Ag Department, IMI Global and Western Video Market.

Following the program, a tri-tip dinner with Sid Collier's famous beans will be served. To RSVP, contact Yolo County Cattlemen's Association President, Adam Cline, at 530-723-2326 or afcline@hotmail.com.

Register Now for the August 25 Northeastern CalPLC Meeting in Susanville

The California Public Lands Council of the California Cattlemen's Association will host the first in a series of regional public lands meetings in Susanville on Friday, August 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Susanville Elk's Lodge at 400 Main Street in Susanville. This initial meeting will focus on the region encompassing the Plumas, Lassen and Modoc National Forests and the Applegate and Eagle Lake field offices of the BLM, though all public lands ranchers are welcome to attend.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide a venue for public lands ranchers to discuss matters of local importance with one another and with agency officials at the local and state levels, with the goal of identifying ways ranchers, CCA and the agencies can work collaboratively to resolve those matters. Issues to be addressed include (but are not limited to): wolves and other predators, wild horses, road closures and road maintenance, access to retired or vacant allotments, water quality, endangered species, fire control, monitoring and more.

The cost of registration is \$15, which includes morning coffee and refreshments as well as lunch. A no-host bar will also be available.

For more information and to register for the event, click [here](#) or contact the CCA office

BQA Training at the Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center | Sept. 23

The Tahoe County Cattlemen's Association, Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center and the Placer-Nevada-Sutter-Yuba UC Cooperative Extension Services will be hosting a Beef Quality Assurance workshop on Sept. 23 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The

program will take place at the Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center and cover a wide variety of topics including BQA, transportation, water quality self assessment and hands-on chute side demonstration.

Check back for a live link to register for this event.