

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

FARMERS SHOULD FOCUS ON EFFECTIVE TAX RATE



Farmers Should Focus on Effective Tax Rate

Audio with AFBF economist Veronica Nigh (Nye)

Audio provided as a service to farm broadcasters by the American Farm Bureau Federation

Congress is just starting to consider changes to the federal tax code. As the process unfolds, AFBF economist Veronica Nigh says the effective tax rate is the most important factor for farmers when it comes to federal taxes...tape

Cut 2 :22 OC..."federal government"

Nigh says there are three main factors that impact farmers within the federal tax code...tape

Cut 3 :16 OC..."predictably, unpredictable"

Because of where the majority of farm assets are, in buildings, land and equipment, Nigh says farmers need tax provisions that maximize cashflow...tape

Cut 4 :25 OC..."Means released"

American Farm Bureau Economist Veronica Nigh

Livestock Industry Seeks Petition to Waive ELD Requirement for Haulers - Comment Now!

On October 31, 2017, the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) published a petition submitted by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), the National Pork Producers Council and other livestock organizations requesting a waiver to exempt livestock haulers from having to comply with regulations set to take affect December 17, 2017, requiring commercial drivers to comply with the federal hours of service rules using an electronic logging device (ELD).

NCBA and CCA are actively pursuing changes to the federal hours of service regulations to recognize the need to deliver cattle to their final destination in the quickest possible fashion, all the while ensuring proper roadway safety. A waiver granted by FMCSA will provide the additional time necessary to make these changes. NCBA and CCA was also successful in including language in the 2018 House Appropriations bill to delay the ELD compliance date for livestock haulers by an additional year. Efforts are underway to urge the Senate to maintain the one year delay in the final bill during conference. Supporting both the petition and our efforts in Congress will help yield the best possible results.

It's crucial you lend your voice to this effort and comment immediately in support of the petition by urging FMCSA to grant the waiver. The comment period will remain open until **November 30, 2017**. Comments can be submitted by clicking [here](#). A letter has been made available on CCA's website to use as a template. The letter can be downloaded [here](#).

It may be helpful to include the following points made in the petition in your comments as to why the waiver is needed:

- (1) Livestock haulers are not, and will not be prepared to meet the December 18, 2017 compliance date;
- (2) The current ELD retail marketplace does not clearly support the needs of livestock haulers and questions remain as to whether current ELD devices can accommodate HOS exemptions currently utilized by the livestock industry;
- (3) There is a significant lack of education and awareness by livestock haulers and the livestock producers they service regarding the ELD mandate, current exemptions, and the use and operation of ELDs, requiring time for adequate outreach and training to take place; and
- (4) Concern over the ELD mandate has exposed incompatibilities between the HOS rules and the livestock industry, and is causing disruption for livestock haulers, increasing already severe driver shortages, and endangering the health and welfare of the millions of animals transported by livestock carriers daily.

LAST CHANCE: Support Point Reyes Ranchers

On October 16, the Point Reyes National Seashore initiated a 30-day comment period "on a conceptual range of management alternatives" for the Point Reyes National Seashore. Of particular concern is the National Park Service's permitting of historical ranching operations at the Seashore and management of Tule elk at the Seashore, whose mismanagement has long plagued Point Reyes ranchers.

In 2014, the Park Service initiated a Ranch Comprehensive Management Plan (RCMP) aimed at exploring long-term leases for ranchers at the Seashore. However, in 2016 the Park Service was sued by three environmental groups seeking a broader amendment to the Seashore's General Management Plan. Under the terms of a settlement reached in July, the Park Service will undertake a General Management Plan revision which must consider a no ranching alternative, a no dairy ranching alternative and a reduced ranching alternative.

CCA expects that the conversation over the future of the Point Reyes National Seashore could be dominated by radical environmental groups. During the 2014 RCMP process, radical environmental groups urged their members to flood the Park Service with comments opposed to ranching at the Seashore. Thousands of form comments were received by enemies of grazing from throughout the United States and other nations.

Thus, while CCA will submit thorough comments in defense of the historical grazing operations at Point Reyes prior to the November 15 deadline, CCA also urges ranchers throughout the state to get involved by commenting on the proposed management alternatives [here](#).

Specifically, CCA urges members to tell the Park Service to (1) provide 20-year renewable leases to all ranchers at the Point Reyes National Seashore, and (2) properly manage the Tule elk population, including removing all roaming Tule elk from ranches and placing them back in the Limantour wilderness.

Water Board to Hold Public Outreach Meetings for NPS Permits on Federal Lands

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) and Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) are pursuing development of Nonpoint Source (NPS) permits "to ensure regulatory compliance and water quality protection" on US Forest Service and BLM managed lands within the Central Valley and Lahontan Water Board regions.

As a first step in this process, the two regional boards are holding public outreach meetings. The first of these was held Tuesday in Susanville; moving forward, the regional boards will hold the following public outreach meetings:

- Nov. 28 from 1:00-4:00 p at the Central Valley Water Board, 11020 Sun Ctr.

- Dr. in Rancho Cordova
- Nov. 30 from 9:30 am-12:30 pm at the Clovis Veterans Memorial Hall, 808 4th St. in Clovis
 - Dec. 5 from 9:30 am-12:30 pm at the Mojave Water Agency, 13846 Conference Center Dr. in Apple Valley

CCA encourages members who would be impacted by the proposed NPS permits to attend the meetings to learn more information and air their concerns.

CCA has opposed similar efforts by the regional water boards in the past because they are duplicative of existing regulatory schemes and needlessly increase the regulatory burdens upon federal lands permittees. Likewise, CCA will continue to oppose the present effort.

For more information, visit [this website](#) or contact the CCA office.

Wildfire Disaster Assistance Programs Available to Ranchers

Various federal government programs exist to provide disaster assistance for those who have been impacted by wildfires. Although your attention is no doubt focused on the situation at hand, it's important to note that several of the disaster assistance programs have initial notification deadlines that must be met in order to be eligible for funding.

Livestock Indemnity Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) to reimburse producers up to 75% of the market value of animals lost due to adverse weather conditions. Adverse weather conditions under LIP include wildfires. All classes of cattle are eligible for reimbursement including cows, bulls and calves. For 2017, a claim for a bull is paid out at \$1,350.34, a cow at \$1,038.73 and non-adult cattle (calves) from \$471.22 per head to \$1,001.12 per head depending on weight.

In order to be eligible to receive payment under LIP, a producer must notify their local county Farm Service Administration (FSA) of their intent to seek a claim within 30 days of the loss. A final claim must be submitted within 90 days of informing the county FSA office of the loss and the final claim must also be made within the same calendar year as the loss. Documentation will be requested by the county FSA office to verify the claim including any photographs that can be made available documenting the loss or the impact of the fire, records to prove ownership, etc.

A fact sheet about the Livestock Indemnity Program can be found [here](#).

Non Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

The NAP program is a federal disaster insurance program that enables ranchers who

have applied for coverage to receive compensation for a loss of forage due to drought or other natural disasters like wildfire. In order to be eligible to receive payments under NAP, a rancher must have previously enrolled in the program with their county FSA office and paid the service fee.

If you are currently enrolled in NAP and you've experienced forage loss due to fire, you may be eligible for a claim. Producers must report a loss to their local county FSA office within 15 calendar days of the natural disaster occurring by completing a "Notice of Loss & Application for Payment" form. The form is available at your local FSA office.

A fact sheet about the Non Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program can be found [here](#).

Emergency Conservation Program

The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) is a program administered through your local county FSA office that assists ranchers with fence construction and repairing other rangeland infrastructure that may have been lost or damaged due to a natural disaster. Ranchers are eligible to receive up to 75% of the cost to implement the project. Funds are dispersed by USDA to county FSA offices as they are available and requested so please contact your county FSA office immediately to help demonstrate the need to request federal funds for local restoration projects.

A fact sheet about the Emergency Conservation Program can be found [here](#).

Environmental Quality Incentive Program

If projects to repair or replace rangeland infrastructure lost due to the fire are not eligible for assistance under other federal disaster assistance programs, ranchers can look to fund projects under the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). EQIP is not a program built or intended to respond to natural disasters so it may not be preferred for addressing immediate needs. Applications for projects can be taken by your NRCS representative at your local County FSA office. Please be aware, approval for projects are subject to several pre-established deadlines throughout the year.

Register Now for the CCA & CCW Annual Convention Before Prices Go Up!

You won't want to be left out! Today is the last day to lock in the lower, pre-registration prices, so don't wait!

To register, click [here](#) or call the CCA office.

IMI Global is Hiring in California!

Attending the Allied Industry Trade Show at the CCA & CCW Convention Nov. 29-30th? Susan Morse would love to meet you!

Contact her at smorse@wherefoodcomesfrom.com to schedule a meeting or visit her at booth #8!

Click [here](#) for the job description and more information.

Join us for the 2017 Annual CCA & CCW Convention Nov. 29 - Dec. 1!

You won't want to be left out! Today is the last day to lock in the lower, pre-registration prices, so don't wait!

To register, click [here](#) or call the CCA office!

101st Annual Convention

of the
California Cattlemen's Association & California CattleWomen, Inc.
November 29 - December 1, 2017 | Sparks, Nev. | Nugget Casino Resort

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, November 28

11 am - 5 pm CCA Scholarship Interviews

Wednesday, November 29

8 am - 5 pm Registration Opens
 8 am - Noon Western Video Market Sale
 8 am - 5 pm CRT Board Meeting
 10 am - Noon CCA Officer's Meeting
 11 am - Noon YCC Networking in the Trade Show
 Noon - 7 pm Tradeshow Opens
 Noon - 2 pm California Cattlemen's Foundation
 1 - 2 pm CBCIA Finance Meeting
 1 - 2:30 pm Media Training
 2 - 5 pm CBCIA Board Meeting
 2 - 3 pm CCA Finance and Membership Meeting
 3 - 4 pm Cattle PAC Meeting
 4 - 5 pm LMRF Meeting
 4 - 5 pm CCW Executive Committee
 5 - 6 pm Allied Industry Wine & Cheese Reception
 6 - 9 pm Tradeshow Welcome Party
 6:30 - 9 pm YCC Meeting & Dinner

Thursday, November 30

6:30 - 7:30 am Prayer Gathering
 7 am - 5 pm Registration Open
 7 am - 2 pm Allied Industry Trade Show
 7 - 8 am Breakfast in the Trade Show
 7 - 10 am Bloody Mary Bar
 Noon - 1 pm Lunch in the Trade Show

8 - 9 am General Session
 9 - 10 am Cattlemen's College Session #1
 10 - 10:30 am CCW Heritage Meeting
 10 am - Noon CCA Cattle Health & Well-Being
 10 am - Noon CCA Cattle Marketing & International Trade
 10 am - Noon CCA Federal Lands
 11 am - 1 pm Cowbelle of the Year Lunch
 Noon - 1 pm Past Presidents Lunch
 Noon - 1 pm Lunch in the Trade Show
 1 - 2 pm Cattlemen's College Session #2
 1:30 - 4 pm CCW Education Workshop
 2 - 4 pm Cattlemen's Poster Session
 2 - 4 pm CCA Property Rights & Environmental Management
 2 - 4 pm CCA Agriculture & Food Policy
 2 - 4 pm CCA Federal Lands (Policy Meeting)
 4 - 5 pm Cattlemen's College Session #3
 4 - 6 pm CCA General Resolutions
 5 - 6 pm CCW President's Reception
 5:30 - 6:30 pm CCA President's Reception
 6:30 - 10 pm CCA & CCW Reception & Awards Banquet

Friday, December 1

6:30 - 7:30 am CCA Nominating Committee
 7 - 9 am CCW Awards Breakfast
 8 - 9:15 am Cattle-Fax Breakfast
 9:30 am - 1 pm CCW Board Meeting
 9:30 am - Noon CCA Board and Membership Meeting

	#	\$
	Tickets	Amount
Cattlemen's All Inclusive Registration <small>*denotes inclusion (no substitutes)</small>	\$250	
Full Registration (CCA Member) Includes meetings, tradeshow, Welcome Party, breakfast and lunch in the tradeshow on Thursday and the Allied Industry Council Wine and Cheese Reception	\$150	
Full Registration (Non-CCA Member) Includes meetings, tradeshow, Welcome Party, breakfast and lunch in the tradeshow on Thursday and the Allied Industry Wine and Cheese Reception	\$200	
YCC Registration Includes Welcome Party, all three Cattlemen's College sessions, breakfast and lunch in the tradeshow on Thursday and YCC Dinner on Wednesday night	\$50	

Thursday, November 30

*Cattlemen's College Session 1	\$15	
CCW Cowbelle of the Year Lunch	\$25	
*Cattlemen's College Session 2	\$15	
*Cattlemen's College Session 3	\$15	
*CCA & CCW Awards Banquet	\$55	

Friday, December 1

CCW Awards Breakfast	\$25	
*CCA CattleFax Breakfast	\$25	

2017 Cattle-PAC Membership <small>Please write separate check to CCA-Cattle-PAC</small>	\$200	
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PRE-REGISTRATION PRICES REFLECTED HERE WILL INCREASE AFTER NOV. 10

TOTAL

Name(s) attending: _____

Local Affiliation: _____

Payment method: VISA MasterCard American Express

CHECK Please make checks to California Cattlemen's Association

Card #: _____ Exp. ____/____

Cardholder's Name: _____

Cardholder's Phone Number: _____

Billing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

**Book your hotel room at the newly renovated
Nugget Casino Resort [here](#) or by calling**

800-648-1177