

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

## **FARM BUREAU APPLAUDS WITHDRAWAL OF ORGANIC LIVESTOCK RULE**

### **Audio with AFBF Public Policy Executive Director Dale Moore**

The Department of Agriculture announced this week it would withdraw the Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices Rule. The move, applauded by the American Farm Bureau Federation, means organic livestock producers will not be subject to more regulation. AFBF Public Policy Executive Director Dale Moore says that if implemented, the rule would have been very costly for organic farmers and ranchers who raise cows, chickens and other livestock...tape

Cut #1 :19 OC:...“out of business.”

Not only did the rule go beyond Congress' intent, but organic livestock farmers and ranchers are already following an adequate set of rules...tape

Cut #2 :18 OC:...“inside the law.”

### **Study: Trump Tariffs to Cost an Estimated 24,000 Agriculture Jobs**

**A study by the Trade Partnership estimates that the Trump administration's steel and aluminum tariffs will cost 495,000 jobs in the United States. That figure is up from a previous estimate of 179,000 jobs. Specific to agriculture, the report estimates that tariffs will cost 24,000 jobs. The job losses, according to the study, would impact the services, manufacturing and agricultural sectors. The new report says the updated figure takes into account threats of retaliation from other countries, as well as the expectations that Canada, Mexico and Australia will be exempt from the tariffs. The bulk of the losses are expected in the services sector, including construction, transportation, trade and others. However, the report says the tariffs would boost employment in the steel and the aluminum sectors by 26,000 jobs. The numbers show that 18 jobs would be lost for every steel/aluminum job gained. Meanwhile, some trade experts don't expect the tariffs to last long because the tariffs have an overwhelming U.S. and global unpopularity.**

# LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

[here.](#)

- **[Tuesday, March 13, 9:30am CA Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee](#)**
  - **[Wednesday, March 14, 8:00am CCA's 40th Annual Legislative Steak and Eggs Breakfast and Cattlemen's Lobby Day](#)**
- [View California legislative hearings and floor sessions via live webcast here.](#)

## From Headquarters

### **Livestock Organizations Seek Additional Delay for ELD Compliance**

On March 8 a coalition of agricultural organizations, including CCA and NCBA, filed a new petition with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) requesting the current waiver exempting agricultural haulers from the mandated use of an electronic logging device (ELD) be extended. On November 20, 2017, the FMCSA issued a 90-day waiver for those hauling agricultural commodities to comply with federal hours of service rules using an ELD. The ELD regulation was implemented December 18, 2017 thus the waiver for agricultural haulers is set to expire on March 18.

As of press time, FMCSA has still not ruled on the original petition filed by NCBA and the National Pork Producers Council on October 31, 2017.

Federal law grants the Secretary of Transportation the authority to provide an exemption from a rule or regulation promulgated by FMCSA for up to five years. Stay tuned to CCA's Legislative Bulletin for immediate updates regarding any decision made by FMCSA prior to March 18<sup>th</sup> to rule on the petition or grant a new extension of the waiver.

### **SWRCB Releases Supplemental Extension of Time Forms**

On January 1, CCA-sponsored AB 589 (Bigelow) formally took effect. AB 589 allows diverters of 100 acre-feet of water per year or more to take a UC Cooperative Extension course and self-certify as a "qualified individual" for purposes of installing, calibrating and certifying a water diversion measurement device required by SB 88 (2015) and the Emergency Regulation for Measuring and Reporting the Diversion of Water adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in 2016.

Most diverters of 100 acre-feet or more were required to install a measurement device between January 1 and July 1, 2017. Many of these diverters requested extensions of time, most of which expired January 1, 2018 or shortly thereafter. Because AB 589 courses had not been developed by January 1, this raised the specter of noncompliance (and accompanying fines) for many diverters. The SWRCB's response was that those whose extensions of time had expired should file a Supplemental Request for Additional Time. Unfortunately, the SWRCB was slow to roll out the forms necessary for filing those Supplemental Requests.

Last Tuesday, however, the SWRCB announced that the Supplemental Request for Additional Time form is finally available on the Board's Water Right Form and Survey Submittal Portal [here](#). According to the SWRCB, those who previously filed extension of time requests should file the Supplemental Request if they intend to take a UCCE measurement course

to be deemed a “qualified individual.” CCA recommends requesting at least an additional 6 months’ time to ensure that you’ll have sufficient time to take the UCCE course and to install your measurement device.

The SWRCB also notes that the Supplemental Request is available for those not intending to take the self-certification course but who wish to revise their requests because they need more time to comply than initially authorized by the SWRCB. (Those who require an extension of time but have not previously filed a request should file an initial Request for Additional Time.)

The SWRCB has not formally announced when SWRCB-approved AB 589 courses will be available for diverters to self-certify as qualified to install their measuring devices, but anticipates the courses will become available in “the first half of 2018.” CCA will keep you updated on the development and availability of these courses.

### **Reminder: 2017 Water Reports Due April 1 for Many Diversions**

Under the Emergency Regulation for Measuring and Reporting the Diversion of Water adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in 2016, all water rights holders diverting water under a permit, license, registration or certificate must file their 2017 annual use reports by April 1, regardless of the size of those diversions (those filing Statements of Diversion and Use for riparian and pre-1914 rights have until July 1 to file). The reports must be made electronically using the Board’s Water Right Form and Survey Submittal Portal [here](#). Failure to file water use reports by April 1 may subject diverters to fines of up to \$500 per day.

For diverters of more than 10 acre-feet per year (who are required to install a measurement device under the regulations), the measurement provisions

of the regulations were phased in between January 1, 2017 and January 1, 2018 depending on the size and type of the diversion. If you were not required to have a measurement device installed during portions of 2017, or if you were granted an extension of time to install a measuring device, you may estimate the quantity of water diverted based on your experience and knowledge of the diversion.

### **Department of the Interior Recommends \$33.3 Million in Water Infrastructure Spending**

On February 23, in a report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, the U.S. Department of the Interior recommended providing \$33.3 million for water infrastructure projects, primarily in California, pursuant to the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. Of the seven projects specified in the proposal, four are California projects. These include the Shasta Dam and Reservoir Enlargement Project, Sites Reservoir Storage Project, Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Investigation and the Friant-Kern Canal Subsidence Challenges Project. This funding would allow the progress of these long overdue California water projects.

The WIIN Act, signed into law in 2016, prioritized surface water storage and delivery infrastructure. The Act provides the Secretary of the Interior, Ryan Zinke, the authority to participate in Federally-owned and State-led water storage projects.

This recommendation represents good news and the possibility of improved water infrastructure to often parched California.

A copy of the report can be found [here](#).

## **CDFW Offers RFPs for Cattle Grazing to Control Vegetation in Humboldt, Del Norte Counties**

Last week, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) announced that it is offering three Request for Proposals (RFPs) to issue Permits for Excess Vegetation Control (Grazing) at the following areas located in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties:

- RFP P2018101: Approximately 210 acres known as the Ocean Ranch Unit and Table Bluff Ecological Reserve on the Eel River Wildlife Area in Humboldt County (Event ID 8613)
- RFP P2018102: Approximately 297 acres within the Lake Earl Wildlife area in Del Norte County (Event ID 8614)
- RFP P2018103: Approximately 70 acres located on the Salt River Unit of the Eel River Wildlife Area in Humboldt County (Event ID 8617)

The RFP packages can be accessed on the California State Contracts Register's Cal eProcedure website [here](#) and can be found by searching for the Event IDs listed above in the "Event ID" field under "Search Events."

Proposal packages are also available via e-mail or hard copy. To request a proposal package, or for any questions regarding the RFP process, contact Sherry Leffler by phone at (530) 225-2853 or by email at [sherry.leffler@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:sherry.leffler@wildlife.ca.gov).

Bids must be received on or before April 6, 2018 at 3:00pm.

## **California Congressman Doug LaMalfa Addresses Agriculture's ELD Concerns to Transportation Secretary Chao**

Click to watch the video of Rep. LaMalfa's comments below.



### **UC Rangelands Drought Hub a Resource for California Ranchers**

The UC Rangelands Rangeland Drought Hub now makes it even easier to report drought conditions and impacts to the drought monitor. Through the interactive, online portal all of the information you need to report and manage drought is just a click away.

The Drought Hub also has information on federal and state assistance programs, feed and nutrition solutions for producers experiencing drought, current moisture and snow pack conditions as well as the latest in drought research. See the March issue of Hot Irons for a more in depth look at the Drought Monitor.

Click [here](#) to visit the Drought Hub.

Click [here](#) to visit the Drought Monitor directly.

### **CCA's Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast Scheduled for March 14**

The 40th Annual CCA Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast is this week! Once again held at the historic Sutter Club and followed by legislative visits at the California State Capitol, you won't want to miss this great opportunity to meet your representatives and advocate on behalf of cattle ranching in the Golden State.

To RSVP for the Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast and legislative visits, please contact Katie Roberti by calling the CCA office, or by email at [katier@calcattlemen.org](mailto:katier@calcattlemen.org).

### **Registration Now Open for 2018 CA/AZ Cattle Feeders Meeting**

Save the date for the annual CA/AZ Cattle Feeders Meeting at the Marriott Marquis, San Diego, May 23-25. Registration includes two breakfasts, lunch, refreshments throughout the event and an exclusive dinner aboard the USS Midway aircraft carrier.

Early Bird Registration is just \$275. Click [here](#) to register now before prices go up April 1.

### **California Range Camp Now Accepting Applications**

The California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management is now accepting applications for its annual Range Camp. Held in Half Moon Bay, Range Camp is a week long program for high school students to introduce them to the world of plant, animal and landscape management. Campers get the opportunity to hear from professionals in the forestry, wildlife and rangeland disciplines.

For more information or to apply, click [here](#). A limited number of sponsorships are available.



## Industry News

**The Contentious Future of Point Reyes-Here's What You Need to Know** [KQED Science](#) "On a rocky peninsula with sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean, an hour north of San Francisco, cows, tule elk, and people have shared the land for several hundred years -- but lately, with growing conflict. That's why the National Park Service is rethinking how to manage the rangelands in the Point Reyes National Seashore" To continue reading, click [here](#).

**OR-54 returns to Oregon after journey south** [Ashland Daily Tidings](#) "Collared gray wolf OR-54 is back in Oregon after a nearly two-month foray into California, and she could again be working for Da Man, giving up the Rogue Pack's whereabouts if she hooks back up with her former pack as suspected." To continue reading, click [here](#).

**What is Fake Meat and What is NCBA Doing About It?** [NCBA](#) " Some media outlets and activist groups would like you to believe that fake meat has beef producers running for the hills, but we are not taking the bait. Put the products side by side for a taste test and we know beef will win every single time, and we won't sit idly by as professional vegans and opportunists disparage our product." To view the video, click [here](#).