

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

NWS: Northwest Farmers Should Prepare For El Niño

Audio with Marilyn Lohmann with the National Weather Service

Should the agriculture in the Northwest prepare for the El Niño weather pattern this winter? According to Marilyn Lohmann with the National Weather Service, the answer is yes...tape

Cut #1 :14 OC:...“coming winter.”

Lohman says the Northwestern United States was last impacted by El Niño between October 2014 and May 2016. She says the 2014-2015 El Niño was weak, leading to dry mild conditions, and eventually a drought across the area.

2015-16's pattern produced large amounts of snow in Northwest mountains...tape

Cut #2 :17 OC:...“fall and winter.”

[Big Wildfires, such as the Carr Fire, Can Create their own Weather](#)

00:00:58.958 2018-07-31

Reports from the massive Carr fire in California indicate that fire is creating its own weather system. (Gary Crawford, Brad Rippey and Steve Crawford)

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

[National Interagency Fire Center website.](#)

Various state and federal government programs exist to provide disaster assistance for those who have been impacted by fires. 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.

- **Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)** - cost shares with producers who need to repair or replace fencing or water conservation structures damaged by a natural disaster. For an ECP fact sheet, click [here](#).

- **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)** - provides emergency relief for losses due to feed or water shortages, disease, adverse weather, or other conditions which are not adequately addressed by other disaster programs. ELAP covers physically-damaged or destroyed livestock feed that was purchased or mechanically harvested forage or feedstuffs intended for use as feed for the producer's eligible livestock. For an ELAP fact sheet, click [here](#).

- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** - offers payments to eligible producers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather. Eligible losses may include those determined by FSA to have been caused by wildfires, hurricanes, floods, blizzards, tropical storms, tornados, lightning, extreme heat and extreme cold. Producers will be required to provide verifiable documentation of death losses resulting from an eligible adverse weather event and must submit a notice of loss to their local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. For a LIP fact sheet, click [here](#).

Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters including excessive wind and qualifying drought (includes native grass for grazing). Eligible producers must have purchased NAP coverage for 2018 crops. A notice of loss must be filed within 15 days of the earliest of the following: the date the disaster occurred, the date the loss became apparent or the normal harvest date. For a NAP fact sheet, click [here](#).

Livestock producers who enrolled in NAP in 2018 can submit a NAP Notice of

Loss. If the producers didn't have NAP, they can apply for lost forage production and/or increased feed costs due to a disaster under ELAP (see above). The Livestock Indemnity Program covers livestock deaths.

- Tree Assistance Program (TAP) - Producers whose trees or vines need rehabilitation or replacing can apply for the Tree Assistance Program. For a TAP fact sheet, click [here](#).

- Emergency Loan Program - available to producers with agriculture operations located in a county under a primary or contiguous Presidential or Secretarial disaster designation. These low-interest loans help producers recover from production and physical losses. For an Emergency Loan Program fact sheet, click [here](#).

- For more information on these programs and documentation requirements, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/disaster or contact your local FSA office.

- For any additional questions, contact Justin Oldfield in the CCA office.

Administration Solicits Feedback on Streamlining NEPA Regulations

On June 20, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) published an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking signaling its intent to update regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments on the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking are due by August 20.

- The proposed rulemaking, available [here](#), lists 20 specific areas where CEQ is seeking public input on how to improve the NEPA process, primarily aimed at improving NEPA efficiency.

- Reforming and streamlining NEPA analysis has been a focus of CCA and CCA's public lands permittees in recent years. At California Public Lands Council meetings held over the past year in Susanville, Sonora and Visalia, permittees have consistently identified inefficiencies in the NEPA process as the most significant issue facing federal lands ranchers; ranchers are particularly eager for the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to conduct NEPA on vacant allotments so that some of those allotments might be opened up to cattle grazing.

- CCA will submit detailed comments aimed at streamlining NEPA prior to the

August 20 deadline, and encourages ranchers with federal grazing permits to submit comments, as well. Comments can be submitted by clicking "Comment Now!" [here](#).

Support Repeal of the 2015 WOTUS Rule

On July 12, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) released a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking 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 proposed rulemaking would recodify the definition of "Waters of the United States" that existed prior to the Obama Administration's redefinition of that term in 2015.

The supplemental notice of rulemaking is intended "to clarify, supplement and seek additional comment on an earlier proposal" to repeal the 2015 WOTUS Rule, which was initially proposed on July 27, 2017.

CCA strongly supports the proposal to rescind the 2015 Rule, and filed comments to that effect in response to the initial rulemaking proposal last year (CCA's comments can be accessed [here](#)). Ranchers are encouraged to file comments supporting the 2015 WOTUS Rule's withdrawal by clicking the "Comment Now!" button [here](#). Comments are due no later than August 13.

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

UCCE to hold AB 589 Courses Around the State

UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) will be holding various AB 589 courses throughout the state in the coming months. CCA-sponsored AB 589 allows diverters of 100 acre-feet of water or more per year to take a UCCE 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).

UCCE has scheduled the following slate of courses throughout this summer (please note the location change for the July 11 course)

- [August 29, noon-3:30pm at the Grange Hall in Taylorsville, contact Tracy Schohr - \[tkchohr@ucanr.edu\]\(mailto:tkchohr@ucanr.edu\) \(online registration available \[here\]\(#\)\)](#)
- [August 30, 12:30-4:00pm at the Elk Creek Grange Hall, 151 Church Street, contact Josh Davy - \[jsdavy@ucanr.edu\]\(mailto:jsdavy@ucanr.edu\) \(pre-register by Aug. 20, online](#)

[registration available here](#))

[During these workshops, participants will learn:](#)

- [How to clarify reporting requirements for ranches](#)
- [Understand what meters are appropriate for different situations](#)
- [How to determine measurement equipment accuracy](#)
- [Develop an understanding of measurement weirs](#)
- [How to calculate and report volume from flow data](#)

For more information on these courses, diverters are encouraged to click [here](#). Registration is open about 4-5 weeks before each class begins, and diverters can register by visiting their local UCCE website or finding the relevant course on the UCCE event calendar [here](#). Registration is required, and costs \$25.

-
UCCE will likely offer future courses beyond this summer (for instance, UCCE agents are currently considering a future course in the Bakersfield area); if you are outside the geographic areas currently served by AB 589 courses and are interested in a future AB 589 class in your area, contact your local UCCE office or speak with Kirk Wilbur in the CCA office. If you have any questions about SB 88 or upcoming AB 589 courses, please do not hesitate to contact the CCA office.

Industry News

California wildfires: How many fires are burning and where are they? *The Sacramento Bee* "Firefighters continue to battle more than a dozen wildfires across California on Monday morning, including the Carr Fire in Shasta County, in which at least six people have died, and the

Ferguson Fire in Mariposa County, which has killed two." To continue reading, click [here](#).

Cattlemen Urge President Trump to Support USDA Oversight of Lab-Grown Fake Meat *National Cattlemen's Beef Association* "Today the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and other leading organizations in the animal agriculture industry ('the Barnyard') sent a letter to President Donald J. Trump urging him to ensure the U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA) acts as the primary regulatory authority over lab-grown fake meat products." To continue reading, click [here](#).

CattleFax Update for July 27, 2018

Fed cattle trade had not occurred as of press time; however, the market undertone is near steady. Prices last week were mostly \$113 on a live basis and \$178 to \$180 dressed. Boxed beef was firmer as buyers see value at current prices and Labor Day buying gets underway. Feeder cattle were steady to \$2 higher for the week. Calves traded mixed from \$2 lower to \$2 higher. Market cows were steady compared to last week. Corn was 7 cents higher this week.

Upcoming Events

NCBA Summer Business Meeting, Aug. 1-4, 2018

Hyatt Regency, Denver, Colorado

CCA & CCW Annual Convention, Nov. 28-30, 2018

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, Nevada