

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

Cantwell Secures Money for Wildfire Efforts

Audio with U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell

Last week, Senator Maria Cantwell, a Democrat from Washington State, announced that the Wildfire Management Technology Advancement Act had cleared the Senate Energy and Natural resources Committee.

The vote on the bipartisan pieces of legislation was unanimous.

Cantwell says the legislation will increase the use of technology to keep firefighters and communities safe, better reduce the risks from wildfires, and increase the effectiveness of wildfire response...tape

Cut #1 :10 OC:... "are effective."

Included in the bill are measures to increase firefighter safety by providing crews on wildfires with GPS locators and using Unmanned Aircraft Systems to scout out and map wildfires in real-time.

[USDA Announces New Investments in Rural Infrastructure and Facilities](#)

00:00:59.506 2018-10-09

USDA has announced new investments in rural infrastructure and community facilities. (Gary Crawford and Anne Hazlett)

WEEK ENDING: October 7, 2018

RELEASED: October 9, 2018

WEATHER

Temperatures across the state were at near normal levels during the start of the week before dropping to below normal levels with the arrival of an upper level trough of low pressure. Along with cooler temperatures, a low pressure system brought showers across the higher elevations of the state by midweek and into the weekend. A brief dry period on Friday was followed by another wave of showers along the Sierras, with some of the higher peaks seeing the first snowfall of the season.

Temperature highs ranged from the upper 60s to mid 70s in the Sierras, upper 60s to upper 80s in the mountains, upper 60s to low 90s in the Central Valley, upper 70s to low 90s along the coast, and low 80s to low 100s in the desert. Temperature lows ranged from the lower 30s to lower 40s in the Sierras, lower 40s to upper 40s in the mountains, low 30s to upper 50s in the Central Valley, lower 40s to lower 60s along the coast, and mid 40s to mid 60s in the desert.

FIELD CROPS

In Tulare County, **cotton** harvest began, **alfalfa** was cut and baled, and **corn** and **sorghum** were harvested for silage. **Sunflower, beans, and rice** continued to be harvested in Sutter County. In the Sacramento Valley, rice and **safflower** harvest continued.

FRUIT CROPS

Table and wine **grape** harvest continued. Late variety grapes were covered to protect from rain. Raisin grapes were harvested and laid out for sun drying, while dried raisins were picked up. **Asian pears, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, pomegranates, and quince** were harvested. Stone fruit harvest was winding down for the season. Some old stone fruit orchards were torn out for replacement with new trees. **Persimmons** were maturing well. **Olive** harvest was underway. Finger **lime** and Valencia **orange** harvest continued. Citrus groves were skirted, hedge-rowed and irrigated. Navel orange fruit thinning was ongoing. Pushed out citrus groves were prepared for planting.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest was wrapping up for the year. **Pistachio** harvest continued. Orchard floors were prepared for harvest. **Walnut** harvest was underway in some locations.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In San Mateo County, **Brussels sprout** harvest continued. **Cucumbers**, **peppers**, and **tomatoes** were still being harvested in Tulare County. **Brassica** and **lettuce** continued to be harvested in Monterey County. In the Sacramento Valley, processing tomatoes harvest continued.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture was in poor condition. Though recent rains were welcomed, more precipitation is needed for grass germination this fall. Cattle continued to be provided supplemental feed.