



June 19, 2009

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Upcoming Events & Meetings

Affiliate Update: Senate Environment and Public Works passes CWRA

Released 6/18/09

Earlier today the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed S. 787 - the Clean Water Restoration Act of 2009 by a 12-7 party line vote. As expected, all Democrats voted in favor of the bill. All Republicans voted against it. A breakdown of the vote is included below.

During the debate, the committee accepted an amendment offered by Senators Baucus, Klobuchar and Boxer as a substitute version of the bill. The sponsors of the substitute touted the substitute as taking care of agricultural concerns by exempting prior-converted croplands from federal jurisdiction. However, cattle are generally not grazed on prior-converted croplands, so this amendment does nothing to mitigate the potential damage to livestock production from this legislation.

For example the substitute does not address the likelihood that the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) would work to regulate farm ponds, stormwater retention ponds, drainage ditches and mudholes. These regulations are still a possibility because the Baucus substitute fails to address the larger issue and still removes the word "navigable" from the definition of "waters of the United States". By removing the word "navigable" from the definition of "waters of the United States" private lands are opened up to federal jurisdiction and allow for a huge land grab by the federal government.

NCBA will remain extremely active in our opposition to this bill. Currently, there is no clear plan on when this will go to the floor for a vote. It is likely that a hold will be placed on the bill which means supporting activists will have to convince 60 Senators to vote in favor of the bill in order to release the hold. Sixty votes will be difficult to accomplish. This makes NCBA's continued grassroots efforts for letters and calls opposing S. 787 even more important as we work to defeat this bill. Call and letter information is available on our CAPWIZ site at <http://capwiz.com/beefusa>.

Following the vote NCBA also released a press statement; a copy of that statement is attached.

THANK YOU to everyone who submitted letters for the record opposing the bill. We were able to have letters from 20 state associations and several members read into the record as opposing S. 787. Those associations included (in no particular order):

MCA Board of Directors Meeting and Steak Fry

June 25

Missouri Beef House

Sedalia, Mo.

Missouri State Fair: Missouri Beef House

August 13-23

Missouri Beef House

Sedalia, Mo.

Join Our Mailing List!

California Cattlemen's Association
Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association
Missouri Cattlemen's Association
Oregon Cattlemen's Association
New Mexico Cattle Grower's Association
Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association
Louisiana Cattlemen's Association
Tennessee Cattlemen's Association
Ohio Cattlemen's Association
Wyoming Stock Growers Association
North Carolina Cattlemen's Association
Nebraska Cattlemen
Iowa Cattlemen's Association
Alabama Cattlemen's Association
North Dakota Stockmen's Association
Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association
Texas Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association
Texas Cattle Feeders Association
South Dakota Cattlemen's Association
Kansas Livestock Association

BREAKDOWN OF THE COMMITTEE VOTE ON S. 787

YEAS

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
Senator Max Baucus (D-MT)
Senator Thomas Carper (D-DE)
Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)
Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)
Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT)
Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Senator Tom Udall (D-NM)
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
Senator Kristen Gillibrand (D-NY)
Senator Arlen Specter (D-PA)

NEYS

Senator James Inhofe (R-OK)
Senator George Voinovich (R-OH)
Senator David Vitter (R-LA)
Senator John Barrasso (R-WY)
Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID)
Senator Chris Bond (R-MO)
Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN)

We will keep you updated to the latest developments on this bill. In the meantime, if you have any questions, or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me, Elizabeth Bostdorff, at 202 879 9128 or ebostdorff@beef.org.

Steak Fry approaches quickly

The MCA Board of Directors Meeting and Steak Fry will be held Thursday, June 25 at the Missouri Beef House in Sedalia, MO. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. There will be a social from 4-6:30 p.m. Dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m., and the auction will begin immediately following dinner.

REMINDER: MCA is requesting that each county donates an item to be

sold in the evening's auction.

See www.mocattle.com or the monthly magazine for the Steak Fry registration form.



Members to receive discount with Mellor Trailers

Mellor Trailers in Booneville, Mo. is offering a discount to all Missouri Cattlemen's Association members (with proof of membership). Membership forms are available at the time of sale.

Discounts include:

10% discount off parts and accessories

\$100.00 off trailer purchases **upto \$5000.00**

\$200.00 off trailer purchases **from \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00**

\$300.00 off trailer purchases **from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00**

\$400.00 off trailer purchases **from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00**

\$500.00 off trailer purchases **from \$20,000.00 and up**

Discounts may not apply to certain items already discounted or on promotions. Please call for details.

PLUS! The free use of a trailer for one year will be given at the Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade show. This will serve as a reward for an MCA member's hard work throughout the year, including membership, Beef House and convention activities. More information on this giveaway will be available soon!

Mellor Trailer Sales

1550 West Ashley Road
Boonville, Missouri 65233
877-882-8433

Open Monday -Saturday
7:30 am - 5:30 pm

I-70 Exit #101 and
1 mile north on Hwy 5

For more information, contact MCA at (573)499-9162 or at cattleinfo@mocattle.com.

Last Chance for MCF License Plates!!!

Foundation License Plates are available through July 1. Time is running out, so don't miss this deadline!

In order to send in applications on this date, we must have 200 applications. Right now, we have 80. Without 120 more, we cannot order any at all. **This really is the last chance to order.** The money made from these license plates will go to youth scholarships.

For more details contact MCF office at (573) 499-9162.

Junior Cattlemen attend MCA's All-Breeds Junior Show

(Columbia, MO) - Missouri Cattlemen's Association hosted their 27th Annual All-Breeds Junior Show June 12-14 at the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, Mo.

"The 2009 MCA All Breeds Junior Show was a huge success," said Rachel Bartholomew, MJCA Vice President of Activities and MCA intern, "not because of any planning or any one person winning, but because of the amazing group of young people we had exhibiting and participating in the weekend's events. Missouri really is blessed to have such excellent leaders emerging in the cattle industry. No matter who wins or loses, it's the experience of exhibiting an animal that you've worked hard with and having fun at the same time that truly matters."

The Missouri Cattlemen's Association All-Breeds Junior Show is one of the largest of its kind in the state. Around 260 young exhibitors attended and brought with them 485 head of cattle. Judges Chris Sankey of Council Grove, Kan. and Garrett Parsons of Manhattan, Kan. judged 18 breeds of cattle. Showmanship, champion and reserve champion awards were selected from each of the 18 breeds.

Overall Champion and Reserve Champion Heifer and Steer awards were selected at conclusion of Sunday's show. Paige Wallace received Champion Heifer with her bred and owned Angus heifer. Reserve Champion went to Kaitlyn Lee with her Simmental Solution heifer. Lexie Nolting received Champion Steer with her Maine Anjou steer. Jessica Weigand took Reserve Champion Steer with her Crossbred steer. These winners received belt buckles representing their titles.

The show began Friday, June 12 with registration from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Saturday, the show began at 10 a.m. and concluded at 5 p.m. Following the show, the Missouri Junior Cattlemen's Association (MJCA) held their annual meeting. A barbecue, sponsored by the Pettis County Cattlemen, was open to all exhibitors and their families and began at 7 p.m. The show resumed at 9 a.m. Sunday morning and concluded by 1 p.m.

At their annual meeting, 50 MJCA members elected new board members for 2009-2011. New board members are as follows: Kathryn Coon, Bethel - northeast representative; Tyler Erickson, Maysville - northwest representative; Parker Henley, Eugene - southeast representative; Cooper Black, Deepwater - southwest representative; Joel Butler, Republic - at-large representative; Elaine Martin, Centralia - at-large representative; and Morgan Kueckelhan; Boonville - at-large representative.

MCA would like to say thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ellison, Pearl and Greg Wathal, Pettis County Cattlemen, Amy Iman Bellis, Jimmy Long and Rodney Flower, and all other volunteers that helped make the event a success.

For more information, please contact the Missouri Cattlemen's Association at (573) 499-9162.

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The Missouri Cattlemen's Association was initiated in 1911 and is dedicated to improving profitability of Missouri's cattle industry. MCA will work tirelessly to promote, preserve and protect the future of our great cattle industry and the people who depend on us. To join, contact MCA at 573-499-9162 or at www.mocattle.com.

Time to fire up for the Beef House!

The State Fair (August 13-23) will be here before we know it. MCA is contacting county leaders to schedule each county's work shifts during those 10 days. MCA can use as many volunteer as a county can offer, so **please contact your county leader to sign up for your county's shift at the Beef House.**

New: Did you know?

PETA spends less than one percent of its multi-million dollar budget actually helping animals. The group euthanized (killed) more than 1,900 animals in 2003 alone -that's over 85 percent of the animals it received.

Source: ActivistCash.com on PETA



Checking in on the Checkoff



The Missouri Beef Council has partnered with Inside Columbia magazine and several Mid Missouri restaurants to showcase beef as the perfect partner with wine. The attendees fit the exact demographics of "Food and Health Involved"- the audience we know can make a difference to increase beef demand!

Cattlemen speak out on Clean Water Act Land Grab

Released by NCBA 6/18/09

WASHINGTON (June 18, 2009) - The Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee passed S. 787, the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA) out of committee today on a party-line vote, bringing the country one step closer to the largest federal land grab in our history.

The bill was amended at the markup by Senators Baucus, Klobuchar, and Boxer. The amendment is a smoke screen that allegedly takes care of agricultural concerns by exempting prior-converted croplands from federal jurisdiction. Cattle are generally not grazed on prior-converted croplands, so this amendment does nothing to mitigate the potential damage to livestock production from this legislation. The amendment is a diversion from the real issue, which is the removal of the word "navigable" from the definition of waters.

Under current law, the federal government has jurisdiction over "navigable waters of the United States." However, by removing the word "navigable" from the definition, the CWRA would expand federal regulatory control to unprecedented levels - essentially putting stock tanks, drainage ditches, any puddle or water feature found on family farms and ranches-potentially even ground water-under the regulatory strong-arm of the federal government.

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and Public Lands Council (PLC) strongly oppose this legislation, not only because it infringes on private property rights, but also because it limits the state partnerships and flexibility that have made the current Clean Water Act so successful.

Cattle producers across the country are asking the Senate to stop this legislation should it come up for a full Senate vote.

In a letter sent to the EPW Committee, Reid Blossom of Alabama writes, "This dangerous legislation would open a floodgate of unintended consequences as federal jurisdiction would be granted to monitor and regulate all bodies of water. This means stock tanks, farm ponds, irrigation pools, and more would be subject to federal regulation and oversight. Surely this is not the intention of the bill but it is also certain to be the outcome if its passage becomes a reality.

"As cattlemen, my family protects the water on our land. We do so not because we're made to by the federal or state government but because we take pride in stewardship. Just as we care for our animals, we care for our environment to see that it too is passed down in a pure state from generation to generation. Additional oversight and regulation by the federal government will only serve to hinder this progression among America's farming and ranching families."

Heather Gessner of South Dakota explains, "As a cattleman in South Dakota, I value water quality for my livestock and my family and I feel that...other bills that are currently in place effectively provide for the regulation and enforcement of public water ways that are utilized for human and animal consumption."

Jason McCann of Missouri writes, "As a cattleman in Southwest Missouri, we are blessed with an average of 44 inches of rain per year. And while this is great for growing grass, growing cattle and filling ponds, it could be a detriment if the mark up strikes the word navigable from the Clean Water statutes."

"You see, our part of the country has months where 6 inches of rain is not uncommon. That much rain makes for many 'wet weather' creeks which only run in the wetter parts of the year. If 'navigable' is removed, the small swale across my pasture which carries water to the creek will fall under the regulatory power of the EPA. The requisite permitting and usage restrictions would debilitate my ability to provide protein for a hungry America and a hungry world."

"The federal government has no business taking away my rights, or any cattlemen's private property rights by regulating non-navigable water. Focus instead on enforcement of existing law. Adding more legislation is not the solution."

Charles Hord of Tennessee writes, "Nothing in the bill addresses the fact that both the [Baucus-Klobuchar-Boxer] amendment and S. 787 as introduced would give federal regulators (and those who would use citizen suits to challenge an activity) the right to control private property. Moreover, by leaving the basic structure of S. 787 in place, Federal and state permitting programs will grind to a halt under the permitting burden created by these amendments to the Clean Water Act."

Tom Shipley of Iowa explains, "No amendments will solve the problem with this legislation-it would give federal regulators the right to control private property. It would never accomplish what private citizens are doing already at no cost to taxpayers. This act would actually hamper the government's ability to maintain clean waters as there is already a backlog of permit requests."

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The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) has represented America's cattle producers since 1898, preserving the heritage and strength of the industry through education and public policy. As the largest association of cattle producers, NCBA works to create new markets and increase demand for beef. Efforts are made possible through membership contributions. To join, contact NCBA at 1-866-BEEF-USA or membership@beef.org.

Register for Beef Check-Off Elections

Be sure to register for the Beef Check-Off Elections before July 20, 2009. This can be done at your county Farm Service Agency office.

This election determines the Missouri Beef Industry Council Board of Directors. This board allocates Missouri's check-off funds. This will be your chance to elect board members who represent your voice in the allocation of those funds.

Affiliate Update: Food Safety Bill passes House Energy and Commerce

Released 6/18/09

Yesterday the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed HR 2749 - the Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009 by a voice vote. HR 2749 was sponsored by Congressmen John Dingell (D-MI-15) and Henry Waxman (D-CA-30).

Attached is the manager amendment that was accepted as a substitute version of the bill.

Most of our on-farm issues have been addressed by exempting farms and ranches from onsite investigations by the FDA. However, the amendment does not address all of our issues so we are continuing to work on clarifying the exemptions within the manager's amendment.

NCBA remains very actively engaged with Energy and Commerce Committee to solve the remaining issues before the bill come to the House floor for a full vote. Floor action could be as early as next week.

If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me, Elizabeth Bostdorff, at 202 879 9128 or ebostdorff@beef.org.

Is your email address changing?

We have received word that alltel.net addresses will be changing to windstream.net addresses. Rather than searching through thousands of members in the database, the simplest way to take care of this will be for you to **email us if your email address is changing**.

Aside from the change to windstream.net, we would like ANYONE who has changed or is changing their email address to let us know so that you can continue to receive Prime Cuts weekly.

Please email me as soon as possible at kaity@mocattle.com with any email address changes.



Exciting times! Do not miss the deadline!

Are you 70 1/2 or older? Do you know someone who is 70 1/2 or older? Do you or they own an IRA or other tax qualified asset? Time is running out!

You only have until December 31, 2009 to make the most tax efficient donation to the Missouri Cattlemen Foundation that the IRS has probably ever allowed.

You will probably never have this chance again to help to children of Missouri with the help of the IRS. Yes, the IRS will help you contribute to the foundation.

Call your tax preparer and call our partners at APEX Financial LLC to find out if you qualify for this exciting opportunity. Call 800-843-9429 or 573-876-6011 and tell them you want to talk about a Missouri Cattlemen Foundation Contribution.

Remember time is running out!

As always, MCA Membership is the key to the success of the organization. Without producers who back our association our voice is not as strong. Ask your friend, neighbor and fellow cattlemen to join the thousands of cattlemen in supporting the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

For more industry news visit:


[Missouri Cattlemen's Association Website](#)

[Missouri's Cattlemen Foundation Website](#)

[Missouri Beef Industry Council Website](#)

[National Cattlemen's Beef Association Website](#)

[Missouri Department of Agriculture Website](#)



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Do you have questions, comments or suggestions?

Would you like to advertise in our newsletter?

If so, please contact Kaity Kerwin at (573) 499-9162 (Ext. 233) or

kaity@mocattle.com.