



TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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NCBA Files Opening Brief in WOTUS Legal Battle

NCBA, along with several other industry and municipal stakeholders, filed an opening brief Thursday in the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals arguing the “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) rule to be nullified because it violates the limits of the Clean Water Act and the Constitution.

The opening brief details how EPA flouted important procedural safeguards designed to ensure a fair and thoughtful rule-making process by using tactics such as withholding key documents until after the public comment period had closed, ignoring and ridiculing critical public comments and issuing illegal “covert propaganda” in an effort to generate superficial public support for the rule.

To read the brief, visit <http://tinyurl.com/NCBA-11-4-16>.

TCFA Files Comments Opposing Estate Tax Proposed Rule

TCFA and NCBA filed comments this week in the *Federal Register* opposing the *Estate, Gift, and Generation-skipping Transfer Taxes: Restrictions on Liquidation of an Interest* rule as proposed by the Internal Revenue Service in August 2016. Because the issuance, which far exceeds the Department of Treasury’s statutory authority, will have a devastating impact on U.S. family farms and ranchers, TCFA strongly requests the proposed rule be withdrawn.

As explained in the comments, “If the lack of marketability and lack of control discounts are eliminated, as proposed, cattle producers and farmers will face an even greater tax burden during the difficult task of transferring minority interests to the next generation. These changes will upend succession plans, halt planned expansion and require a majority of livestock operations to liquidate assets in order to simply survive from one generation to the next.”

TCFA’s full comments are available at <http://tinyurl.com/2016-11-4-Estate-Tax>.

Experts Challenge IARC Classification System

A team of expert scientists, regulators and researchers published an article in the journal of the International Society for *Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology* criticizing the approaches and systems used by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in its carcinogenicity classification process. The group says IARC uses outdated and misleading systems that can lead to unfounded public concern and policy change. The group also calls for international groups to come to a consensus on carcinogenetic classification using modern approaches on hazard and risk characterization.

“An initiative to agree upon a standardized, internationally acceptable methodology for carcinogen assessment is needed now,” the abstract of the paper reads. “The approach should incorporate principles and concepts of existing international consensus-based frameworks...”

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/IARC-11-4-16>.

Convention! Convention! Convention!

The TCFA office is buzzing as the final preparations for the 2016 TCFA Annual Convention are made. Here are a few last minute reminders for Convention attendees as you head to Fort Worth.

- Be sure to stop by the TCFA Convention Registration Desk at the Omni Fort Worth Hotel to pick up your registration packet when you arrive.
- New this year, TCFA is offering a **texting service** to Convention attendees. Simply text **TCFA** to **25827** to subscribe to the service. You will receive Convention updates and reminders throughout the event. You will also be able to submit questions to the speakers via text and view the Awards Luncheon slideshow on your phone, as we will not be projecting the slideshow onto a screen.
- Bid early on **BEEF-PAC silent auction** items and be entered to **win a \$100 Cabela’s gift card!** Those with names on the silent auction bid boards before 2:00 p.m. Monday will receive one entry for each

- time their name is listed. The drawing will be held at the Cattle Feeders Get Together later that evening.
- Share your Convention photos on social media using the hashtag **#TCFAConv16**.
 - **Election Day** falls during Convention this year on Tuesday, Nov. 8. To ensure that your voice is heard, **be sure and vote early** before you leave for Convention! Early voting is open through Nov. 4 in Texas and Nov. 5 in New Mexico and Oklahoma. Early voting locations in Texas will be available through the Texas Secretary of State's Online Voter Central at www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml, and polling place hours vary at each early voting location. Registered and eligible voters may vote at any early voting location located in their county of residence. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/2016-TCFA-Election> for a list of BEEF-PAC supported candidates. Please contact Josh Winegarner at (806) 358-3681 or josh@tcfa.org with questions about these candidates or to find out more information about the candidates from your area.
 - For a **schedule** of TCFA Convention events, visit www.tcfa.org/news-events/convention.html.
 - If you have not yet signed up for **tours or other additional events**, you will be able to do that at the registration desk as long as the event you wish to attend has not already reached maximum capacity

TCFA members will be able to reach TCFA staff at Convention by calling the Registration Desk at (682) 647-6150. Stay connected with Cynthia at the Market Desk by calling (806) 570-6613. Also, for the latest while at Convention, be sure to follow TCFA on Twitter at www.twitter.com/TxCattleFeeders and Facebook at www.facebook.com/texas catt lefeeders association. Join the conversation by sharing your photos and comments on social media at [#tcfaconv16](https://twitter.com/tcfaconv16).

Department of Labor Overtime Rule and the Ag Overtime Exemption – An Update Seminar

Shawn Twing, Labor Law Attorney with Mullin Hoard Brown, will be presenting a seminar for TCFA members on upcoming changes to the Department of Labor's overtime regulations, taking effect Dec. 1, 2016, and information on the Agriculture Overtime Exemption. Join us Tuesday, Nov. 22, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at AgTexas Farm Credit Services, 2001 S. Soncy Rd. in Amarillo to learn more about this important issue to ag employers.

NAHMS Plans 2017 Cow-Calf Study

USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) plans to conduct a national cow-calf study in 2017. This is intended to be a follow-up study of the most recent 2007 and 2008 studies conducted by the agency. This will help identify animal health trends, producer challenges and industry opportunities.

The three primary objectives for the study are to describe trends in beef cow-calf health and management practices, management practices and producer beliefs related to various topics, and antimicrobial use practices focused on antimicrobial resistance patterns of potential food-safety pathogens.

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/NAHMS-11-4-16>.

Advertise in the 2017 *Cattle Feeders Resource Guide* Celebrating TCFA's 50th Anniversary!

TCFA is now accepting advertising contracts for the 2017 *Cattle Feeders Resource Guide*. Take advantage of this unique advertising opportunity by celebrating TCFA's 50th anniversary in this special edition. This publication will highlight the history of the industry as well as celebrate the future. Feel free to tailor your advertisement to reflect TCFA's 50th anniversary.

Advertisers who purchase a full-page, four-color ad in the *Cattle Feeders Resource Guide* receive a free bonus web ad on TCFA's website, a great value in which advertisers have the opportunity to target potential buyers more precisely with ads that may reflect seasonal or market-focused messages.

The deadline to advertise is Nov. 18. You certainly do not want to miss a rare advertising opportunity such as this! View the rate card at <http://tinyurl.com/2017-TCFA-RateCard>, or contact Scena Snider for more details at (806) 358-3681 or scena@tcfa.org.

EQIP Application Deadline Approaching

The application deadline to participate in the Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is quickly approaching. Eligible landowners and agricultural producers wishing to participate should submit inquiries and applications their local USDA Field Service Center by Nov. 18.

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/2016-10-28-EQIP>.

