

Preparing for potential PG&E power outage

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Due to threat of extreme weather conditions, PG&E will be turning off electricity in the interest of public safety, which they call a “Public Safety Power Shutoff.”

While these power outages will affect people in different ways, farmers and ranchers who rely on electricity for certain aspects of their industries could be severely affected, especially if a power outage last for 48 hours or more.

Field Representative Gary Sack wrote in his June 2019 report, “If you live in or near a wildfire threat area, you should pay attention to the proposed PSPS. Some of the factors for a shut-off would be red flag conditions, 25 MPH sustained winds, 40 MPH gusts, <20% humidity, and on-the-ground conditions. Power could be shut off for several days, as PG&E must check all the lines afterwards. A public open house was held at the fairgrounds June 3. You will need to make contingency plans to get water to livestock, irrigate, and power to your businesses, and homes, if you do not have back-up generators, or alternate sources of power. Can you



Could you sustain your farm or ranch operation without electricity?

sustain your operations for a week without power?”

Here are some tips to help you prepare for a power outage.

Invest in a generator

If you haven’t already, obtain a generator as soon as you can. Even if it can’t power your house, you can at least supply power to essential appliances, like freezers. If you already have a generator, do a maintenance check to ensure it’s working properly. Stock up on enough fuel to last you for several days, and store in a safe place.

Farm Bureau members get a

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special member prices on Grainger Industrial Supplies products and free shipping on all Grainger orders. There are 3 ways to receive your special member pricing:

- Present your California Farm Bureau account number at the time of your purchase.
- Go to grainger.com/farmbureau to establish a new Grainger.com account using that account number; or
- Call Grainger customer service at 1-800-472-4643 to update your existing Grainger account with the Farm Bureau organization account number.

If there are any other industrial supplies you think you may need for the potential power outages, visit cfbf.com/member-benefits to see if you can get a member discount on a variety of products.

Unplug almost everything

If the power does go out, unplug as many of your appliances as you can—like stoves, coffee makers, and microwaves. If the power comes back on, there could be an electrical surge, which can damage your home.

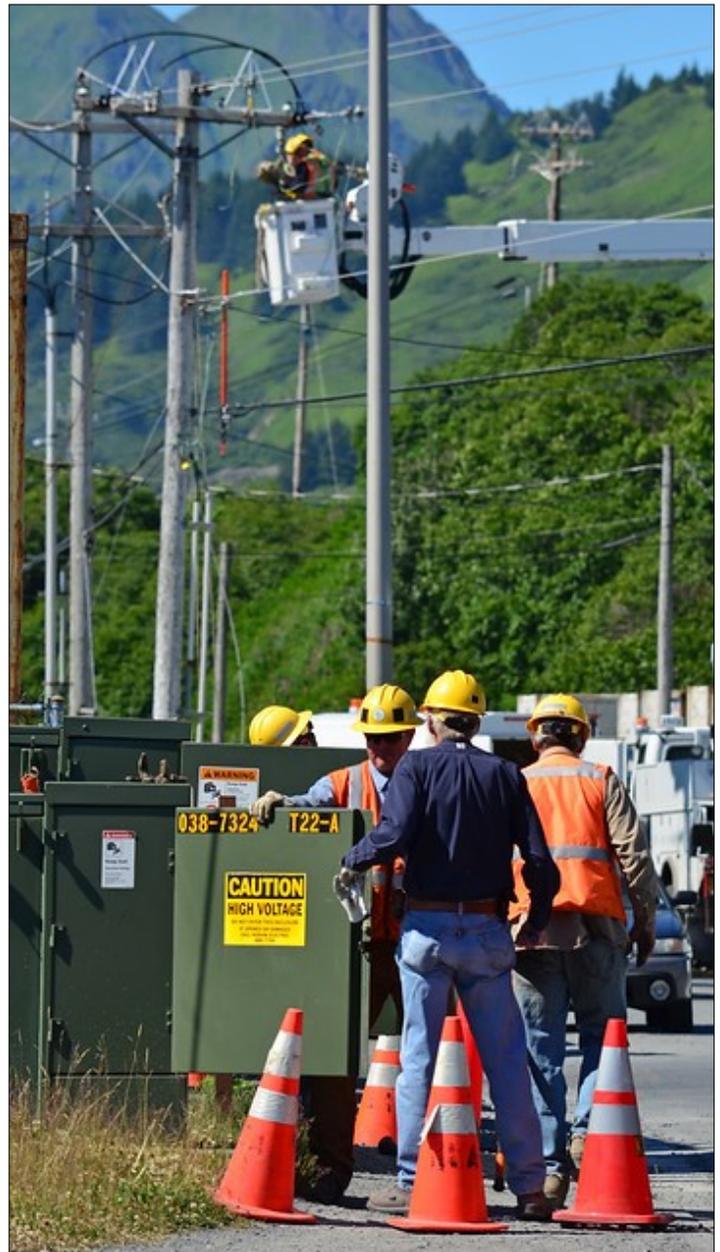
Stock up on supplies

Batteries, flashlights, first aid, propane, cash, nonperishable food, charcoal for grill cooking, and water (even buckets of water with lids for things like flushing toilets and watering small animals).

Portable water storage tanks

If you have large livestock, supplying them with water during the hot season is crucial. Having a portable water storage tank—or several—that can be loaded on the back of a truck will be useful. If you have access to a working water source, or if you also have a small pump, you can supply your livestock with water by hauling it to them, if their own water source ceases to supply them with water during the power outage.

For more information about the Public Safety Power Shutoff, go to pge.com/wildfiresafety.



Are you prepared for a power outage?

A public open house for Calaveras County was held on June 3. If you missed it, PG&E will have webinars scheduled for those who could not attend in person. To see when another webinar is scheduled, go to pge.com/wildfiresafety and click the link to view the open house schedule.

Field Representative Report Highlights

July 2019

Gary Sack, CFBF Field Rep.

China Trade: China agreed to purchase more farm products, because of President Trump talking to Chinese President Xi, at the G-20 Summit. President Trump pushed for those purchases.

Previously, President Trump **announced a \$16B aid package to agriculture that will benefit California specialty crops**, to offset some of the downturn in exports due to increased Chinese tariffs. **Jamie Johansson, president, CFBF**, was invited by the White House to the signing ceremony.

CFBF has had immense access to this administration, which includes the White House, cabinet secretaries, and other high ranking officials. USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue has come to California on seven occasions and has involved Farm Bureau on each of those trips.

USMCA: Secretary Perdue coordinated with CFBF on a June 28 three stop visit to some **key Democratic districts to push for Speaker Pelosi to schedule hearings to pass the USMCA trade deal** that the president negotiated with Mexico and Canada. His 3rd stop of the day was in **Clarksburg**. He listened and answered questions on USMCA and other trade deals, pushing Congress to ratify the USMCA. Other topics included immigration, water and wildfires.

Farm Bureau has pushed Congress to ratify the USMCA that the president negotiated. AFBF, CFBF and more than *900 food and commodity groups sent a letter to each member of Congress on the issue*. There is resistance among some Democrats, and speaker Pelosi who don't want to give the president a victory. We hope to get it passed by the August recess. **VP Pence** is in CA this week (July 11) pushing for USMCA.

State Budget: The governor signed the \$215B budget. It includes \$65M for **Diesel engine** replacement through the **FARMER** program—significantly less than we need and asked for. The budget contains \$200M to **Cal Fire** for forest health and fire prevention projects.

Good things happening in State Legislature:

Safe Drinking Water: SB 200 (Monning) is easily going through various committees that would establish a safe drinking water fund of \$130M allocated annually in the State budget. \$100M comes from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund this year. It would continuously appropriate funds.

CFBF can be thanked for this. Other agricultural groups were in support of a plan that would have cost agriculture \$30M a year in taxes and fees on fertilizer, confined animal feeding operations, livestock and dairies. CFBF did not support the measure and held out for negotiations. Since there was a budget surplus, the legislature finally decided to put \$130M in the budget for clean drinking water.

Truck Trade-Up under Carl Moyer: SB 216 (Galgiani), would allow fleets that use Carl Moyer funds to replace relatively new trucks to trade those newer trucks with fleets that have older heavy-duty vehicles, instead of scrapping the newer trucks. It is designed after tractor trade-up program available in the San Joaquin Valley. Easily going through committees. **CFBF Supports.**

CDFA Economic Advisor position: AB 417 (Arambula-D) is a **CFBF sponsored** measure to authorize CDFA to create a new advisory position to recommend on rural agricultural economic issues and development programs. This person would be able to comment on economic impacts of other state agencies' and department regulations, including the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The bill is going through the Senate committee process, with little to no opposition so far.

Glyphosate (Roundup type products): AB 916 (Muratsuchi- D) would not have allowed use within the state. It **failed passage**, as it was not offered a hearing. **CFBF opposed** the bill because of its use as fire prevention, weed abatement; also, the lack of use by public agencies would have had a secondary effect on adjacent farmers. DPR has a science-based risk assessment process and product registration that should be followed.

Chlorpyrifos: A bill that would have prohibited its use **also failed to get a hearing**. CFBF and other farm groups took strong opposition to this bill as well.

Land Use/ Cannabis: SB 527 (Caballero-D) would have allowed for a local jurisdiction to declare cannabis and hemp as a **qualifying or “compatible use”** under the Williamson Act Program. CFBF policy is against cannabis being a *qualifying use* and advocated against it. **We succeeded.** The bill was amended to designate cannabis as a qualifying use was removed. It can only be a compatible use.

Broadband: AB 488 (Aguilar-Curry, D-Winters) would add the CDFA secretary to the Broadband Council. This assures that California agriculture would have a representative when developing strategies to expand broadband connectivity. **CFBF supports.**

Legislative Concerns

Trapping: Fur sale and recreational trapping would be prohibited in California, if AB 44 (Friedman- D) becomes law, It passed a Senate committee on a 5-2 vote, and moves on to its next committee. Without recreational trapping and the ability to sale fur, it would increase depredation losses for livestock producers.

AB 273 (Gonzalez-D) would no longer let landowners allow fur-trappers onto their property to help manage wildlife for fur.



Gold Country YF&R Spring Updates

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While things were a bit slow for us in the spring, everything started to pick up now that summer is here.

We hosted an industry tour with San Joaquin YF&R on April 13. We first toured Orvis Ranch, then drove up to Arnold to the Logging Museum, and lunch was prepared for us by Steve Kafka.

In May, we participated in two events at the Calaveras County Fair and Jumping Frog Jubilee. The first was the Wine Stroll. Various members of the Gold Country YF&R were stationed at various

places throughout the fairgrounds, and each table served one kind of wine from several wineries from Calaveras, Amador, and Tuolumne counties. We had cheese plates from Angels Food Market as well, which were almost always what drew people to our tables.

California Farm Bureau Second Vice President Shaun Crook also decided to go on the stroll with his wife and friends.

The next day, we braved the wet weather to jump some frogs in the rain with a couple of members from

Follow us on Facebook at Gold Country Young Farmers and Ranchers or Instagram @goldcountry.yfr



Summer time means summer blooms and farmers markets.

We've been featuring small local farms that sell their produce both at farmers markets and in their own stores. Check them out!

Gold Country YF&R Instagram



the San Joaquin YF&R. We split off into two teams. Although one team did do better than the other, one frog (mine) got disqualified for jumping the wrong way and most of our frogs had a hard time wanting to jump at all because of the cold. Still, we had fun and got a group shot together at the end.

While we got a short break after fair, we were able to do another summer event in June for The Farm Murphys called Summer Solstice Soiree. This is our second year participating with them, and we were very excited to do so again! We served a variety of

local wines and one summer shandy beer.

September may be one of our busiest summer months. We will be volunteering to help out at YF&R member Sonja Harris' wedding the first weekend of September. In exchange, Sonja will be donating to the YF&R for their help. Just a couple of weekends after that on September 14, we will be hosting our second annual Brew & Ball Crawl. Last year was a hit, and we are very excited to do it again!

That's it for this summer update. See you all in the fall!

Right: At the Summer Solstice Soiree, the Gold Country YF&R served a cabernet sauvignon and chardonnay by Ten By Ten, and a grenache rose from School Street and a sparkling rose from Tanner Vineyards

Below: The Gold Country and San Joaquin YF&Rs braved the wet to compete in the 2019 Jumping Frog Jubilee at the Calaveras County Fair.



Announcements



2019 CCFB Scholarship recipients

Here are the 2019 scholarship recipients for the Calaveras County Farm Bureau, as well as the Gold Country Young Farmers & Ranchers!

Ava Mosley, left, received the Gold Country YF&R scholarship. Mia Remus, center, received both the CCFB And Gold Country YF&R scholarships. Olivia Long, right, received the scholarship from CCFB.

Congratulations ladies and good luck in your future educational endeavors!

Upcoming Events

Tuolumne County Farm Bureau
Annual Barbecue
July 26, 6 p.m.
Hurst Ranch
17415 Hwy 108
Jamestown, CA

Calaveras County Farm Bureau
Annual Barbecue
August 24, 5 p.m.
The Ranch House
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Road
Angels Camp, CA

Gold Country YF&R Brew & Ball Crawl
September 14, 4 p.m.
Utica Mansion
Angels Camp, CA

Write to us!

We want to hear from you! Whether you're a cattle or sheep rancher, a bee keeper, a wine-grape grower, a crop farmer (walnuts, olives, tomatoes, oranges, potatoes - you name it), CCFB wants to know what's going on in your neck of the woods here in Calaveras County. Give us an update on the wine-grape industry. Tell us how your livestock are doing. Share a favorite recipe with us. Shine a spotlight on some locally grown and raised foods and home goods.

Are you a high school ag student or teacher? We want to hear from you too! Give us an update on how the school farm is doing, what FFA conventions you've been to, what events or dinners you're hosting.

Stories can be 250 to 1,000 words in length. So if you have some important information to share, please contact us at: calcofb@aol.com or call (209) 772-0693.

Farmers markets are open!

Want to attend a farmers market? Here are some local farmers markets happening now in Calaveras County.

CalaverasGROWN Certified Farmers Market

The CalaverasGROWN Certified Farmers Market is held every Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden at the Calaveras County Government Center at 891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, and will run until October 31st. Along with a wide variety of fresh products from Calaveras County Farms available for purchase, there are free activities for kids in the Children's Garden and live music from the local band "Vintage Vibrations" playing jazz, swing, and Dixieland. Some of the many products available are vegetables, herbs, meat, compost, olive oil, honey, jams, mustards, eggs, baked goods, coffee, flowers, soaps, lotions, and body butters. For more information, call the UCEE Master Gardeners at 754-2880 or visit calaverasgrown.org.

Angels Camp Farmers Market

The Angels Camp Farmers Market is put on by the Angels Camp Business Association and is held every Friday from 5 p.m. to dusk. It is held at Utica Park off of Highway 49 near downtown Angels Camp, and will run until the end of September. They have vendors that sell locally-grown produce, food, and crafts, and feature a local winery each week. Live music is performed by different local bands. For more information, visit angelscampbusinessassociation.com or find the Angels Camp Farmers Market on Facebook.

Murphys Farmers Market

This new farmers market opened June 23rd and runs until October 20th. It's held at the Murphys Community Park on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. They offer locally grown produce, hand-crafted



artisan goods, community workshops, freshly made food and beverages, plus live music. It's a great place to bring the kids to, thanks to the shaded playground, gazebo, public restrooms, and the nice, cool creek nearby. For more information, check out their Facebook page.

Mountain Ranch Community Market

This community market is held every second and fourth Saturday from June through September, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Mountain Ranch Park off Whiskey Slide Road. This market features local artisans and fresh produce, as well as live music and fun for the whole family. To learn more about this off-the-beaten-path market, check them out on Instagram or their Facebook event page.

Saturday Market at the Square

The Saturday Market held at The Square in Copperopolis is being held for only three more dates! July 27, August 3, and August 31, 8 to 11 a.m. While not a certified farmers market yet, it still offers fresh, locally-grown produce and home goods, honey, and more. Check it out while you still can!

For a list of verified Calaveras farm goods and products, visit the CalaverasGrown resource guide at calaverasgrown.org.