# APRIL 15, 2022

### CFFA AND ZENITH TO HOST HEAT ILLNESS AND ATV **TRAININGS**

The California Fresh Fruit Association and Zenith Insurance Company

have teamed up to provide two seminars for Association members who are growers, shippers, and marketers.

The purpose of the sessions is to provide your managers, supervisors, and foremen with training on ATV Safety and Best Heat Illness **Practices** for Prevention.

Please mark your calendars for training in your area:

#### **Delano:**

Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> in Delano at the

Delano Elks Club. Spanish and English-speaking sessions will run concurrently from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### Madera:

Tuesday, May 24th in Madera at The Specialty Crop Company warehouse. English-speaking sessions from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Spanishspeaking sessions from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

There is no cost to participate, but registration is required. To register, please click here, or see the attached flyer for additional information.

questions, please contact Courtney Razor (crazor@cafreshfruit.com).

## CFFA TO HOST A FUNDRAISER FOR PAST PRESIDENT GEORGE RADANOVICH



The Association in conjunction with FruitPAC, will host a luncheon at 12 p.m. on Thursday, April 21st at The Vintage Press Restaurant in Visalia on behalf of former Congressman and CFFA President George Radanovich, who is running for State Senate District 4 in this year's election. The newly redrawn Senate District 4

overlaps with the previous Congressional district that George served from 1995 - 2011.

If you wish to participate, please see the information flyer attached. CFFA staff hopes that you are able to join the FruitPAC Board and representatives from other agricultural organizations in attending this

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event on April 21st. If you are able to attend, please contact Ian LeMay (ilemay@cafreshfruit.com), Adam **Borchard** (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com), as well as campaign fundraiser Wendy Warfield at wwarfield@wendywarfield.com. All RSVPs are requested by Wednesday, April 6th. For more information, please contact Adam Borchard (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

## CALIFORNIA DROUGHT EXECUTIVE ORDER WELL PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

On March 28th, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Drought Executive Order to help strengthen water conservation efforts. A provision includes new well permitting requirements for local agencies with the intention to help safeguard groundwater supplies. Outlined below is information clarifying the rule that was provided by the Department of Water Resources (DWR).

#### Well Permitting Authority and Groundwater Management Oversight

In California, regulatory authority over well construction, alteration, and destruction activities resides with local agencies (cities, counties, or water agencies), who have the authority to adopt a local well ordinance. Well permits are administered and enforced by local agencies, often the Department of Environmental Health within a given county.

With the enactment of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in 2014, local public agencies - called groundwater sustainability agencies or GSAs – formed to provide specific oversight and management of groundwater resources, and to achieve sustainable groundwater management within 20 years through the development and implementation of groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) and associated projects and management actions. The local GSAs are required to include in their GSPs a discussion of how they will coordinate these efforts with local land use authorities, including local well permitting agencies.

#### **Drought Well Permitting Requirements**

Local well ordinances authorize the conditions for agencies to issue a well permit or permit modification. Given the record drought conditions the state has faced over the last three years, the Drought Executive Order requires additional actions be taken by local well permitting agencies prior to issuing a well permit.

Local well permitting agencies retain existing well permitting authorities, including reviewing and administering well permits. Under the Executive Order, local well permitting agencies must take the following steps during the well permitting process for wells intending to extract groundwater:

Consultation with the GSA - If the proposed well would be in a high or medium priority groundwater basin, the well permitting agency must consult with the GSA and receive

written verification from the GSA that the proposed well location is generally consistent (not inconsistent) with the applicable GSP and will not decrease the likelihood of achieving the sustainability goals that the GSAs have developed under SGMA.

 Permit Evaluation – For every well permit application, the local well permitting agency must determine before issuing a well permit that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells and is not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

These requirements do not apply to wells that pump less than two acre-feet per year and wells that exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems.

For more information on the Drought Executive Order, please visit https://drought.ca.gov/.

For questions, please contact Director of Government and Public Policy, Adam Borchard (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

# RELEASES OF WATER FROM FRIANT DAM FOR EXCHANGE CONTRACTORS

On Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Bureau of Reclamation began releasing water from Friant Dam into the San Joaquin River to provide supplies to the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors.

The water released from Friant Dam for the Exchange Contractors would have otherwise available for delivery to Friant Division contractors in communities stretching from Madera and Chowchilla at the north to as far south as Bakersfield and Arvin in Kern County. Currently, the Friant Division Class 1 water allocation from Reclamation is still at 15%, although that number may decrease because of these releases.

This is occurring because Reclamation is obligated to deliver San Joaquin River water to the Exchange Contractors if the agency is unable to deliver them Sacramento River supplies pumped from the Delta. There is an ongoing and unresolved legal dispute over Reclamation's interpretation of its specific obligations to the Exchange Contractors and the Friant Contractors believe more water is being taken away than is required under the Federal government's contracts. Nevertheless, the main reason for the need to release water from Friant Dam in the first place is that Delta supplies are increasingly unreliable. For additional information, please contact Adam **Borchard** (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA TO HOST FOCUS GROUP SERIES

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources seeking input from farmers and producers on what is needed to prioritize the needs of California growers. A series of focus group meetings have been organized to discuss your business's challenges and concerns, and how the University can help address these needs. To participate in the focus groups, registration is required, please click on the link for the session

that you are interested in attending. The results of the focus group meetings will be summarized and distributed.

Date	Time	Registration Link
April 25, 2022	1 – 2:30 pm	Any grower
April 26, 2022	9 – 10:30 am	Nut Crops
April 29, 2022	12 – 1:30 pm	Any grower
May 3, 2022	10:30 – 12 pm	<b>Apple and Pear</b>
May 4, 2022	12 – 1:30 pm	Wheat and rice crops
May 5, 2022	9 – 10:30 am	Any grower
May 6, 2022	2 – 3:30 pm	Vegetable crops,
		berries and melons

For questions, please contact Karen Jetter at <a href="mailto:jetter@ucanr.edu">jetter@ucanr.edu</a>.

#### JOIN THE CFFA FOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE



The California Fresh Fruit Association is assembling a Food Safety Committee from among its membership.

The goal is for each fruit industry operation that is a current CFFA member to assign at least one person to represent their interests from among those directly involved in the implementation of their food safety program, for instance, quality assurance or sanitation

managers, or production managers whose responsibilities include food safety.

The focus of this group will be open discussions around food safety science and principles, cleaning, sanitizing, and other related issues at the growing and packing facility level. This sharing of ideas and new information will be critical for meeting current and future food safety challenges. The Food Safety Committee will meet annually, or as circumstances require and availability of members allow. Time demands for participation will be minimal and scheduled to accommodate the seasonal nature of your businesses. To join the committee, or for questions, please contact Programs Coordinator Perla Chavarria at <a href="mailto:pchavarria@cafreshfruit.com">pchavarria@cafreshfruit.com</a> or (559) 226-6330.

## CFFA PARTNERNING TO CO-HOST HEAT ILLNESS TRAINING ON APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>

CFFA is partnering with several ag organizations to host a Heat Illness and Wildfire Smoke Training on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. The event will take place at the CPDES Hall in Fresno (172 W. Jefferson Avenue, Fresno, CA 93706). A Spanish session will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and an English session from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The workshop is meant for employees in supervisory positions, such farm labor contractors, field supervisors, crew leaders, managers, and growers. There is no cost to participate and RSVP's are not required. For additional information, please contact the Nisei Farmers League at (559) 251-8468.

