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CalCAN Advocates for Cap-and-Trade Revenue for Agriculture

CalCAN recently coordinated a sign on letter with 17 agricultural organizations, calling for California's cap-and-trade revenue to support agricultural practices that mitigate and adapt to climate change. Here is a short excerpt from the letter:

Many of the possible agricultural practices to reduce GHG emissions and sequester carbon can offer environmental co-benefits. For example, cover cropping, improved soil management and conservation tillage can improve air and water quality, contribute to wildlife habitat values and reduce GHG emissions and sequester carbon. Allowance revenue should target such practices that provide environmental co-benefits.

For a complete copy see: <http://www.calclimateag.org/issueareas.html>.

As the state proceeds in 2010 with developing its cap-and-trade program, CalCAN will continue to push for much-needed resources for sustainable agricultural solutions to climate change. For more information on implementation of cap-and-trade in California, see:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/capandtrade.htm>

State Policy Update

California Climate Adaptation Strategy Report

Prior to the Governor's departure to the Copenhagen climate negotiations, the CA Department of Natural



Resources released its revised California Climate Adaptation Report. The report acknowledges the profound impacts climate change may have on California agriculture and highlights adaptation strategies for the industry, including increased agrobiodiversity, water conservation and soil building practices. A Governor-appointed advisory council is tasked with forwarding more detailed climate adaptation recommendations in July 2010.



Federal Policy Update

President Obama will be in Copenhagen for the final days of the international climate change negotiations. Meanwhile, this week USDA highlighted the significance of climate change impacts to agriculture. See the resources section below for a recent USDA summary report on climate change and agriculture issues.

USDA also announced an agreement with the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy to seek a 25 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the dairy industry. USDA will focus its efforts on



anaerobic digesters - turning manure waste into energy and reducing methane emissions. Unfortunately, the USDA announcement makes no mention of additional strategies to reduce GHG emissions in dairy farming systems, including grazing management and carbon sequestration. See: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/12/0613.xml

Science News

A new FAO report finds climate change will further stress fisheries, aquaculture.

<http://www.fao.org/climatechange/en/>

Resources & Events



**USDA: The Effects of Climate Change on
U.S. Ecosystems**



http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/_s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/12/0611.xml

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