Stephanie Larson
Livestock & Range Management Advisor

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

1 Range Management

2 Supplemental Feeding

3 Livestock Management

Grass = Money

RANGE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- Visually evaluation of the available forage
- Pasture Utilization
- Rotation of Pastures
- Feed Banking - Swales
- Nitrogen Fertilization
- Poisonous Plants /Weeds
- Use water to move animals

Feed Costs are the Highest Expense

SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING

- High-Energy Feeds
- Liquid Supplements
- By Products

Healthy Animals = Money

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- Grouping of Grazing Strategies
- Saving best pastures for highest maintenance animals
- Early weaning of calves & lambs
- Culling strategies
- Selling/Destocking livestock

All 3 parts = a sustainable system

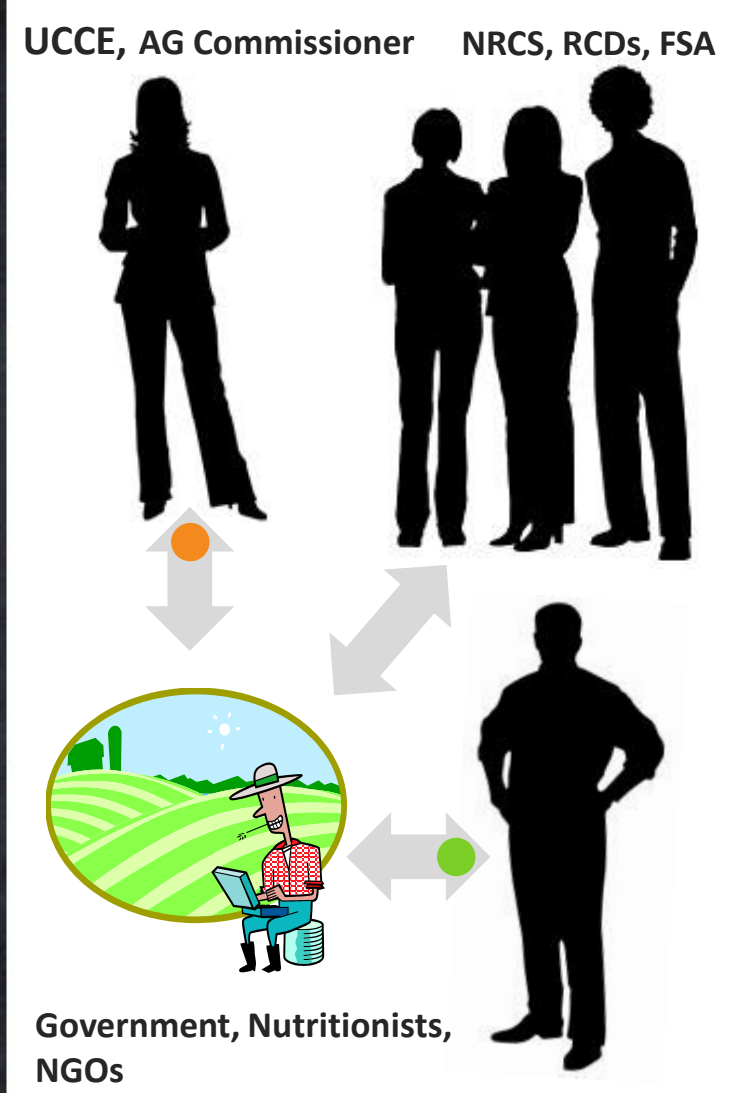
You can’t feed out of Drought

Short and Long Term Strategies

Collaboration

With multiple individuals, agencies, business, government, NGOs, etc.

It's about building partnerships for today and beyond



Short Term Strategies

Review Resource Objectives
New Grazing Opportunities
Water Shortage / Hauling Programs
Explore local By products
Establish Monitoring Sites

Plan for the next month, next year and future

Long Term Strategies

Options if it NEVER Rains Again

Start Planning Now!

FARM BILL 2014

PROGRAMS:

Livestock Forage Program – Drought

- Reauthorized under the 2014 Farm Bill
- Retroactive back to 2012
- Requires NAP coverage to be eligible
- Gross Income (averaged over three preceding years) cannot exceed $900,000.
- All payments (LFP, LIP, ELAP, etc.) cannot exceed $125,000 per entity per crop year
- Payments made in accordance with U.S. Drought Monitor (severe, extreme, exceptional)
- Monthly payment equals 60 percent of the lesser of monthly feed costs calculated using a FSA formula or monthly feed costs calculated in comparison to normal carrying capacities for a grazing season
- Record keeping requirement will apply (more specific information to come)
- Other eligibility requirements may apply

Livestock Indemnity Program – Death

- Reauthorized under the 2014 Farm Bill
- Retroactive back to 2012
- Requires NAP coverage to be eligible
- Gross Income (averaged over three preceding years) cannot exceed $900,000.
- All payments (LFP, LIP, ELAP, etc.) cannot exceed $125,000 per entity per crop year
- Payments made at 75% of the market value of the animal calculated the day before it died
- Covers adverse weather (drought, fire, blizzards, etc.)
- Record keeping requirement will apply (more specific information to come)
- Other eligibility requirements may apply

Capital Gaines Tax Deferment

- Authorized under IRS Code §451(e) & §1033(e)
- Applies to sales in excess of normal business practices
- Principle business must be agriculture
- Postpone capital gains to be used to restock cattle within two years of the last concurring tax year declared a drought *§1033(e)*
- Defer income – must be under cash accounting - to the next tax year (disaster area declaration required) *§451(e)*
- IRS provides annual list of what areas are eligible for deferment

Get the word out

Dan Macon posted in Farmer-Rancher Drought Forum

Dan Macon	1:13pm Feb 2 I'm going to be interviewed by a public radio station from New York tomorrow morning at 4:45 (apparently, the show is on KQED in SF, too). What would you tell someone in NYC about the impact of the drought on CA farmers and ranchers?

Measuring Drought

- (1) **Impact of the current drought on ranch operations**
- 2) **Comparison of this drought to past droughts**
- 3) **Collect photos and short video clips showing evidence of the drought at each ranch (bare ground, empty water troughs, livestock, hay barns, etc.)**

Create / Document your Story

sites/tfc/

SKIP TO CONTENT SITE

- Home
- Table of Contents
- Facilitation Guide
- Training Guide
- Passion for the Land Discussion Guides
- Glossary
- References
- Appendices

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ART OF REGIONAL CHANGE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

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UC Passion for the Land

Personal Stories Are Powerful

More Information

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