

## ***Sustaining Ranching for Public Good***

Thursday, April 18, 2019

8:30 – 4:30

*Location: Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority - Blair Ranch*

*Cost: \$40*

*Central Coast Rangeland Coalition*

**Description:** In spring 2016 the CCRC had a meeting in Sunol focused on rancher economics, specifically the costs to the rancher of conservation-based grazing management on public lands and the costs to the agency of having a grazing program. During the Spring 2019 meeting we will explore an example cost/return analysis for a cow/calf operation; ways agencies can modify lease arrangements to reduce costs to ranchers; how lease modifications can improve viability of the operation; and other ways to improve the rancher's bottom line.

**Goal:** Improve ranchers' bottom line which will allow for continued rangeland conservation opportunities into the future.

### **Objectives:**

- Understand ranching costs and revenue, especially on public lands.
- Identify practical opportunities for agencies to help to reduce ranchers' costs associated with grazing on public lands.
- Make language from multiple grazing leases available on CCRC website.
- Explore other avenues to improve the rancher's bottom line.
- Foster productive discussion between high-level agency managers and ranchers on these topics.

**8:30**            **Registration and coffee**

**9:00**            **Welcome, opening remarks**

*Devii Rao, University of California Cooperative Extension*

### ***Small Group Introductions***

#### **Introduction to site**

*Megan Robinson, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority*

*Justin Fields, Rancher*

#### **Grazing on Public Land: Costs and Implications for Payments for Ecosystem Services**

*Reid Johnsen, UC Berkeley*

#### **Rangeland Conservation Requires Profitable Ranching Operations: Cost study**

*Devii Rao, University of California Cooperative Extension*

**BREAK**

**Panel Discussion: Rancher Panel**

*Justin Fields - Rancher*

*Brent Kirk - Rancher*

*Mike Miller - Rancher*

**Panel Discussion: Agency Panel**

*Megan Robinson, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority*

*Denise Defreese, East Bay Regional Park District*

*Susan Weidemann and Michael Jurich, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District*

***Small Group Discussion***

**12:35**      **Lunch**

**1:35**      **Drive to field site**

**Orientation to the field site**

*Megan Robinson and Justin Fields*

**Agency Support for Water Development**

*David Tharp, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority*

**Predator Habitat and Calf Loss**

*Justin Fields, Rancher*

**Cross Fencing for Improved Livestock Management**

*Andy Burnside, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority*

***Small Group Discussion***

***Closing remarks***

**Drive back to indoor site**

**4:30**      ***Program ends***