



Press Release

August 17, 2009 5:25pm Coarsegold, CA – Cows In Fresno River

Madera County staff have met and conferred with local and state agencies to determine appropriate methods of response regarding the approximate 35 dead cows located in the Fresno River in Coarsegold, CA.

The owner of the cattle has been notified of the situation and is taking immediate measures to remove the animals from the waterway of the Fresno River. Currently the river is not flowing; however the location and steep rocky terrain make the removal process very difficult. The county is also pursuing notification of the owner of the property where the animals are currently located.

According to Madera County Animal Services and a representative from the State of California Department of Food and Ag, the animals likely died either from direct impact of the steep fall into the canyon or trauma/stress related to the fall. In addition some of the animals were injured and weakened and had to be euthanized.

County Staff has also conferred with the Regional Water Quality Control Board and it was concurred that threats to water quality are likely minimal, however Madera County Environmental Health Department is looking into the potential impact of possibly affected water systems and private wells in the area. Any concerned residents in the area may call Environmental Health directly for more information at (559) 675-7823 or contact us at envhealth@madera-county.com.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Environmental Health Department

