



Press Release

August 21, 2009 3:45pm Coarsegold, CA - Cows In Fresno River

MCEHD has been informed by the cattle owner that the work crews will be continuing to remove the last of the animals from the riverway through the weekend. Tarps will be used to cover the carcasses to help control the odors.

Because of the difficulty in getting heavy equipment to move the carcasses from the side of the riverway to a truck and trailer for transport to an appropriate disposal site, the cattle owners are considering the possibility of onsite treatment by burning, if approved by the applicable agencies including the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and local fire officials. You will be notified of when this will occur, if the appropriate approval(s) are obtained. With the exception of offsite removal for disposal, burning is the most expedient and compliant remedy. The remaining ash will also be appropriately handled to complete the remediation process.

We acknowledge and are sympathetic to the aesthetically unpleasant situation that has been caused by this unfortunate incident; however, the cattle owner is responding appropriately and cooperating with all regulatory agencies involved and compliance is anticipated next week. This situation does not constitute a public health emergency.

A town hall meeting will be scheduled; details will follow.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Environmental Health Department

