It’s Time to Rein In Government Agencies with Political Agendas
by James Oliver, Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Director

By now, many of you have heard about the Securities and Exchange Commission’s plan to require publicly traded companies to disclose their greenhouse gas emissions. The proposed rule, issued earlier this year, requires these companies to disclose not only direct and energy-related emissions, but also those of every downstream supplier, known as Scope 3 Emissions.

As you might imagine, this presents significant concerns for cattle producers who find themselves in the supply chain of many publicly traded companies, restaurants and retailers.

The federal government has already acknowledged collecting the data will be nearly impossible. There is also no agreed-upon scientific method for measuring agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, particularly from livestock in a pasture.

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and many other agricultural organizations raised an army of opposition to the proposed rule during the commission’s comment period. Although not yet finalized, the agency is continuing to advance its proposal to regulate greenhouse gas emissions.

The SEC’s actions highlight a growing and troubling trend — federal agencies actively working to achieve political agendas. Activists and politicians are increasingly using the power of executive orders and administrative rulemaking to bypass the legislative branch and create regulations that would not pass Congress.

It’s easy to understand the reasoning, especially since navigating Congress is so challenging today. Unfortunately, the officials who lead these government agencies are appointed, not elected. By circumventing our elected representatives in Washington, D.C., they also circumvent the citizens who elected them.

Fortunately, the U.S. Supreme Court and many legislators are growing tired of these tactics.

This summer, the Supreme Court struck back at the Environmental Protection Agency for overstepping its rulemaking authority, emphasizing that “administrative agencies must be able to point to ‘clear congressional authorization’ when they claim the power to make decisions of vast ‘economic and political significance.’”

Congress is also fighting back

In the case of the SEC’s greenhouse gas reporting plan, several bills have been filed to expressly limit the commission’s authority to implement such reporting requirements.

One of the latest bills, the Scope 3 Act filed by Texas Congressman Troy Nehls, has broad bipartisan support. Co-sponsors from Texas include Reps. Henry Cuellar,
The markets have been active with everything on an upward trend and recent rains in the area have turned things around. Continuous rains will set many minds at ease.

As we move toward the midterm elections, please remember to vote. As I watch the news and everyone interviewed on these news shows tell everyone the border is secure and inflation is under control, I am very disappointed with government. I guess if they keep telling the same lies over and over, they expect the masses to finally accept it as the truth. Hopefully, the American people will look past the propaganda and embrace reality and make a common sense decision in the voting booth. Common sense doesn’t seem to apply to politics anymore. As we lose some freedoms daily, this election is important. Once those freedoms are gone they never return.

Until Next Month,

Terry J. Keago

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  Nixon, TX  
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- **Union Commission Co.**
  Hondo, TX  
  (11:00 am) • (830) 426-3383

**TUESDAYS**

- **Atascosa Livestock Exchange, Inc.**
  Pleasanton, TX  
  (11:00 am) • (830) 281-2516

- **Gillespie Livestock Co.**
  Fredericksburg, TX  
  (Sheep-Goats 9:30 a.m.) • (830) 997-4394

- **Southwest Livestock Exchange, Inc.**
  Uvalde, TX  
  (Sheep-Goats 12:00 noon) • (830) 278-5621

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- **Southwest Livestock Exchange, Inc.**
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**FRIDAYS**

- **Beeville Livestock Commission, Inc.**
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  (Cattle 11:00 am) • (361) 358-1727

- **Cattleman’s Brenham Livestock Auction**
  Brenham, TX  
  (Cattle 12:00 noon) • (979) 836-3621

**SATURDAYS**

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  (Cattle 10:00 am) • (830) 672-2845

Links to these area auctions (that have websites) are available on our website. www.RanchersExchange.com
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Rein in Government Agencies continued from page 1

D-Laredo; Jake Ellzey, R-Midlothian; Vicente Gonzalez, D-McAllen; Ronny Jackson, R-Amarillo; Pete Sessions, R-Waco; Randy Weber, R-Alvin; and Roger Williams, R-Austin.

Despite the growing headwinds, the current administration and agency officials show few signs of abandoning their current efforts. The SEC continues to march forward with its reporting requirements, and a wide range of proposed rules at other agencies continue to advance, as well.

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association will continue to fight the burdensome and unrealistic regulations cropping up at government agencies, but Congressional action will also be critical.

As you head to the polls this November, please make sure you know where the candidates stand on these regulatory issues. More importantly, though, consider their stance on the ability of regulatory agencies to pursue political agendas without the “clear congressional approval” noted by the Supreme Court.

The decisions we make this November will have lasting implications on our ability to continue raising cattle and caring for our land.

A good crowd was on hand for South Texas Cattle Marketing’s Fall Replacement Sale held in Nixon.
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25TH ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE

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The integration of beef and cattle markets in North America includes trade in live cattle between Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. The most recent monthly trade data adds to the picture of cattle flows for the period January – July this year. For the year to date, U.S. cattle imports total 951,910 head, down 6.3 percent year over year. Total cattle exports thus far in 2022 are 192,415 head, down 36.7 percent from the record cattle export total last year. Net cattle imports for the January – July period are 759,495 head, up 6.7 percent year over year.

Cattle imports from Mexico for the year to date are down 30.2 percent year over year. The seven-month year to date total of 488,449 head is the smallest for the period since 2009. Over 99 percent of cattle imports from Mexico consist of feeder cattle, which includes 84.6 percent steers and 15.4 percent heifers thus far in 2022. Cattle exports to Mexico for the year to date include 64,226 head, up 73.7 percent year over year, of which 79.9 percent are feeder cattle, with the remainder purebred beef and dairy animals. Net cattle imports from Mexico are down 36.0 percent from last year.

Cattle imports from Canada include both slaughter and feeder cattle. For the January – July period, total cattle imports from Canada are 463,461 head, up 46.7 percent year over year. This total includes 307,302 head of slaughter cattle...
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Cattle Imports and Exports continued from page 6

consisting of 40.1 percent slaughter cows/bulls and 59.9 percent fed steers and heifers. Imports of slaughter cows/bulls are up 13.8 percent over last year and imports of fed cattle are up 28.4 percent over last year. A total of 146,845 head of feeder cattle have been imported from Canada in the first seven months of the year, with heifers making up 78.9 percent of total feeder imports. Feeder cattle imports are up 152.6 percent per year over year for the January – July period.

U.S. exports of feeder cattle to Canada account for 96.2 percent of the total 120,594 head of cattle exports to Canada in the January – July period this year. This is down 52.7 percent from the record level of cattle exports to Canada in 2021. Combined net feeder cattle imports from Mexico and Canada are down 2.7 percent year over year for the first seven months of 2022.

Although cattle imports and export totals sound large in absolute numbers, the role of imported cattle is rather modest in domestic markets. Imports of slaughter cows/bulls for the first seven months of 2022 accounted for 2.8 percent of total cow and bull slaughter in the U.S. during the period. Imported fed cattle accounted for 1.2 percent of total steer and heifer slaughter during the same period. Net imports of feeder cattle from Mexico and Canada from January – July represented 1.3 percent of the estimated feeder supply on July 1.

Congratulations to Craig Henry for being named the “2022 Cowboy of the Year”. He was presented his trophy saddle during the 56th Annual Pleasanton Young Farmers’ Open Rodeo and Dance held recently in Pleasanton. Craig is pictured here with his wife and daughter, Shana and Abby.
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Operation Lone Star Spotlights Sanctuary City Hypocrisy, Buses Over 11,000 Migrants

Governor Greg Abbott, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), and the Texas National Guard are continuing to work together to secure the border, stop the smuggling of drugs, weapons, and people into Texas, and prevent, detect, and interdict transnational criminal behavior between ports of entry.

Since the launch of Operation Lone Star, the multi-agency effort has led to 304,700 migrant apprehensions and more than 19,800 criminal arrests, with more than 17,400 felony charges reported.

Texas has also bused over 8,000 migrants to our nation’s capital since April and over 2,500 migrants to New York City since August 5. More than 600 migrants from Texas arrived in Chicago in late August. The busing mission is providing much-needed relief to our overwhelmed border communities.

Operation Lone Star continues to fill the dangerous gaps left by the Biden Administration’s refusal to secure the border. Every individual who is apprehended or arrested and every ounce of drugs seized would have otherwise made their way into communities across Texas and the nation due to President Biden’s open border policies.
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October 2022 Ranchers Exchange - Page 11
Be Prepared for More Open Cows
by Dr. Les Anderson, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

It’s been a rough summer. On top of high fuel costs, current inflation, and high input costs, beef producers have had to deal with drought and extreme heat. Heat stress is normal for cattle in Kentucky because most of our cattle graze endophyte-infected fescue but the early onset this summer may cause some serious issues with pregnancy rates and calving rates.

Heat stress has profound impacts on many biological processes that can lead to poor reproductive rates. Prior to estrus, heat stress reduces follicle growth, hormone production, and oocyte (the egg) competency. Combined, this reduces fertilization rates. Once fertilized, heat stress also reduces the growth of the newly formed embryo. This reduction in the growth of an embryo is likely the result of increased cell death and/or a smaller corpus luteum (CL) that producers less progesterone. This reduced growth rate and increased embryonic cell death leads to more embryos lost during the first week of gestation. Unfortunately, heat stress continues to impact embryonic growth through the first 21 days which also increases the loss of these early pregnancies.

Issues with heat stress continue throughout gestation. Exposure of early pregnancies (day 24-45) to heat stress reduces fetal growth and can result in the loss of up to 20% of these pregnancies. Heat stress reduces placental efficiency meaning the placenta has a reduced ability to deliver nutrients to the developing fetus. Toward the end of pregnancy, extreme heat stress can impact placental hormone production which can lead not only to premature calving but also to drastically reduced development of the mammary glands impacting lactation. So, heat stress impacts beef females from the beginning to the end of pregnancy. Ugh.

What does this mean for beef producers right now? First and foremost, have pregnancy diagnosed in your herd. Contact your herd veterinarian to set up a palpation or ultrasound. Pregnancy can also be diagnosed by taking a blood sample and either mailing the samples to a diagnostic lab or by using the new chute-side blood test kit from IDEXX (test is called Alertys and they are available from most
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More Open Cows
continued from page 12

veterinary supply companies). The blood tests are accurate but consultation with your herd veterinarian is always recommended.

Pregnancy rate can dip to as low as 50-60% when prolonged heat stress occurs during the breeding season. What options does a producer have if a breeding disaster occurs? If you have a split calving season or calve year-round, the decision to keep or cull open females is a little easier. Simply roll younger cows to the next breeding season. The decision is harder if you only have cows calving in the spring. Currently, cull cow prices are high and many market analysts suggest that cull cows prices may remain high this fall. If the cost of replacement breeding stock remains reasonable, then the optimum decision would be to cull and replace for this year.

Most years, the decision to cull open cows isn’t easy. If you only have a drought and excessive heat stress once every 5-10 years, should you penalize a cow whose genetics match the environment? To make the decision even more challenging, cows that are culled are replaced with bred two-year olds, who are inherently reproductively inefficient, requiring additional feed, and may take two years to reach optimum productivity. In the long run, what really costs more? Interesting problem to think about and certainly not one answer for all producers.

The markets, should impact the decision. Currently, it appears we are in an excellent position in the cow cycle with low numbers and impending higher feeder calf prices. Might be time to keep as many as you can to take advantage of higher markets on the horizon.
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October 2022 Ranchers Exchange - Page 16
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October 2022 Ranchers Exchange - Page 17
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Texas Cattle Feeders Association

TCFA is excited to welcome Emmitt Smith to the TCFA 2022 Annual Convention in Frisco on Oct. 24. He’s a football icon and one of the greatest to ever play the game. Eighteen years after retiring, Smith still has a winner’s mentality. While he’s no longer rushing yards, Smith resides in the Dallas area and currently runs several companies spanning real estate, construction and technology. Through Pat and Emmitt Smith Charities, Smith is also active in local and national outreach, providing unique experiences and educational opportunities to underserved youth.

In his presentation at Convention, he will highlight what it takes to be a winner on and off the field. You don’t want to miss this as it’s sure to leave attendees motivated and eager to win in their own pursuits. You can register for Convention and book your hotel on the TCFA website.

Lew Thompson visits with Dan Kinsel after South Texas Cattle Marketing’s Fall Replacement Sale held recently in Nixon.
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October 2022 Ranchers Exchange - Page 21
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October 2022 Ranchers Exchange - Page 22
What should Alzheimer’s caregivers know?
submitted by Ed McClure, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

If you have a family member who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease or is starting to show symptoms, you will face some emotional and financial challenges. Here are a few suggestions that can help:

First, plan for the medical costs involved and make sure you understand what health insurance your loved one has, including any coverage for long-term care.

Also, identify all your loved one’s financial assets and debts.

You may need to work with your legal and tax professionals to create appropriate documents, such as durable powers of attorney for health care and finances. And you’ll want to take care of these while your loved one still has the capacity to give consent.

Here’s another tip: Look for tax deductions and credits available to caregivers. These vary by state, so check with your tax advisor.

You may also want to work with a financial professional who can look at your family’s situation and make suitable recommendations.

An Alzheimer’s diagnosis will unquestionably change the lives of everyone in your family. But as a caregiver, you can take steps to help ease the burden.

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Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

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Congratulations to Josh Jaskinia for winning the Ranch Bronc Riding at the 56th Annual Pleasanton Young Farmers’ Open Rodeo and Dance held in Pleasanton.
BOZEMAN, MT — Scott Riddle, Hubbard Texas, is a recipient of the 2022 World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation Golden Book Award, which is the American Simmental Association’s (ASA) highest honor. Selected by the ASA Board of Trustees, recipients of this award are lifelong promoters of the Simmental breed. Riddle was recognized during ASA’s Fall Focus event, on Saturday, August 27, in Roanoke, Virginia.

With deep roots in the cattle industry dating back to 1841, Scott Riddle was among the earliest members of the American Simmental Association, holding number 16, the oldest active membership in the organization. An astute manager with a focus on the bottom line, Riddle immediately became interested when he heard about the big red and white cattle being imported to North America from Europe in the late 1960s. Believing that there would be a great demand for Simmental seedstock, he joined the

continued on page 26
South Texas Cattle Marketing Thanks You!

Thanks to everyone who make the Cattleman’s Opportunity” Replacement Female Sale such a great Success!

Mark Your Calendar for our “Cattleman’s Opportunity” Spring Replacement Female Sale Saturday, March 4, 2023
Nixon Livestock Commission • Nixon TX

Special Note from Lew
Thanks to our loyal customers, we appreciate their confidence in our program and look forward to helping with your cattle needs in the future.

Lew Thompson, Marketing Director
(830) 334-8227 (O) • (830) 965-3058 (M)
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Using the best feed available is key to our success Lyssy & Eckel Feeds

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Thanks to Jamie Donnell for adding Hombre to his remuda.

Thanks to Colt Adams for his purchase of this good 4yr. old gelding.

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the ASA as a charter member and named his operation Simmentals of Texas (SoT).

Shortly thereafter, Riddle and a number of other early Simmental breeders gathered to form the Texas Simmental Association (TSA), later to become the Texas Simmental & Simbrah Association. Riddle served as an officer, on the board of directors, and on various committees during those early years. Along with several other Texas pioneers, he provided time, input, and financial support for the TSA, which was the first state Simmental association in the nation. Over the years he traveled to Germany, Austria, Mexico, and Canada in search of genetics to support his preferred breed.

In an effort to expose commercial cattle producers to the merits of the breed, he founded North American Simmental magazine, a breed publication that provided information to interested cattle producers while expounding the many benefits the breed could provide through crossbreeding. That magazine eventually served as a forerunner to the Simmental Shield and the Register.

After a half century of promoting the value of the breed as both a seedstock and a commercial producer, Riddle recently made the decision to purchase the prized Granbury-based Buzzard Hollow Ranch cow herd and contracted with former BHR manager Fred Schuetze to continue to head the program. That purchase brought the entire spectrum of SimGenetics — Full Fleckvieh, black and red purebred Simmentals, SimAngus, and Simbrah — to the SoT operation. It also included BHR Lady SIEG C235E, the only Fleckvieh Simmental female in the world with a complete DNA profile.

The Riddle operation continues as a family ranching institution to this day and includes his wife Pat, their two daughters Donna and Pam, and granddaughters Jennifer Cooper and Kathryn Batish.
Protect your investment

A Pasture, Rangeland and Forage (PRF) Insurance Policy can protect you against losses on forage from a lack of rainfall on pastures used for grazing or hay. Enrollment for the 2023 crop year is underway through December 1, 2022. Our personalized mobile app lets you monitor current rainfall and estimated indemnities anytime from your device. We also offer Livestock Risk Protection Policies (LRP) to protect against declining market prices. We can’t predict the weather, but we can help you protect your investment. Learn more about how we can help. Together we’re better.

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Austin Edwin Brown II passed away surrounded by his loving family at his ranch home in Bee County, Texas, on August 23rd. He was 78.

Mr. Brown was born December 7, 1943, in Sinton, to Edwin Sallee Brown and Penrose “Penney” (Wallace) Brown. He was a 1962 graduate of A.C. Jones High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Texas A&M College, class of 1966, and was part of the Corps of Cadets Company C-1 where he served as 1st Sergeant his Junior year, and on 1st Battalion staff his Senior year. He married his wife of 56 years, Nana Kelley, on June 11, 1966, in Beeville, Texas.

He spent his entire life on the Brown Ranch in Bee County, Texas. Established in 1924 by his grandfather, Austin Brown, Brown Ranch was his lifelong passion, occupation, and way of life. From crossbred cattle in the early days to Hair (Angora) Goats during the 1950’s drought to building a premier registered Hereford cow herd through the late 1990’s and then transitioning to a branded beef program raising Akaushi cattle for consumer retail programs with Heartbrand Beef. He worked with his father in building a successful ranch real estate business in San Antonio, Brown, Beasley & Associates, which was involved in the sale, management, appraisal, and partition of large ranch estates across Texas.

Austin was a member of Beeville Baptist Church.

He was a director of Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA), member of the South Texas Hereford Association, and the American Akaushi Association. He served on the clientele advisory committee of the Center for Grazinglands and Ranch Management at TAMU, and has lectured in the Ag Economics Department. He was also on the clientele advisory committee of the Genome Research Project there.

He was an experienced pilot crisscrossing south and west Texas supporting his real estate business and clients. Austin was also proud of his cowboy poetry as seen is his book Poet Lariat, Cowboy Poems from a Ranching Life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edwin and Penney Brown; and a sister, Anafair (Brown) Butts.

Survivors include his wife, Nana (Kelley) Brown of Beeville; two sons, Austin Edwin (Jody) Brown III of Beeville and Case Edwin (Dana) Brown of New Braunfels; a daughter, Kelley Fair Matheny of Pensacola, Florida; grandchildren, Austin Edwin Brown IV, Addie Ruth Brown, Riley Fair Matheny, Case Edwin Brown II, Gage Matheny, and Weston Anderson Brown; a sister, Susan Brown (Gary) Smith of Tyler; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was conducted at Beeville Baptist Church with Pastor Tim Stowe officiating. Burial followed in the Glenwood Cemetery where he will be laid to rest beside his parents.

Pallbearers were Austin Brown IV, Pablo Garcia, Devin Butts, Reed Smith, Wade Sherman, and Brennon Arnold.

Honorary Pallbearers were Case Edwin Brown II, Gage Matheny, Weston Anderson Brown, Gary Smith, Drew Smith, Daniel Garcia, Dan Collette, Jerry Dunson, Allen Dunn, Randy Duncan, Melvin Scherer, Tom Beasley, James Blackburn, Joe Carter, Dr. Joseph Larakers, Mike Capron, Gordon Richardson, Ken Welch, Joe Leatherers, Steve Sikes, Joe Maley, Kurt House, Johnny Porter Green and Don Keeling.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorials to Beeville Baptist Church, TSCRA Special Ranger’s Foundation, The National Ranching Heritage Center Foundation, or a charity of your choice.
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