Environmental issues: What every beef producer needs to know. T. McCann Thies*, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, Washington, DC.

The current environmental regulatory climate in Washington is intense. Effects of animal agriculture operations on the environment are being scrutinized increasingly by the US Environmental Protection Agency, Congress, the courts, and environmental groups. The presentation will discuss the political climate in Washington with regard to environmental issues, and will summarize briefly many of the environmental issues that confront the beef industry.

Alberta’s experiences with greenhouse gases: The beef protocols. J. Basarab*, Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, University of Alberta, LaCombe, AB, Canada.

Protocols have been developed to lessen green house gases. These protocols include feeding edible oils to cattle, reduced days in the feedlot, reduced age at slaughter and selection for low RFI in beef cattle. How are greenhouse gases quantified using one or two examples? What are the economic returns for reducing greenhouse gases? We are conducting this research to reduce costs, improve production efficiency and ultimately profit.

Integration of environmental mandates into ranching and farming operations. P. Genho*, FMC, Salt Lake City, UT.

From a rancher’s perspective, how will they adapt ranch management practices to comply with mandated legislation related to the environment?