

Collaborative Adaptive Rangeland Management

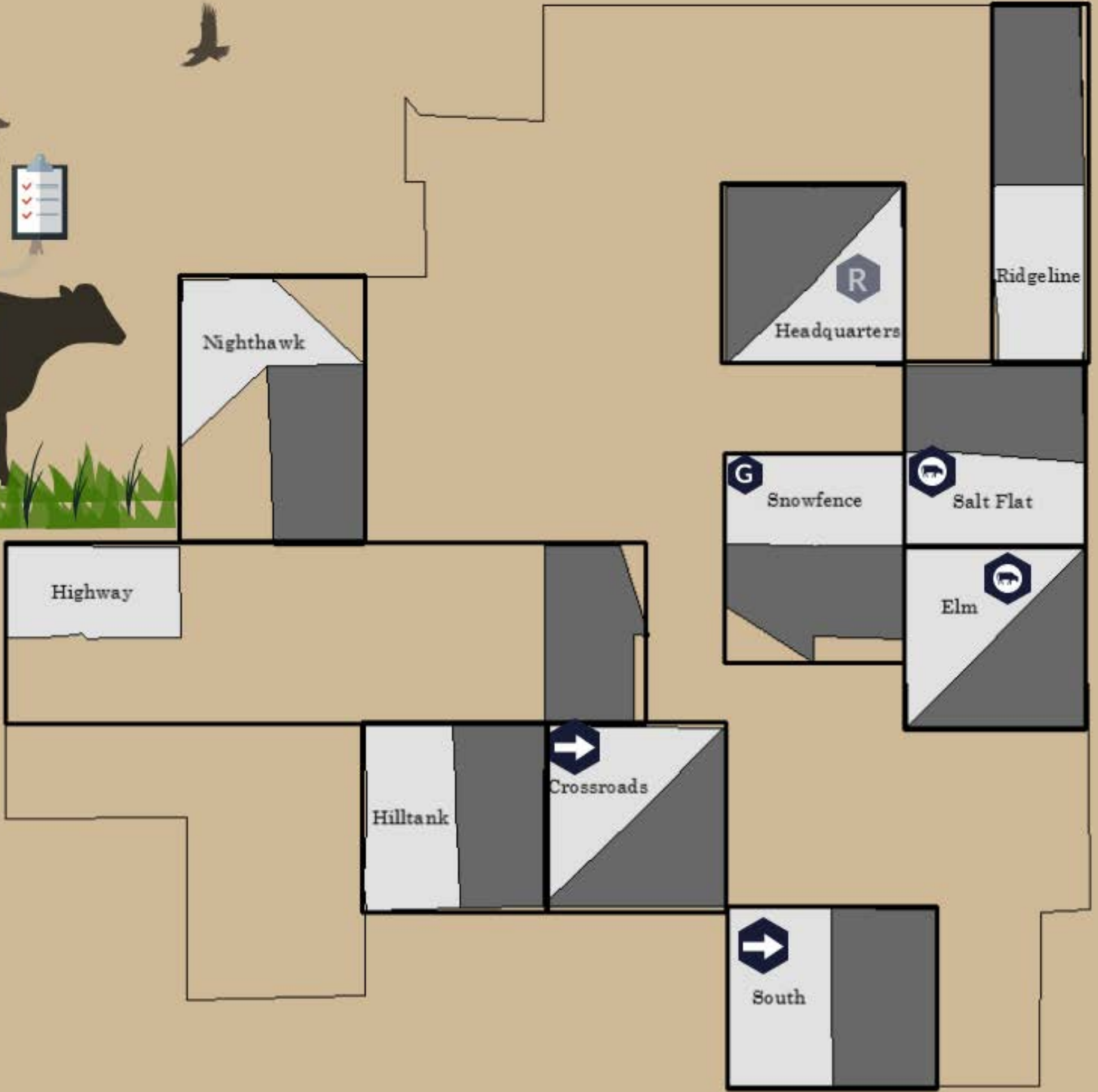


Where it all began





Dive into the details...



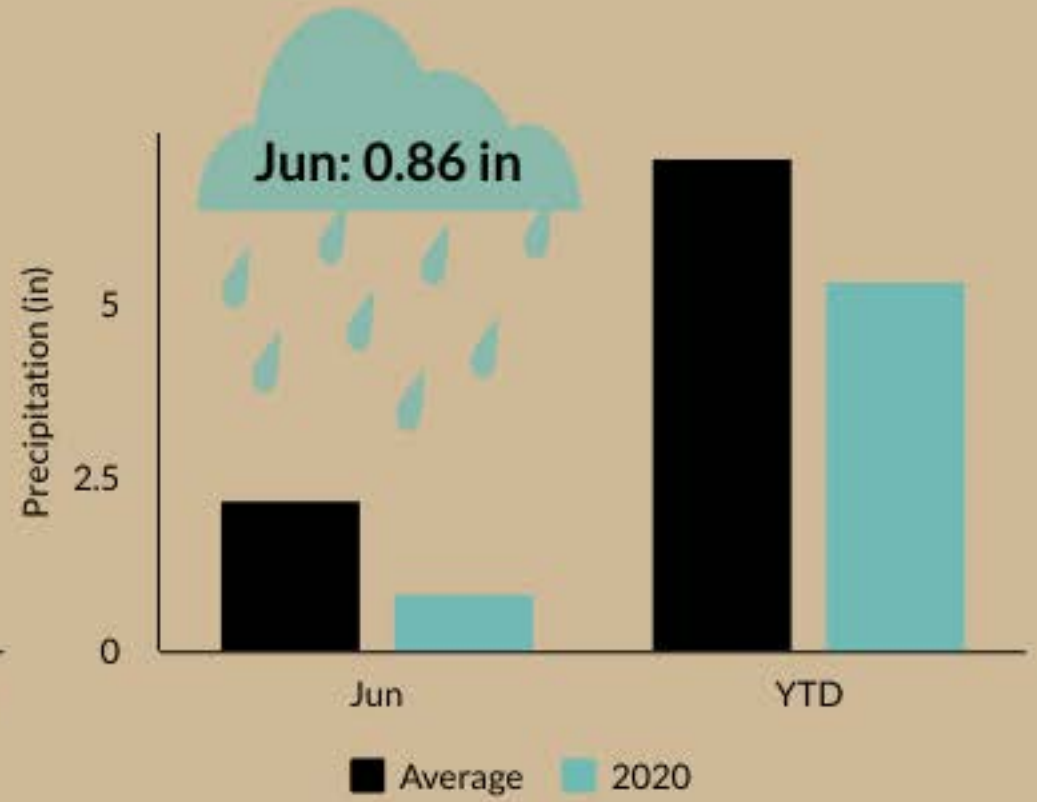
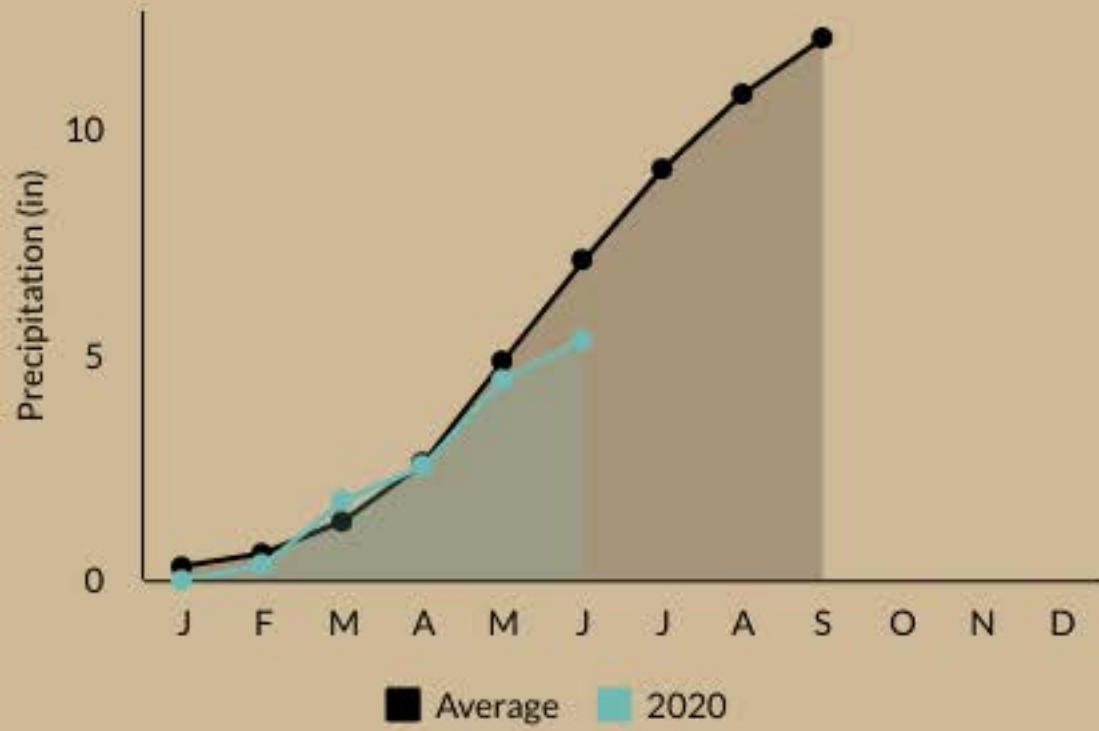
- Herd
- Grazed
- Next
- Rest

Saltflat & Elm

- Sandy Soils
- Cool Season Grasses
- Vegetation Threshold 550 pounds/acre

Highlights of Happenings

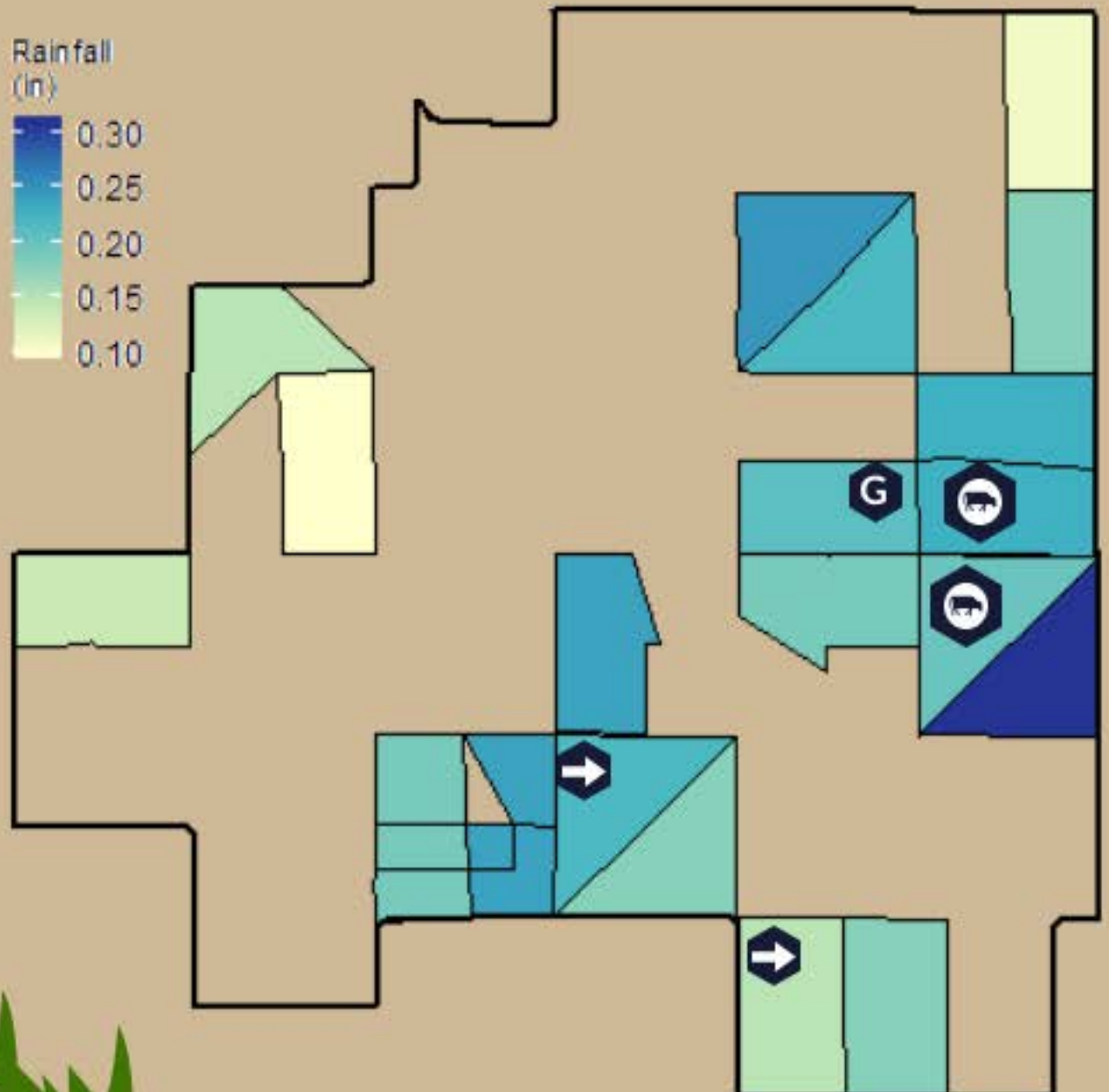
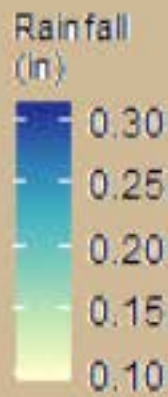
Rainfall Totals



Total Rainfall

2020-05-31 to 2020-06-07

Rainfall Distribution



Drought Monitor

Grass-Cast



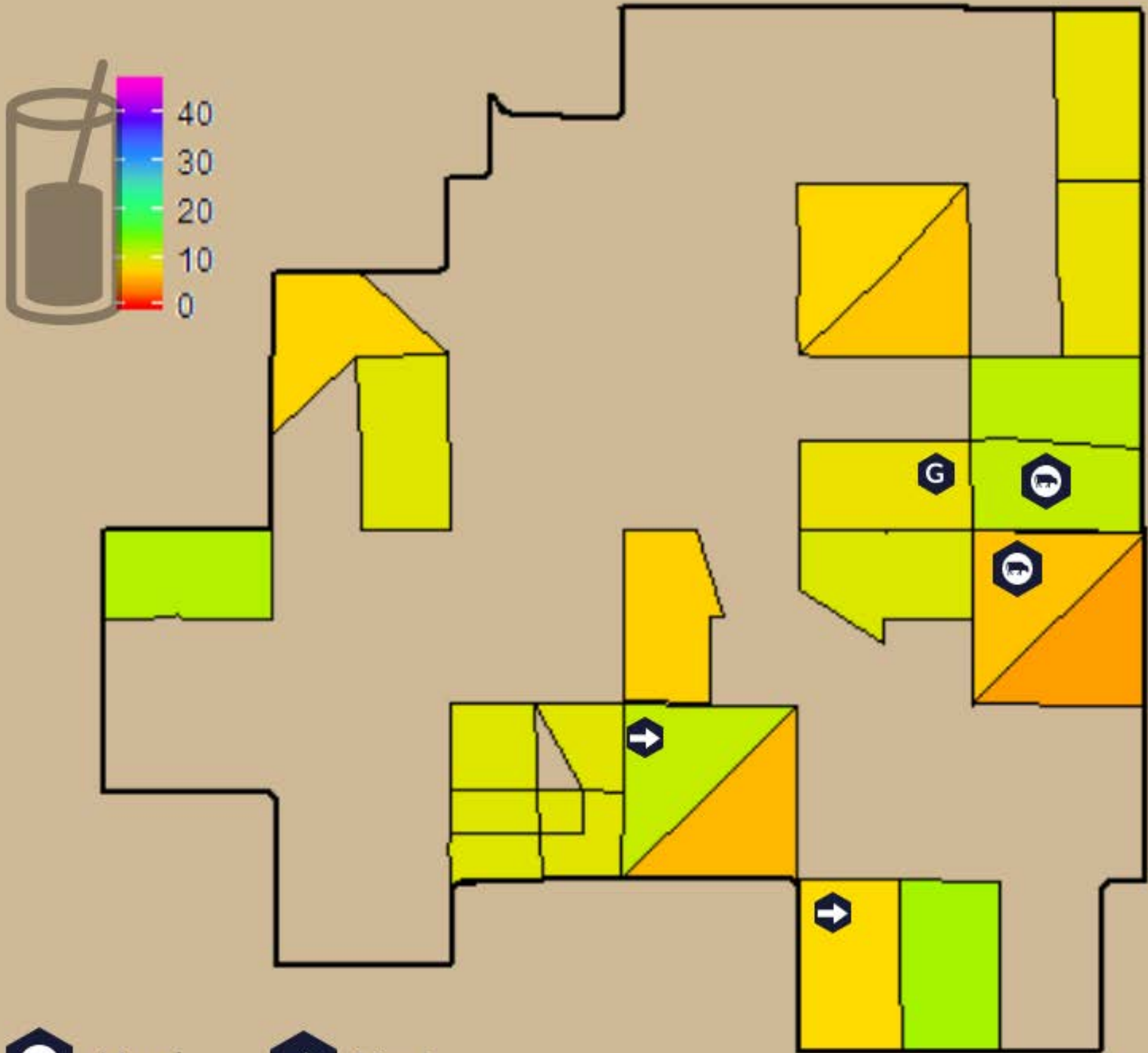
Soil Moisture Distribution

What's in our cup?

We certainly could use a refill!

Current Soil Moisture

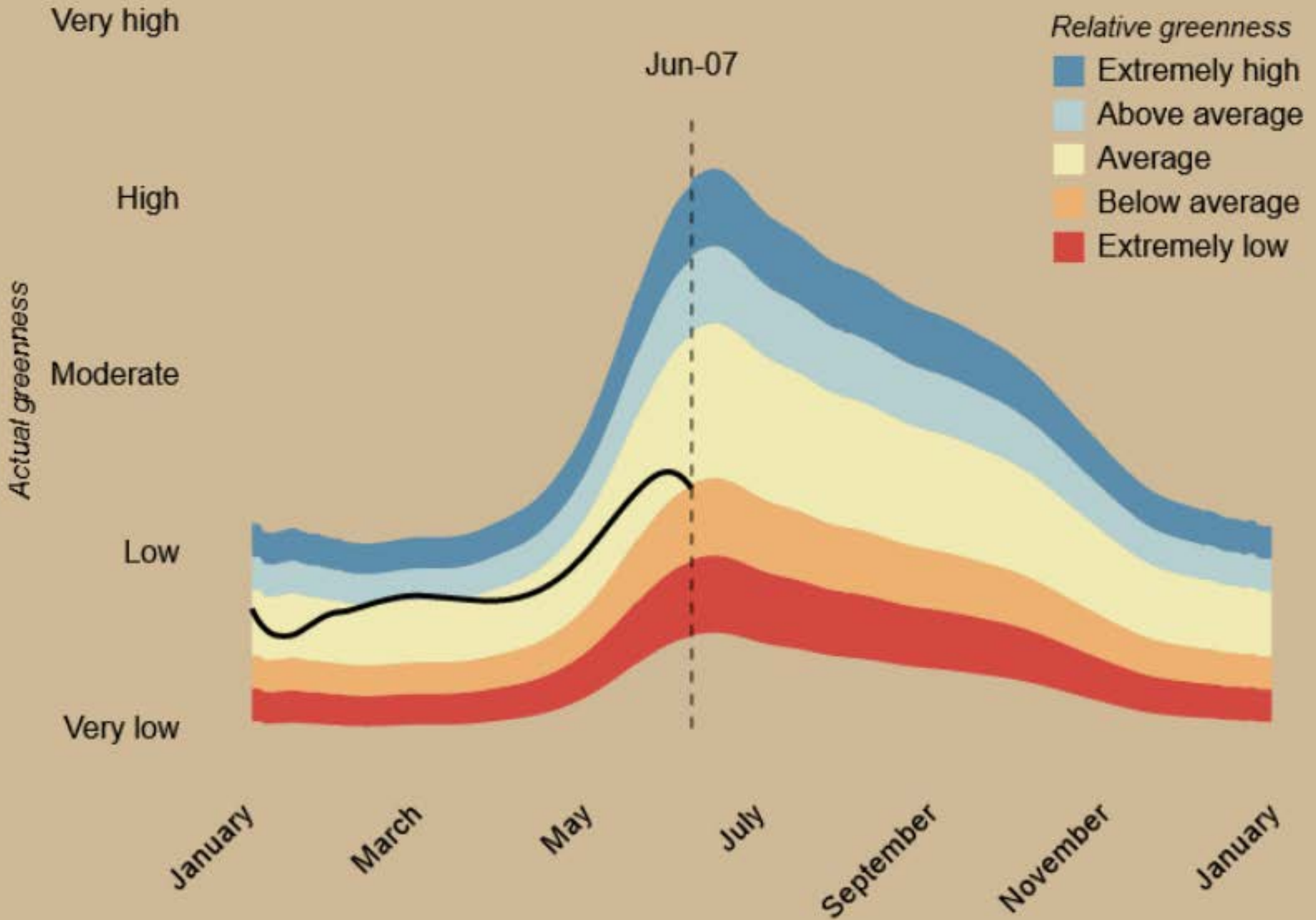
2020-06-07



-  Herd
-  Next
-  Grazed
-  Rest

We've got something new to explore with CARM!

Forage Greenness



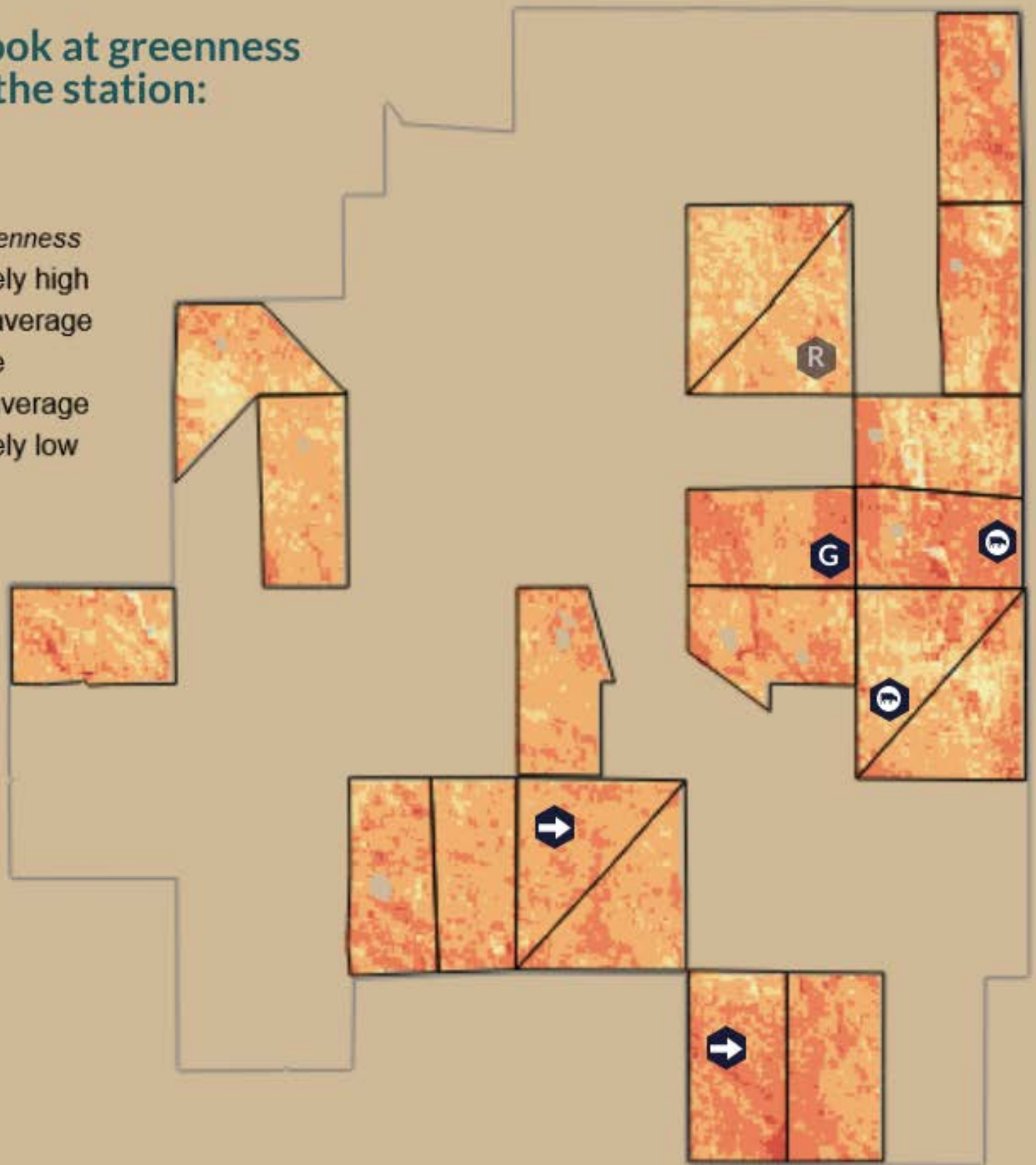
Greenness is just as it sounds, a measurement that tracks forage through growth to senescence.

And should come as no surprise, without more rain, we're on the crispy end of average.

A detailed look at greenness across the station:



- Relative greenness*
- Extremely high
 - Above average
 - Average
 - Below average
 - Extremely low



Herd



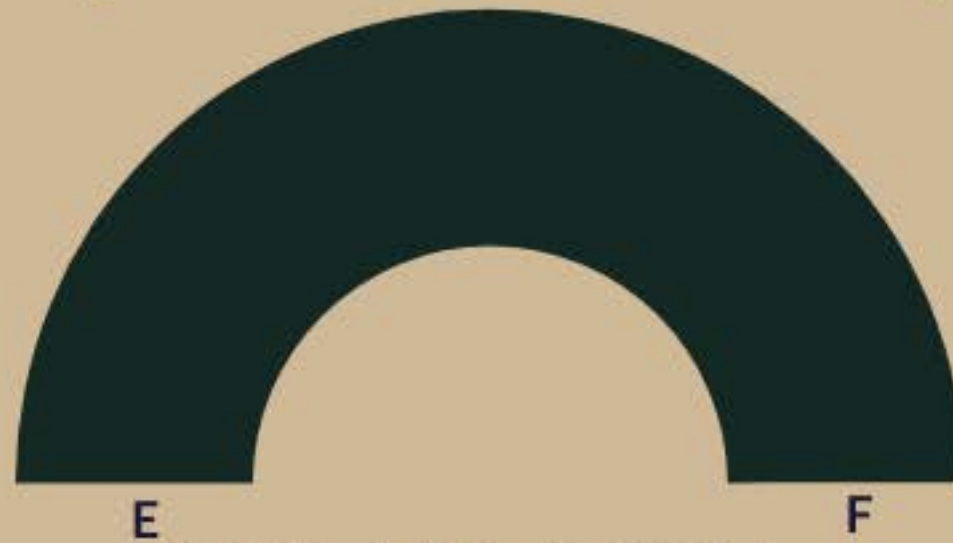
Next



Grazed



Rest



NOTE: Empty (E) is set at 550 lbs/acre

The grass has grown with these recent rains!

NOTE: Last week the entry VOR was recorded to be ~1100 pounds/acre and after this week's reading of 767 pounds/acre we decided to investigate the entry VOR (luckily the veg crew took additional measurements that week).

The conclusion was that the 1100 pounds/acre was too high (sampling error) & we would use the grass crew average of 558 pounds/acre as the "Entry VOR".



Elm grass looks good, Saltflat tops look rough, but the yearlings are looking happy. They're using both pastures.





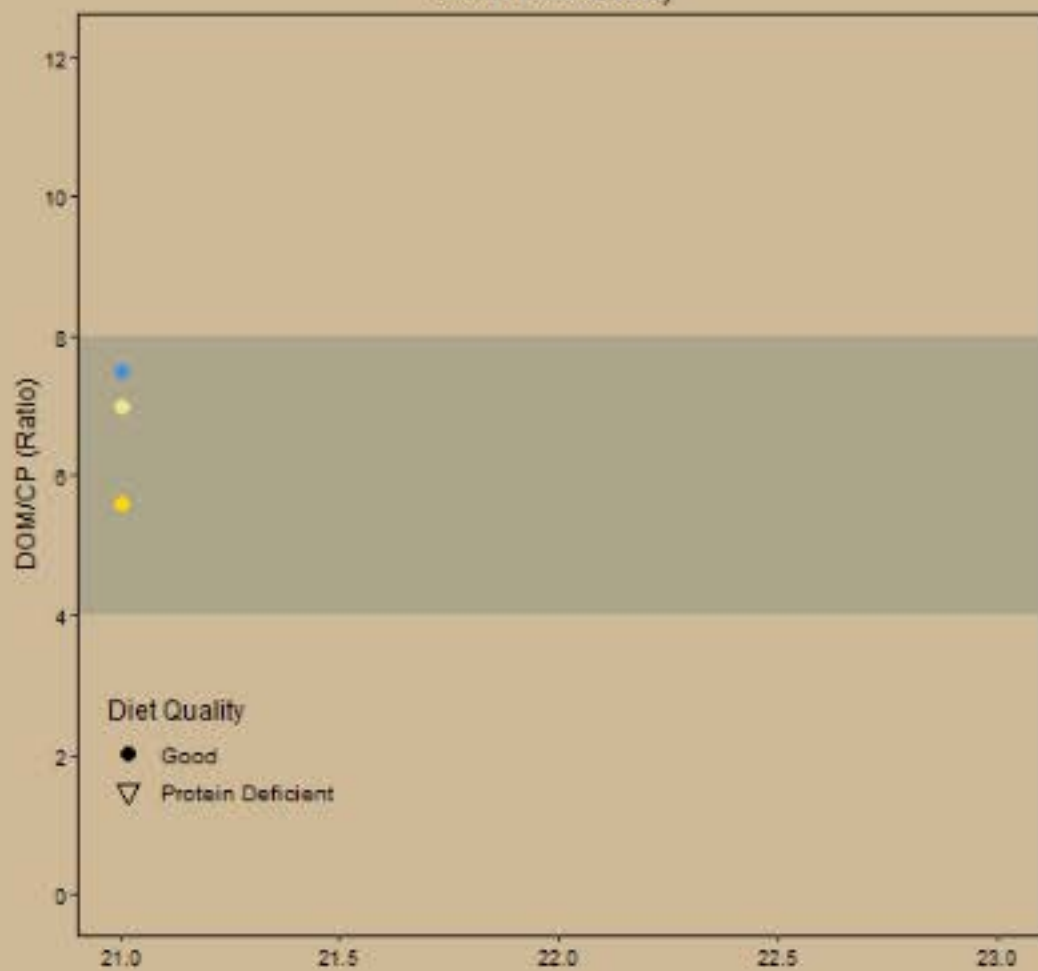
Elm



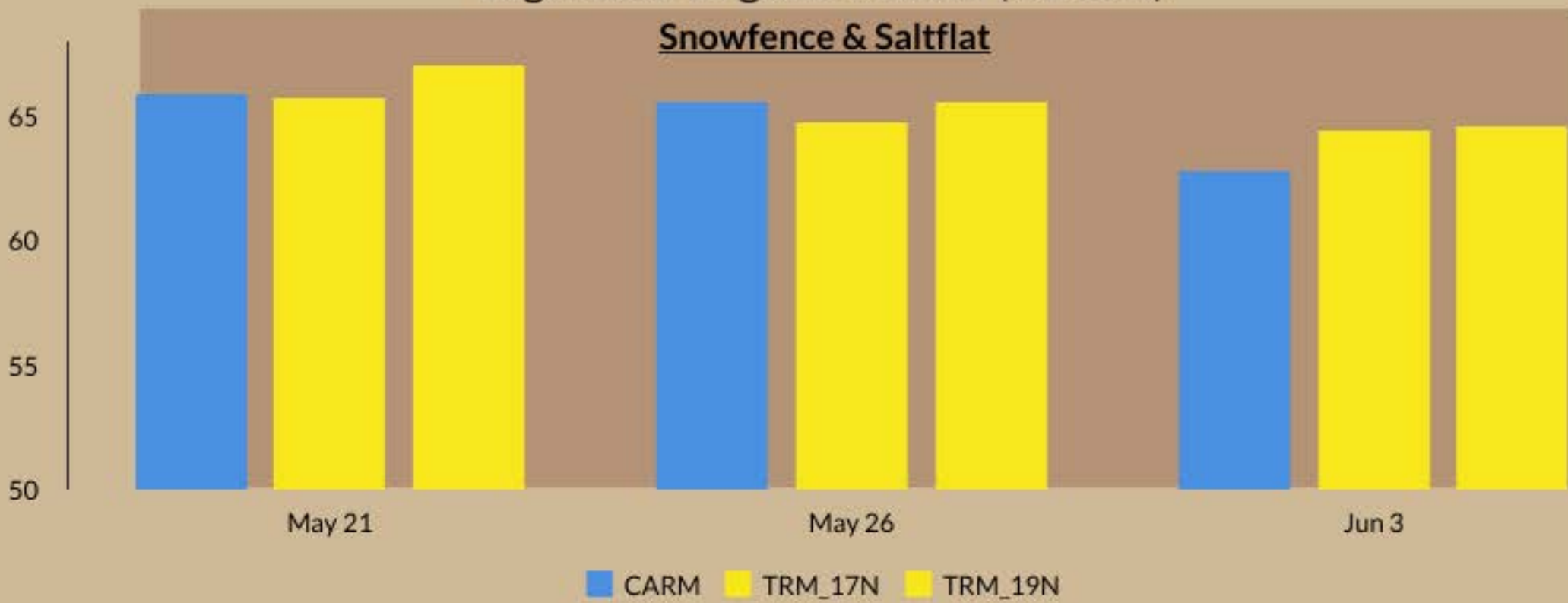
*last
week*



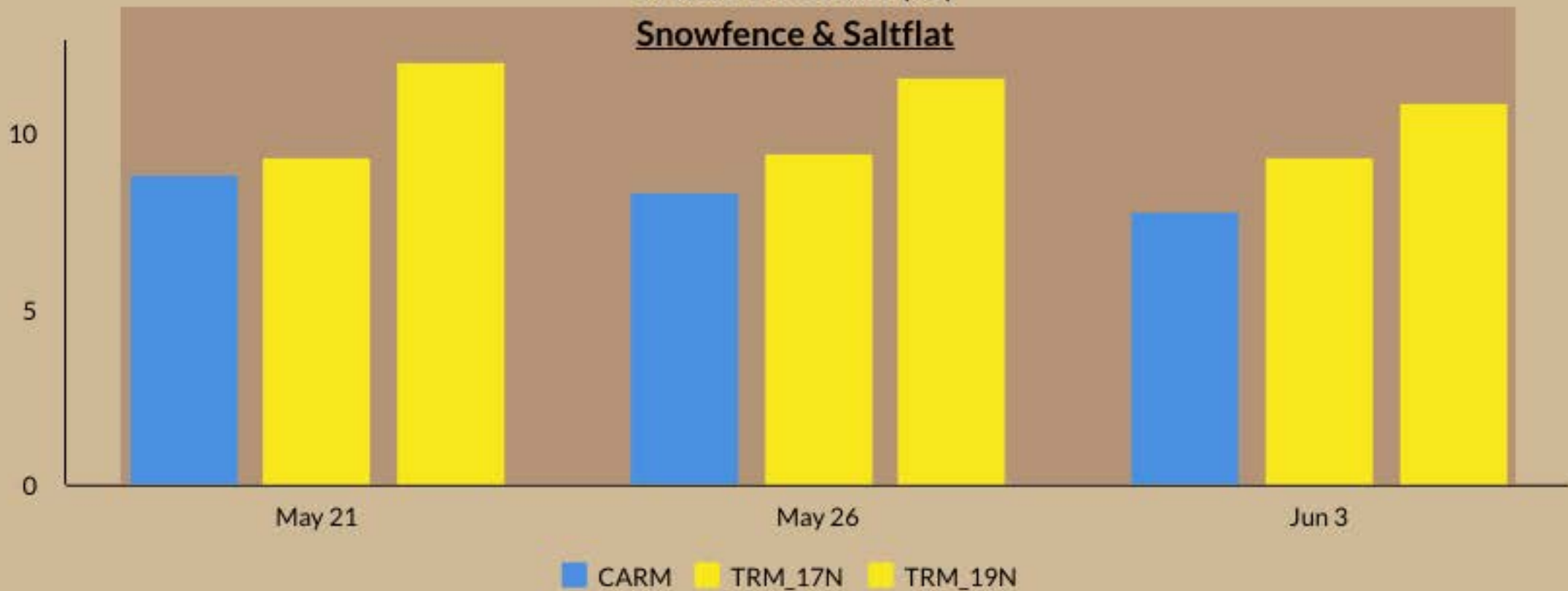
2020 Diet Quality



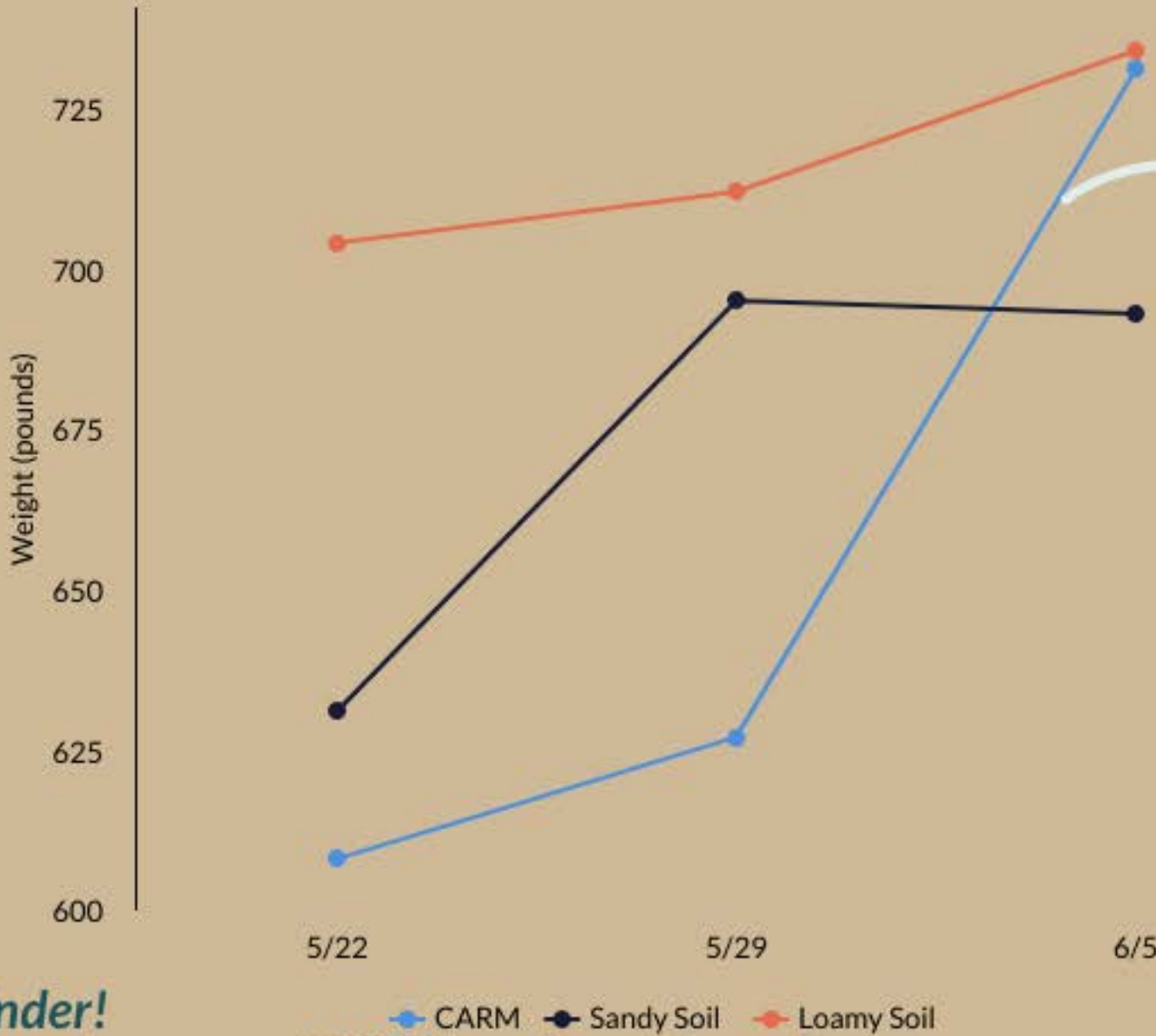
Digestible Organic Matter (%DOM)



Crude Protein (%)



Walk-over Weigh Scale Data



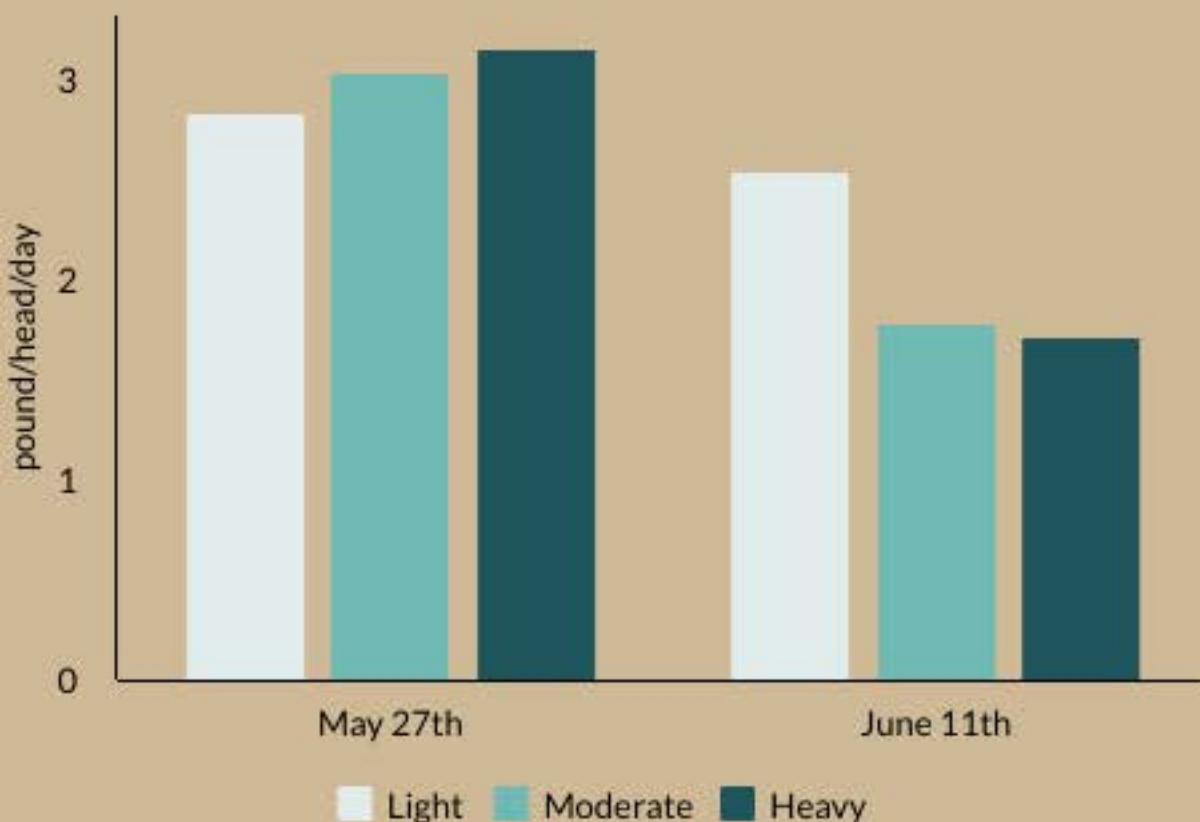
This spike is driven by the increase of steers recording weights, not an actual sharp jump in growth.

- CARM
- Sandy
- Loamy

Average Daily Gains

Drop in ADG is understandable, given the fact we're drying out, potential trouble this season.

Average Daily Gains



Stocking Rate

- Light: 17 head
- Moderate: 23 head
- Heavy: 34 head

Steers per 320 acres

Reminder! These early-season WOW trends are strongly influenced by individual performance, specifically by steers who are using the scale faster, therefore recording weights earlier than others during the training period.



Decision Recap

Stakeholders voted on some big changes this April!

Rotation 2:

Start Date: June 5 or 8 (if based on max days)

Max Days: 21 – 24

VOR: Average of both pastures, but report individual pasture VOR too (same as rotation 1)

244 in Saltflat and Elm (gate open)

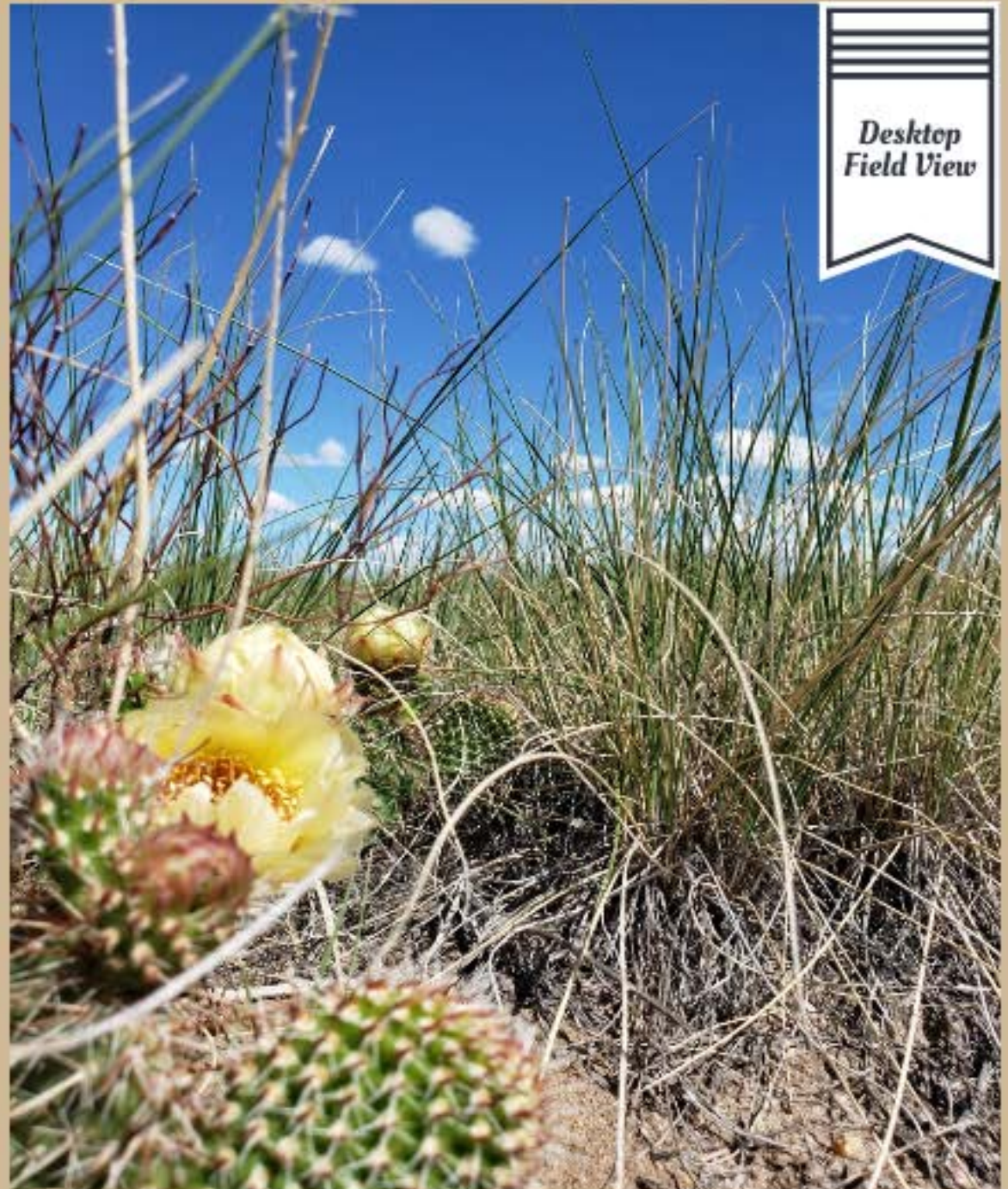
Reduction in stocking density early in the year to improve cattle weight gain.

Move cattle out on day 45 (when changing collars)

Pasture	What we wanted to happen	What actually happened			
	Notes from April	Date In	Date Out	Trigger Used	Notes
1) Snowfence & Saltflat	Gates open between, Shoot for 21-24 days, measure VOR separate & use average to gauge veg trigger, cattle gains, 5/15 - 6/8	15-May	4-Jun	Max Days	
2) Saltflat & Elm	Gates open between, Shoot for 21-24 days, measure VOR separate & use average to gauge veg trigger, cattle gains, 6/8 - 6/29				
3.1) Crossroads	Reduce VO for MCLO (< 5cm) 6/29-8/10				
3.2) South	Reduce VO for MCLO (< 5cm) 6/29-8/10				
4.1) Highway	Reduce VO for MCLO (< 5cm) 8/10 - 9/21				
4.2) Hilltank	MCLO 8/10 - 9/21				
5.1) Nighthawk	9/21 - end of easeon				
5.2) Ridgeline	9/21 - end of easeon				
6) Headquarters	Rest				

Up & Coming

- Rumi-watch halters deployed.
- Virtual Pasture Tour #covid19
- Split-herd moves Jun 24th
- Collar battery swap Jun 30th-Jul 1st



On behalf of the USDA-ARS
Rangeland Resources & Systems Research Unit,
I thank you all
for your continued participation
in this project.

Happy Trails!



For detailed precipitation
data, maps, last year's
updates, Scientist bios, and
CARM documents, see our
website:



ALL access data!