Highlights of Happenings

Rainfall Totals

- Graph showing rainfall totals from January to August
- Jul: 0.29 in
- YTD: Total rainfall

Rainfall Distribution

- Total Rainfall: 2020-07-12 to 2020-07-19
- Rainfall map with color-coding:
  - 1.00 in
  - 0.75 in
  - 0.50 in
  - 0.25 in
  - 0.00 in

Drought Monitor:
- Grass-Cast

Cows and grass in the background.
Current Soil Moisture
2020-07-19

What's in our cup?
Not a whole lot.
A detailed look at greenness across the station:

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

Very high
High
Moderate
Low
Very low

July 2021
Highway
Pasture Day: 23

Ridgeline
Moved in: July 20th

527 lbs/acre 2.4 cm

583 lbs/acre 2.5 cm

NOTE: Empty (E) is set at 300 lbs/acre

NOTE: Empty (E) is set at 400 lbs/acre

Drought VOR Threshold

We have had to push the vegetation this year.
Tech Note:
- Conducting cattle observations
Let's recall what we planned:

Rotation 5:
Start Date: September 21
Max Days: Until Oct 2
CARM1 in Nighthawk and CARM2 Ridgeline.
About 10 days in last pastures.
Grazing 9 pastures and only resting one, which is HQ.
Rest: Headquarters to ensure a grassbank/heterogeneity.

Wait a minute, CARM 2 entered Rotation 5 63 days EARLIER than planned?!

April discussion and votes: The group unanimously voted to confirm: there will be a Max day trigger of 42 on rotations 3 and 4, but the same VOR trigger will also be in place; 2020 will use the same drought triggers as the 2019.

With 71 days left in the season, the Stakeholders may discuss management adaptations at Data Day.
CARM's moves can be seen in their DOM/CP ratio!

Digestible Organic Matter (%DOM)

Snowfence & Saltflat

SF & Elm

XR & South

HW & HT

Crude Protein (%)

Snowfence & Saltflat

SF & Elm

XR & South

HW & HT
Decision Recap
Current Rotation -->

CARM 1
Rotation 4:
Start Date: August 10
Max Days: 42
VOR trigger: same
CARM1 in Highway and CARM2 in Hilltank
This should not negatively impact Fourwing saltbush. It should help reach shortgrass goals in Hilltank.

CARM 2
Rotation 5:
Start Date: September 21
Max Days: Until Oct 2
CARM1 in Nighthawk and CARM2 Ridgeline.
About 10 days in last pastures.
Grazing 9 pastures and only resting one, which is HQ.
Rest: Headquarters to ensure a grassbank/heterogeneity.

April discussion and votes: The group unanimously voted to confirm: there will be a Max day trigger of 42 on rotations 3 and 4, but the same VOR trigger will also be in place; 2020 will use the same drought triggers as the 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pasture</th>
<th>Notes from April</th>
<th>Date In</th>
<th>Date Out</th>
<th>Trigger Used</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Snowfence &amp; Saltflat</td>
<td>Gates open between, Shoot for 21-24 days, measure VOR separate &amp; use average to gauge veg trigger, cattle gains, 5/15 - 6/8</td>
<td>15-May</td>
<td>4-Jun</td>
<td>Max Days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Saltflat &amp; Elm</td>
<td>Gates open between, Shoot for 21-24 days, measure VOR separate &amp; use average to gauge veg trigger, cattle gains, 6/8 - 6/29</td>
<td>4-Jun</td>
<td>18-Jun</td>
<td>VOR Threshold</td>
<td>Left almost two weeks earlier than planned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1) Crossroads</td>
<td>Reduce VO for MCLO (&lt; 5cm) 6/29-8/10</td>
<td>18-Jun</td>
<td>1-Jul</td>
<td>VOR Threshold</td>
<td>Used drought threshold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2) South</td>
<td>Reduce VO for MCLO (&lt; 5cm) 6/29-8/10</td>
<td>18-Jun</td>
<td>1-Jul</td>
<td>VOR Threshold</td>
<td>Used drought threshold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1) Highway</td>
<td>Reduce VO for MCLO (&lt; 5cm) 8/10 - 9/21</td>
<td>1-Jul</td>
<td></td>
<td>VOR Threshold</td>
<td>Used drought threshold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2) Hilltank</td>
<td>MCLO 8/10 - 9/21</td>
<td>1-Jul</td>
<td>20-Jul</td>
<td>VOR Threshold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1) Nighthawk</td>
<td>9/21 - end of season</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5.2) Ridgeline</td>
<td>9/21 - end of season</td>
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<tr>
<td>6) Headquarters</td>
<td>Rest</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Up & Coming

- July 30th - Virtual Tour & Data Day
- August 3rd - Split-herd weights
- August 6th - 28-Day Weights
- August 17th - CARM 2/3 Season Weigh

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!