Collaborative Adaptive Rangeland Management

Where it all began
Dive into the details...

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

Rainfall Totals

- June: 0.86 in
- YTD: [Bar Chart]

Rainfall Distribution

Total Rainfall
2020-05-31 to 2020-06-07

Drought Monitor
Grass-Cast

June 12th, 2020 :: CARM :: Saltflat & Elm
What's in our cup?
We certainly could use a refill!
We've got something new to explore with CARM!

Forage Greenness

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

Actual greenness
- Very high
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Very low

January | March | May | June-07 | July | September | November | January

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:
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.
Tech Note:
- Nothing new to note.
Remote WOW

Walk-over Weigh Scale Data

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

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.

Average Daily Gains

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

Stocking Rate
Light: 17 head
Moderate: 23 head
Heavy: 34 head
Steers per 320 acres
**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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pasture</th>
<th>What we wanted to happen</th>
<th>What actually happened</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Notes from April: 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>Date In: 15-May, Date Out: 4-Jun, Trigger Used: Max Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>1) Snowfence &amp; Saltflat</td>
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<td>2) Saltflat &amp; Elm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.1) Crossroads</td>
<td>Reduce VO for MCLO (&lt; 5cm) 6/29-8/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.2) South</td>
<td>Reduce VO for MCLO (&lt; 5cm) 6/29-8/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.1) Highway</td>
<td>Reduce VO for MCLO (&lt; 5cm) 8/10 - 9/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.2) Hilltank</td>
<td>MCLO 8/10 - 9/21</td>
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<td>5.1) Nighthawk</td>
<td>9/21 - end of caseon</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.2) Ridgeline</td>
<td>9/21 - end of caseon</td>
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<tr>
<td>6) Headquarters</td>
<td>Rest</td>
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</tbody>
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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.

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

Happy Trails!