

Collaborative Adaptive Rangeland Management



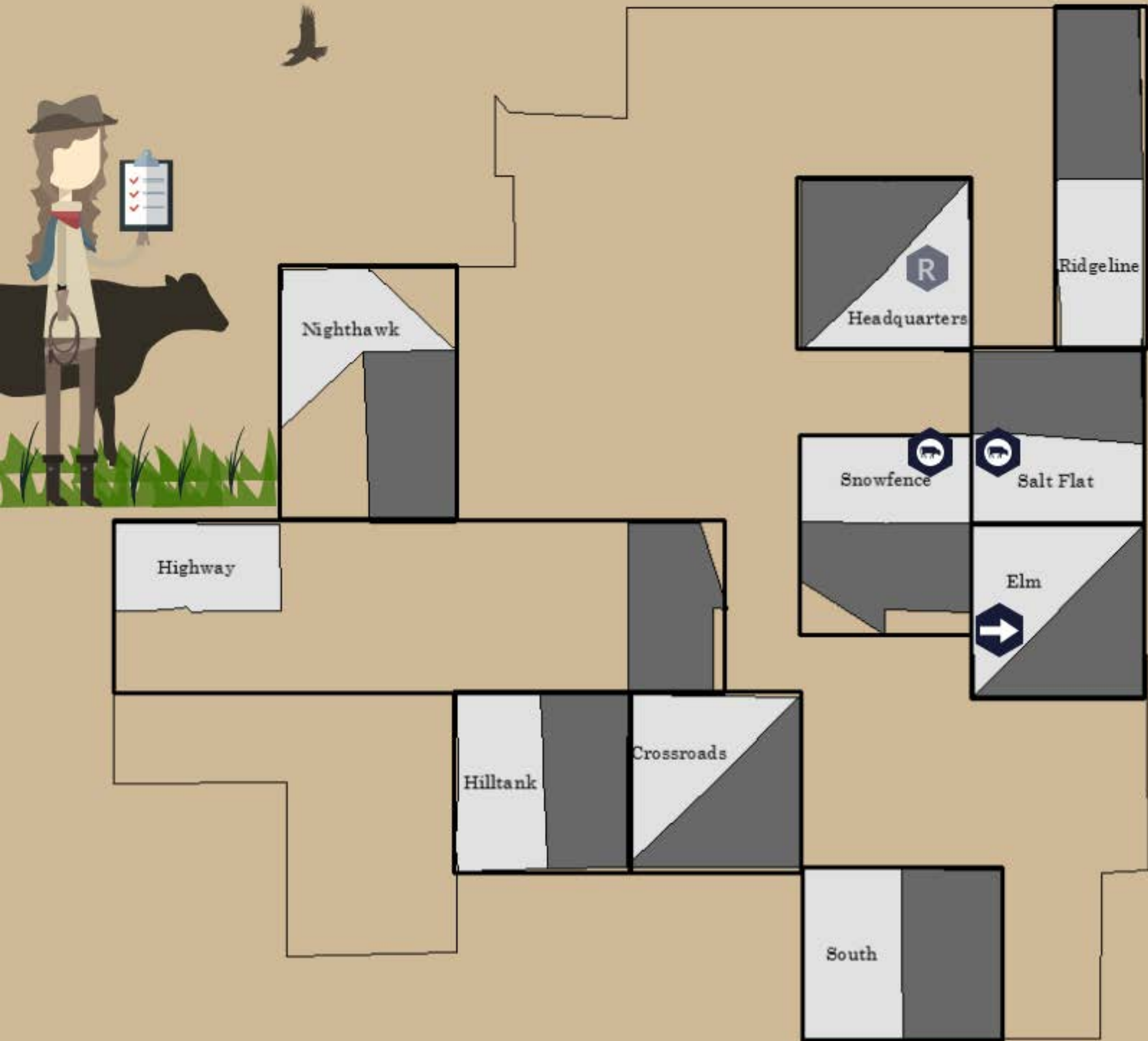
Where it all began





Dive into the details...

The grass should carry them through their day trigger, CARM moves next week!



Herd



Next



Grazed



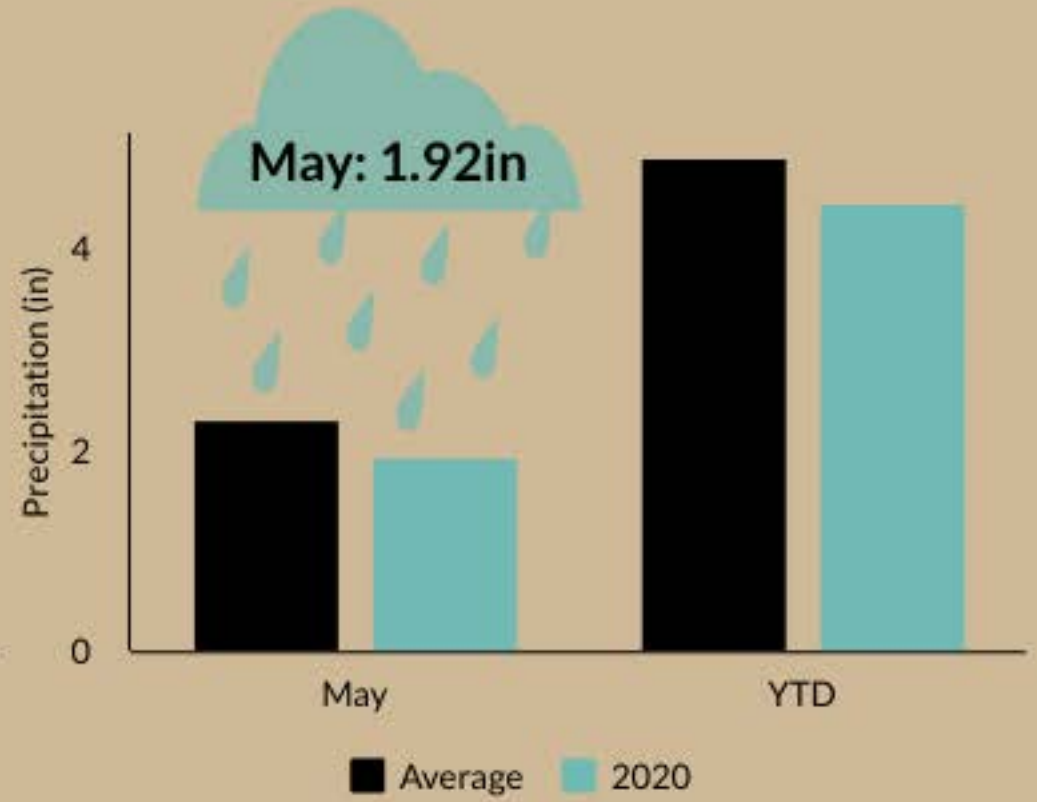
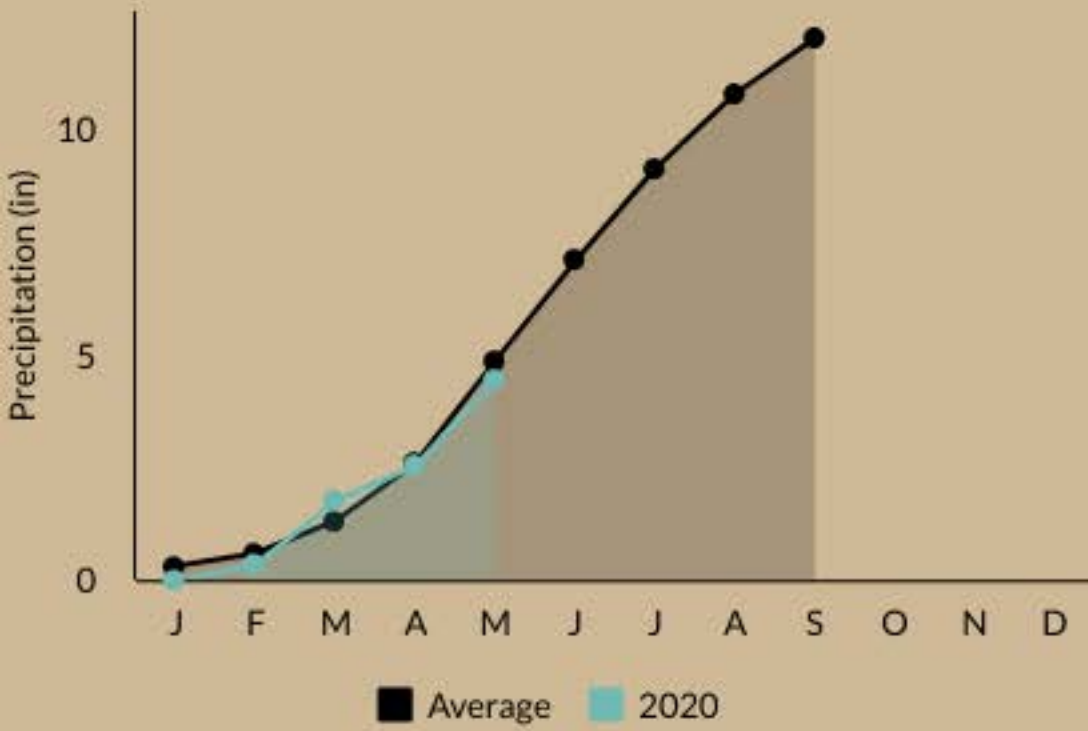
Rest

Snowfence & Saltflat

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

Highlights of Happenings

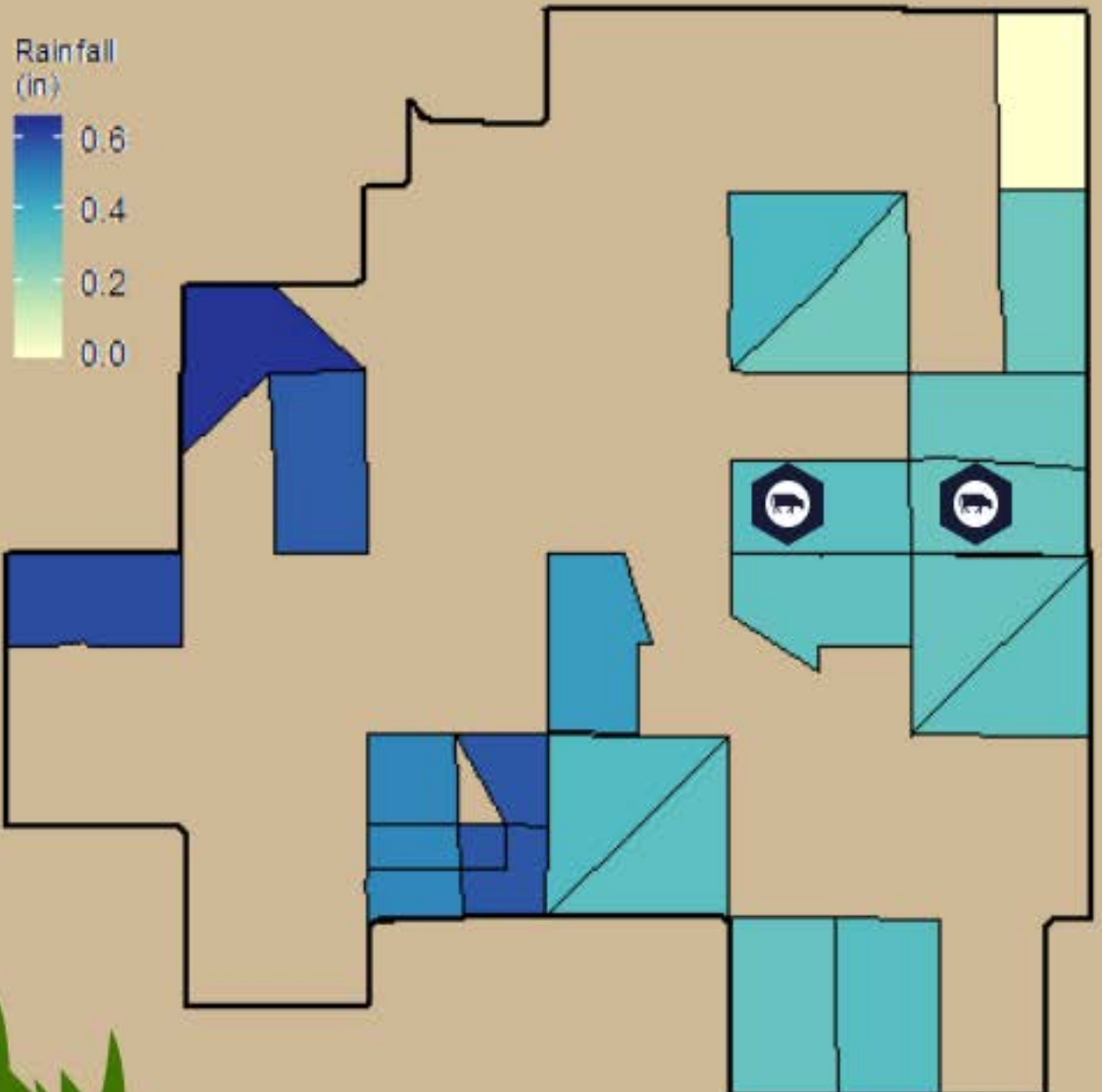
Rainfall Totals



Total Rainfall

2020-05-17 to 2020-05-24

Rainfall Distribution



Drought Monitor

Grass-Cast



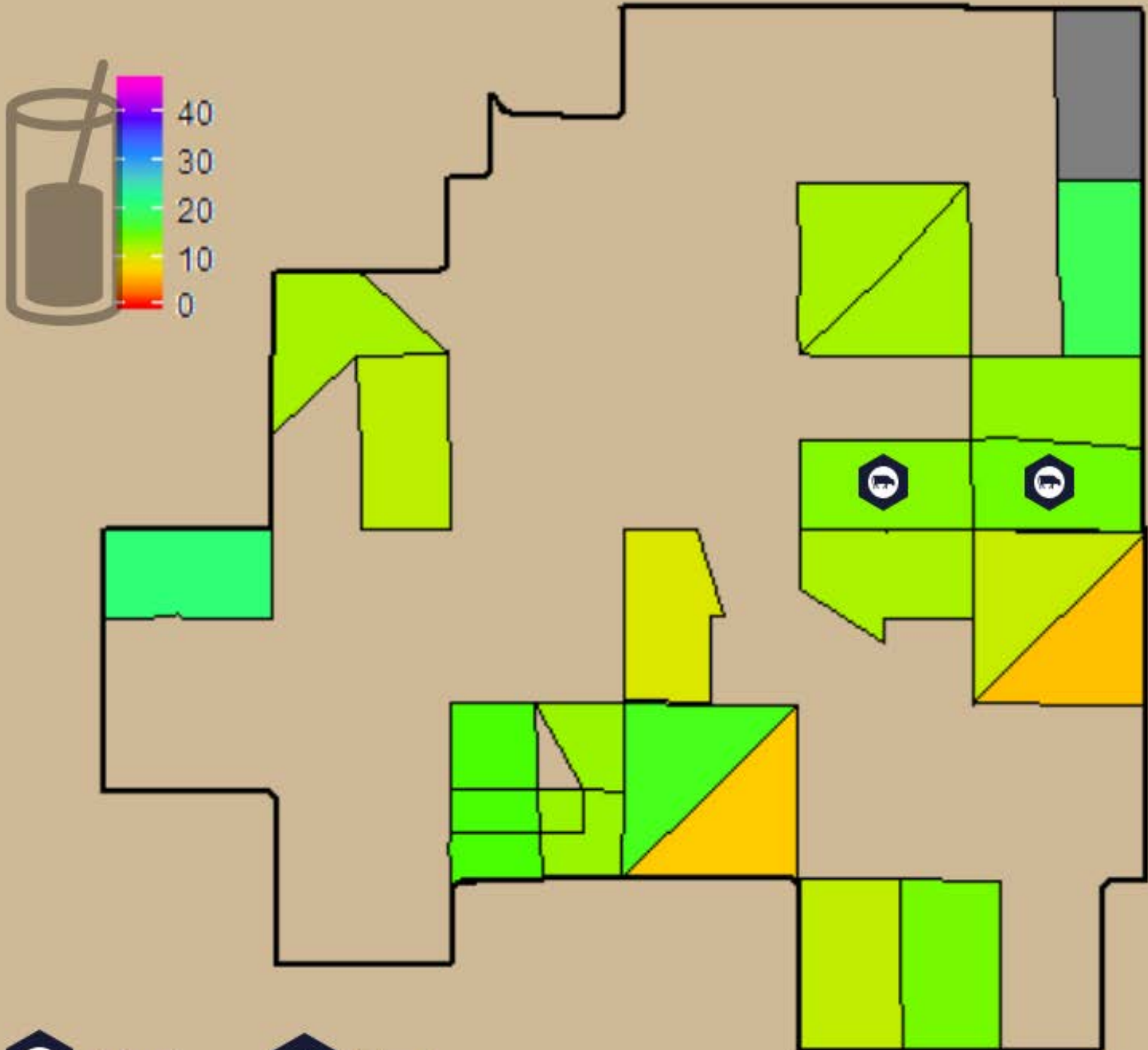
Soil Moisture Distribution

What's in our cup?

The grass is drinking up that moisture, we need a good rain.

Current Soil Moisture

2020-05-24



-  Herd
-  Next
-  Grazed
-  Rest

Snowfence

Saltflat



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

Should carry CARM through their day trigger!

Cowboy Report



Spread out grazing across both pastures, but a lot at water look happy.





Decision Recap

Stakeholders voted on some big changes this April!

Rotation 1:

Start Date: May 15

Max Days: 21- 24

VOR: average of two pastures, but report individual pastures too, use same thresholds as 2019

(with gate open)

Reduction of stocking density early in the year to improve weight gains. Grazing on the 2019 fall burn intended to improve within pasture heterogeneity in Snowfence and create habitat for Mountain Plover.

April discussion and votes: The group agreed to have separate cattle behavior observations and separate and average VOR readings for each pastures during the first two rotations. They discussed and voted on triggers and max days for these two rotations.

The unanimously voted to have a 21-24 for max day trigger and to set the VOR trigger based on the average of the two pastures.

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)



Rotation 3:

Start Date: June 30

Max Days: 42

VOR trigger: Same

Split herd into two herds; CARM1 in Crossroads and CARM2 in South. Help reach shortgrass goals in South. Reminder: Continue to monitor and evaluate costs of this approach.

Each pasture will get 122 steers.

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.

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.



Tech Note:

- Veg monitoring starts next week
- Low forb numbers to date





Up & Coming

- Veg monitoring
- Reduce WOW training opening by half

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!