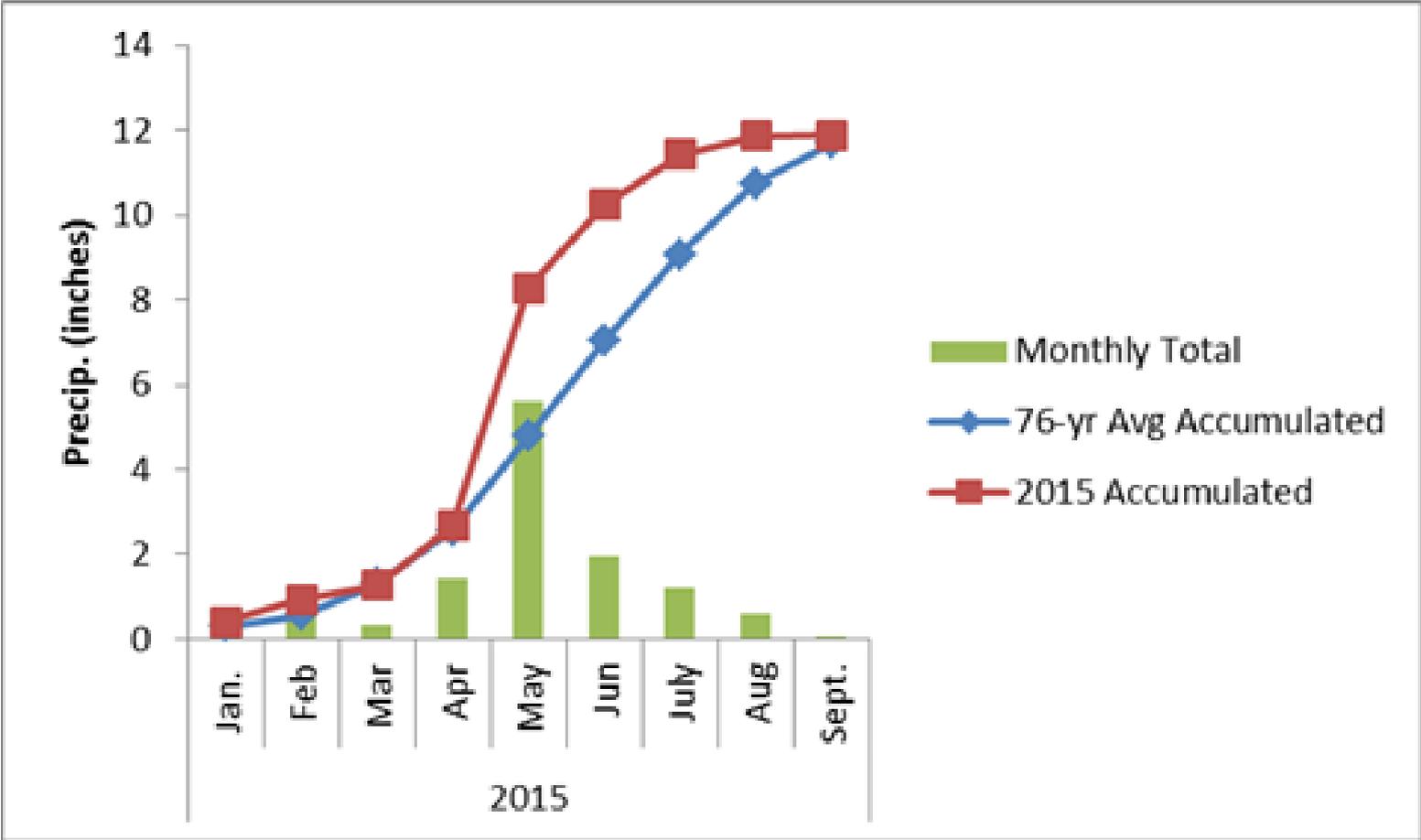


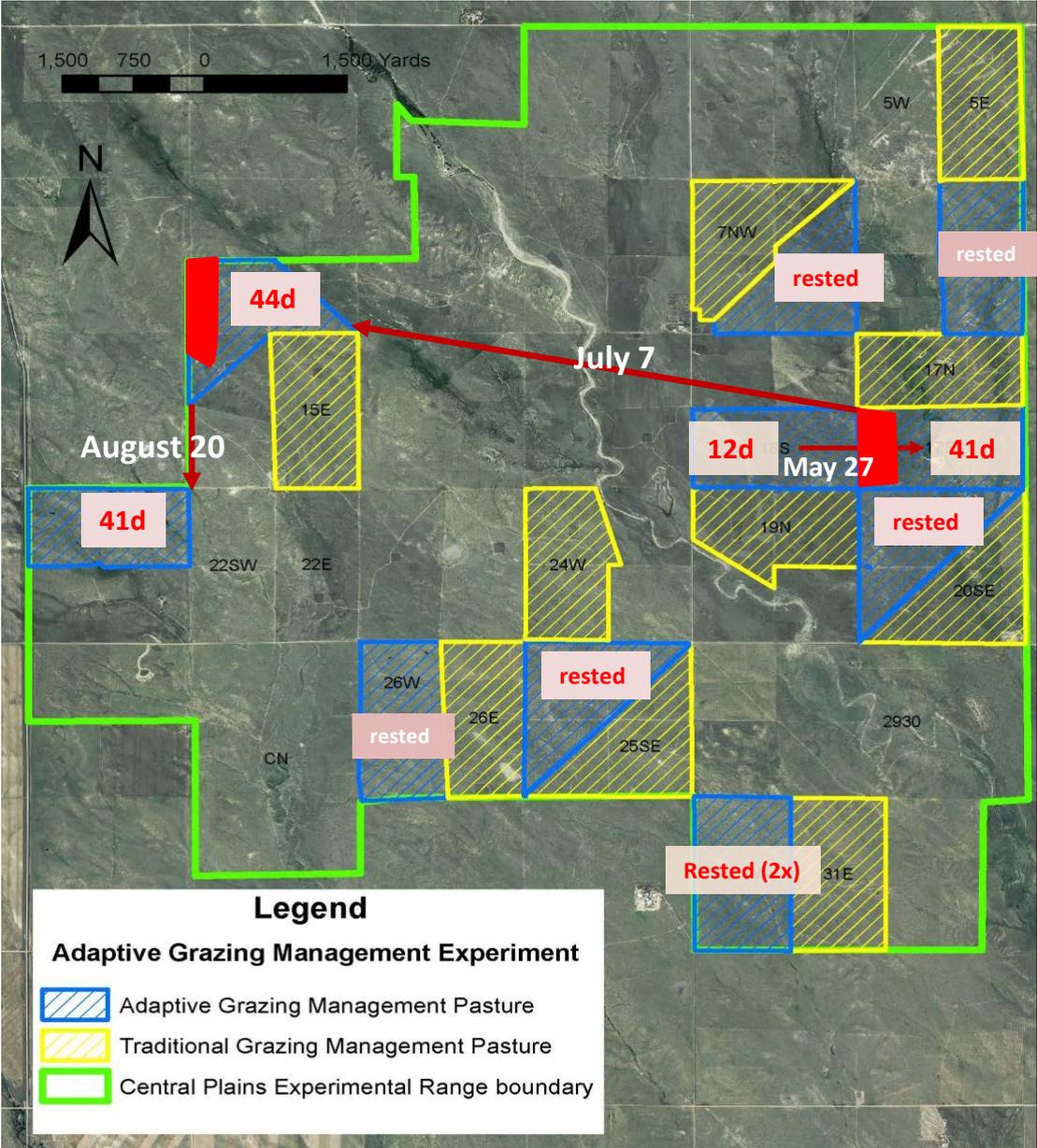
# 2015 Grazing Season Recap



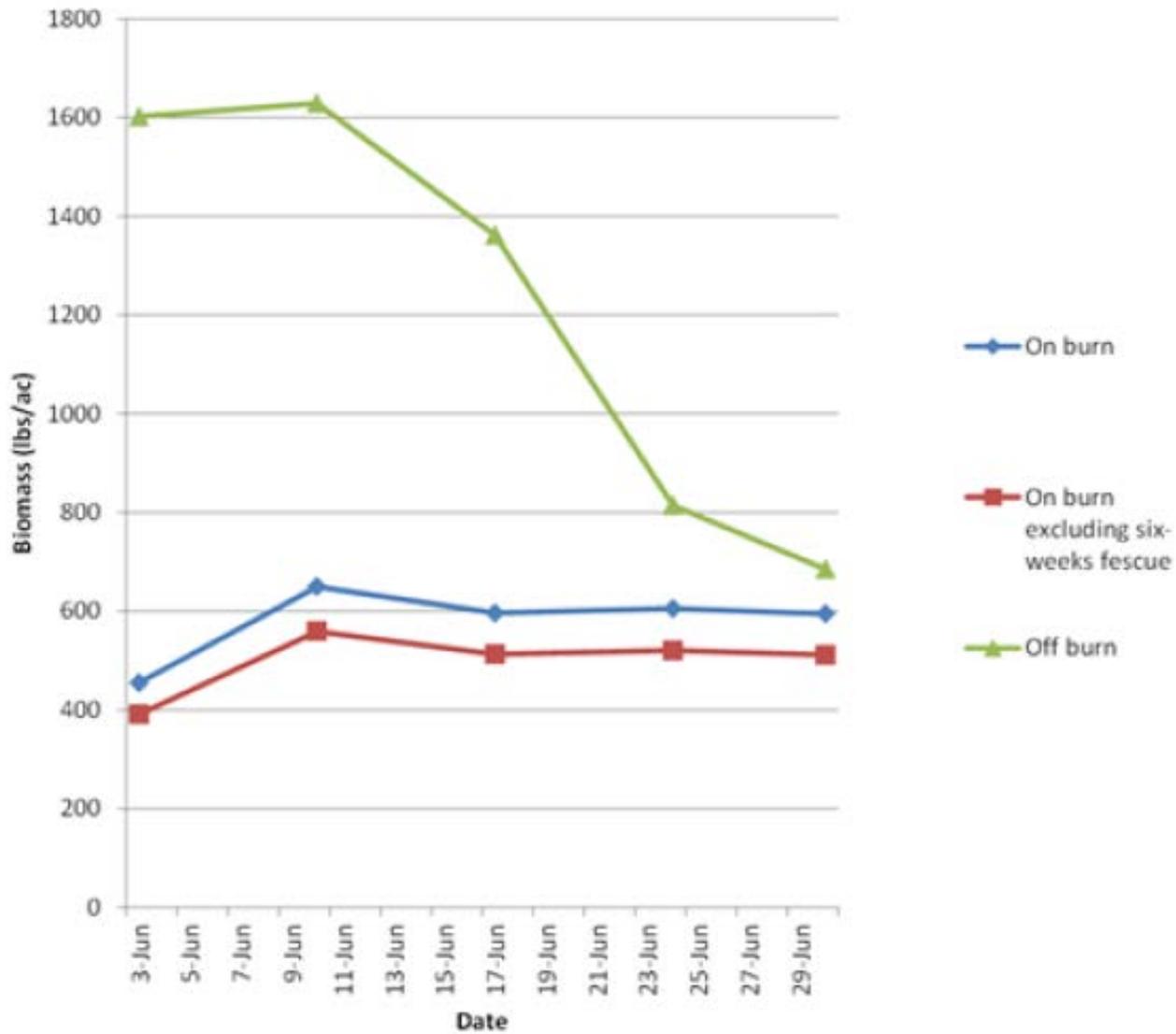
# 2015 Grazing Season Recap



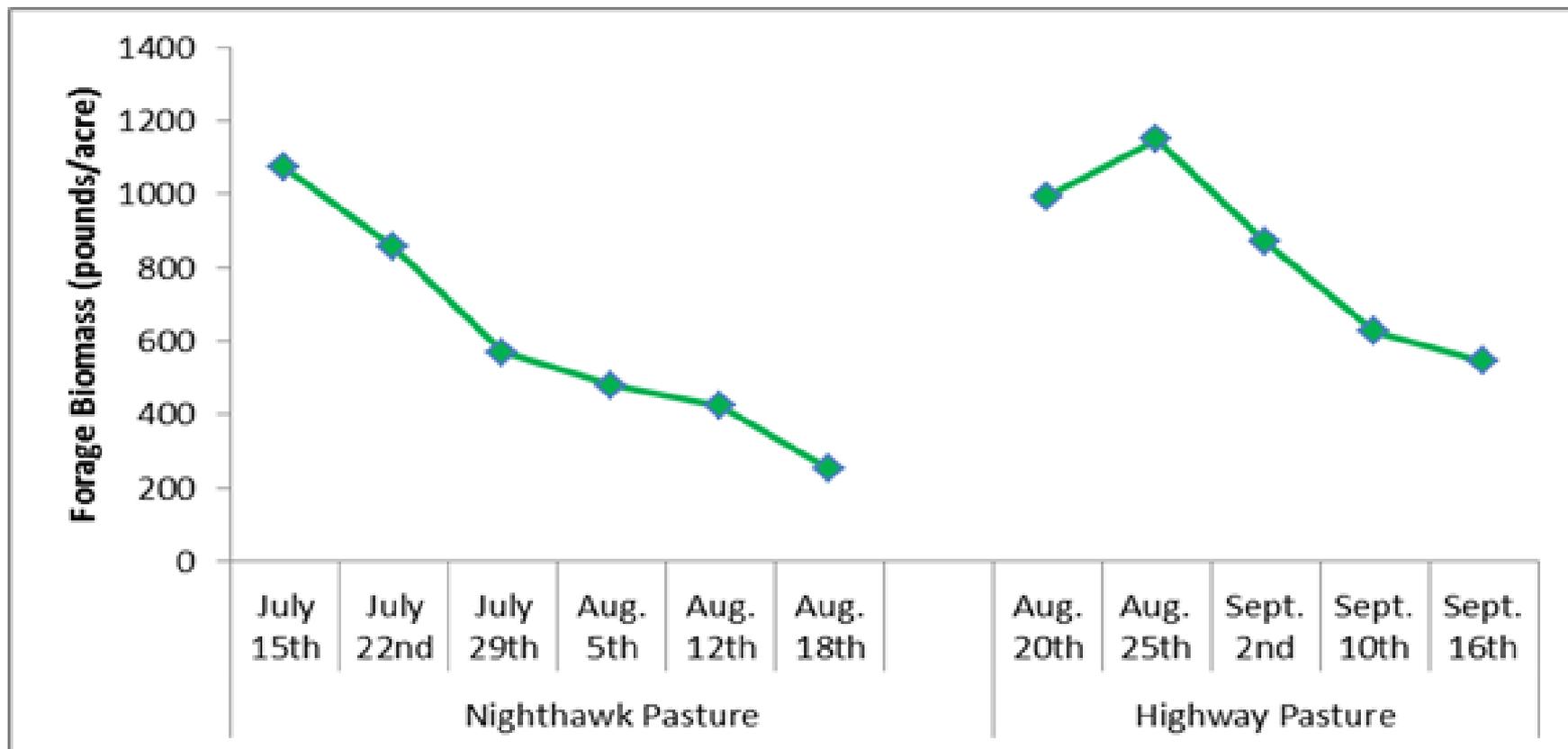
# 2015 Grazing Season Recap



# 2015 Grazing Season Recap



# 2015 Grazing Season Recap



## Did the patch burns create Mountain Plover habitat?

- **Presence:**

Patch Burn Site	Plovers detected (early nesting season)
Nighthawk	2
Paired TGM (15E)	9 (flock of 5)
Saltflat	4
Paired TGM (17N)	1

- **Nesting:**

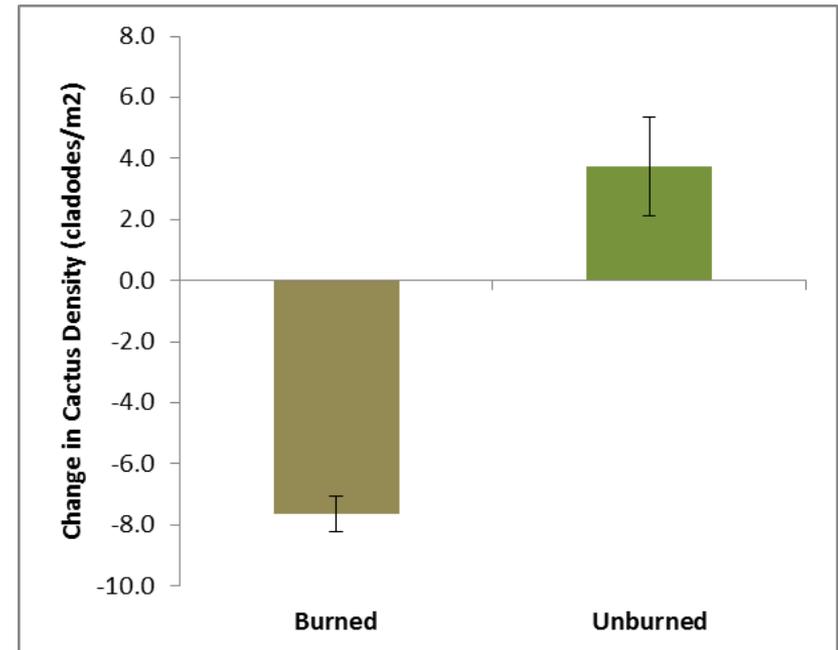
- Only 2 nests found in 2015 at CPER
- Nest searching limited by wet conditions throughout May
- 1 on patch burn (unsuccessful); 1 on prairie dog colony (successful)

## How did the patch burns affect cactus densities?



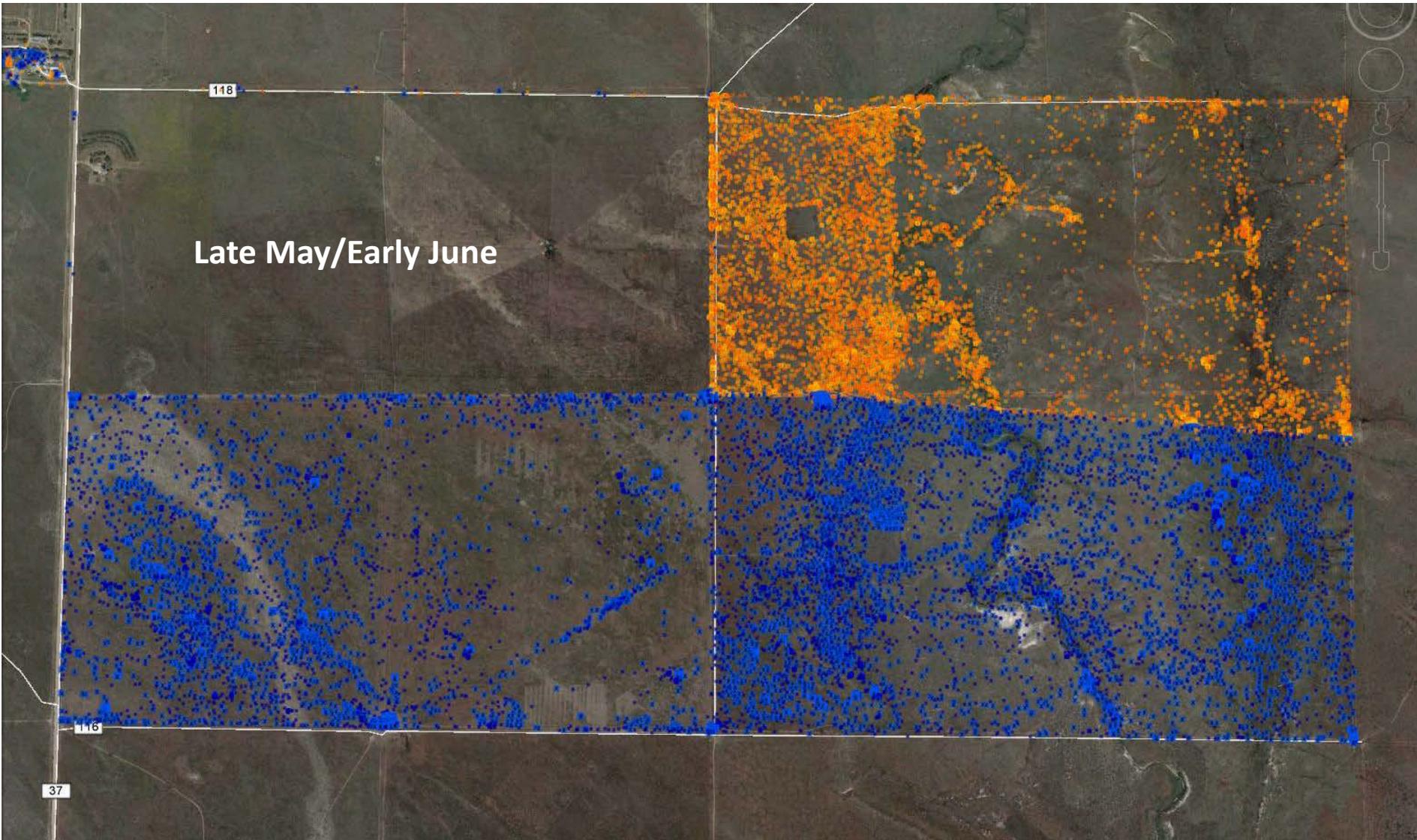
## How did the patch burns affect cactus densities?

Net Change in Prickly Pear Density, 2014-2015		
	Burned	Unburned
Pasture		
Nighthawk	-6.6	1.6
Paired TGM	-7.1	3.4
Saltflat	-7.6	2.7
Paired TGM	-9.3	8.8
<b>Mean</b>	<b>-7.6</b>	<b>3.7</b>

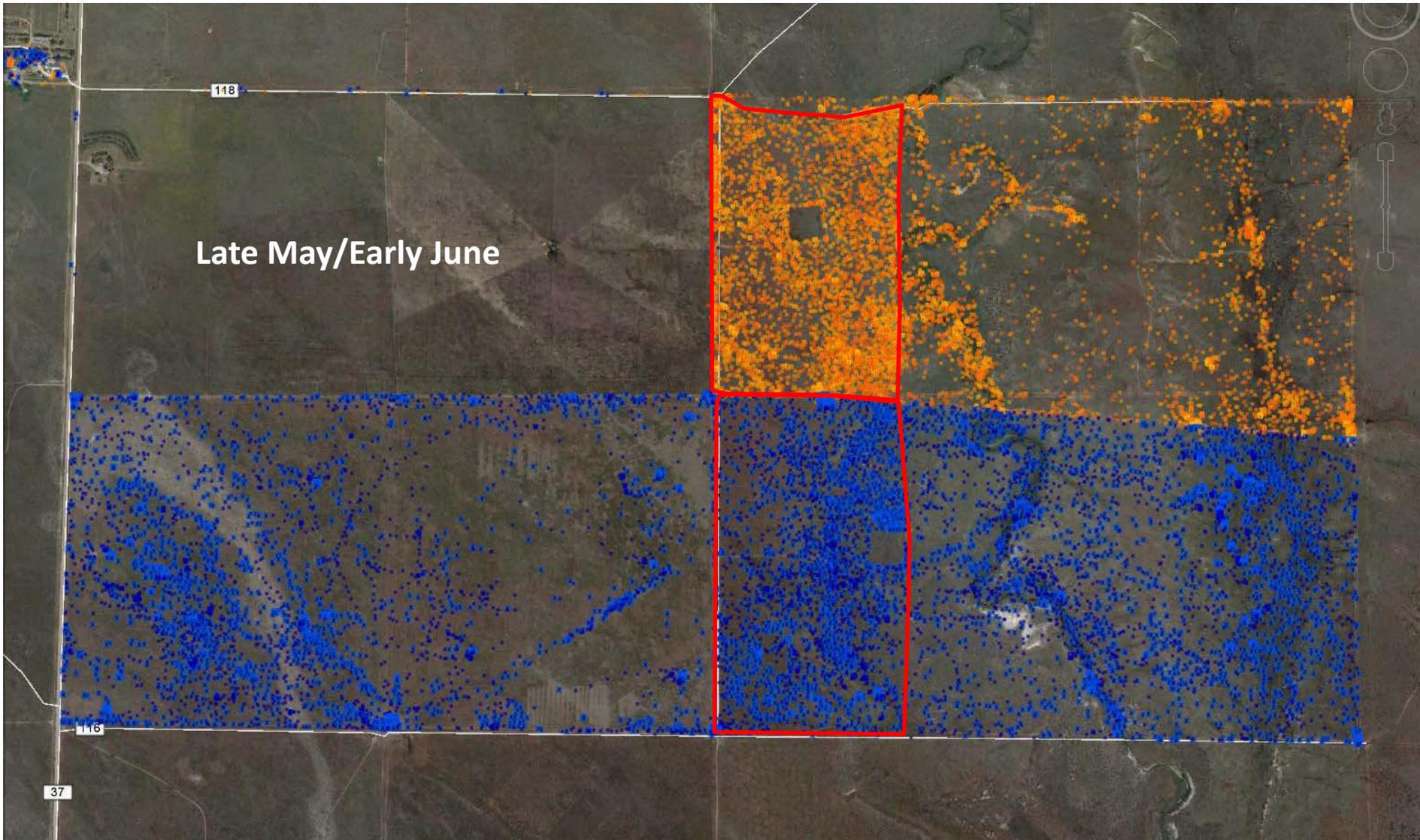


# How did the patch burns affect forage quality and cattle distribution?

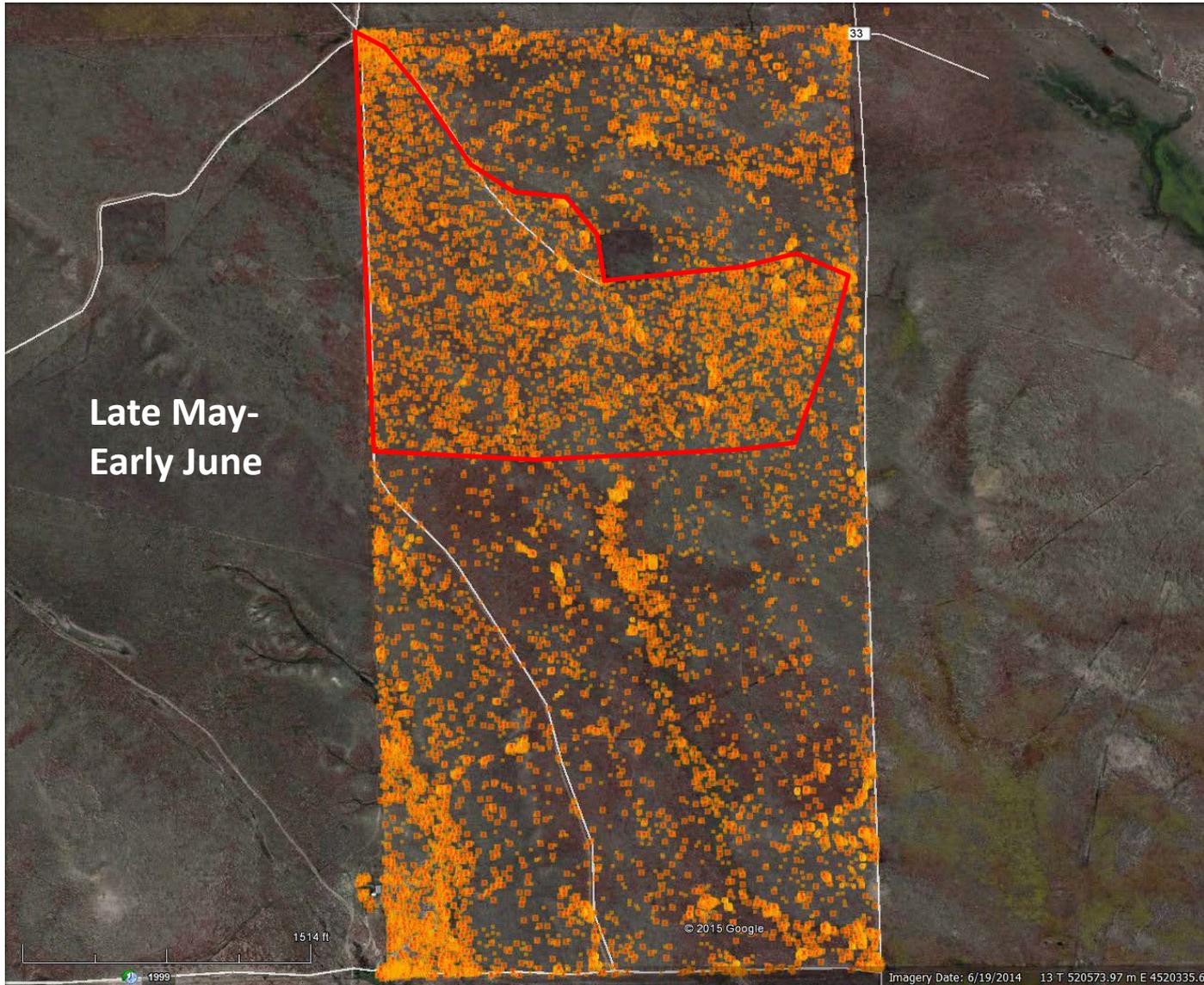
Late May/Early June

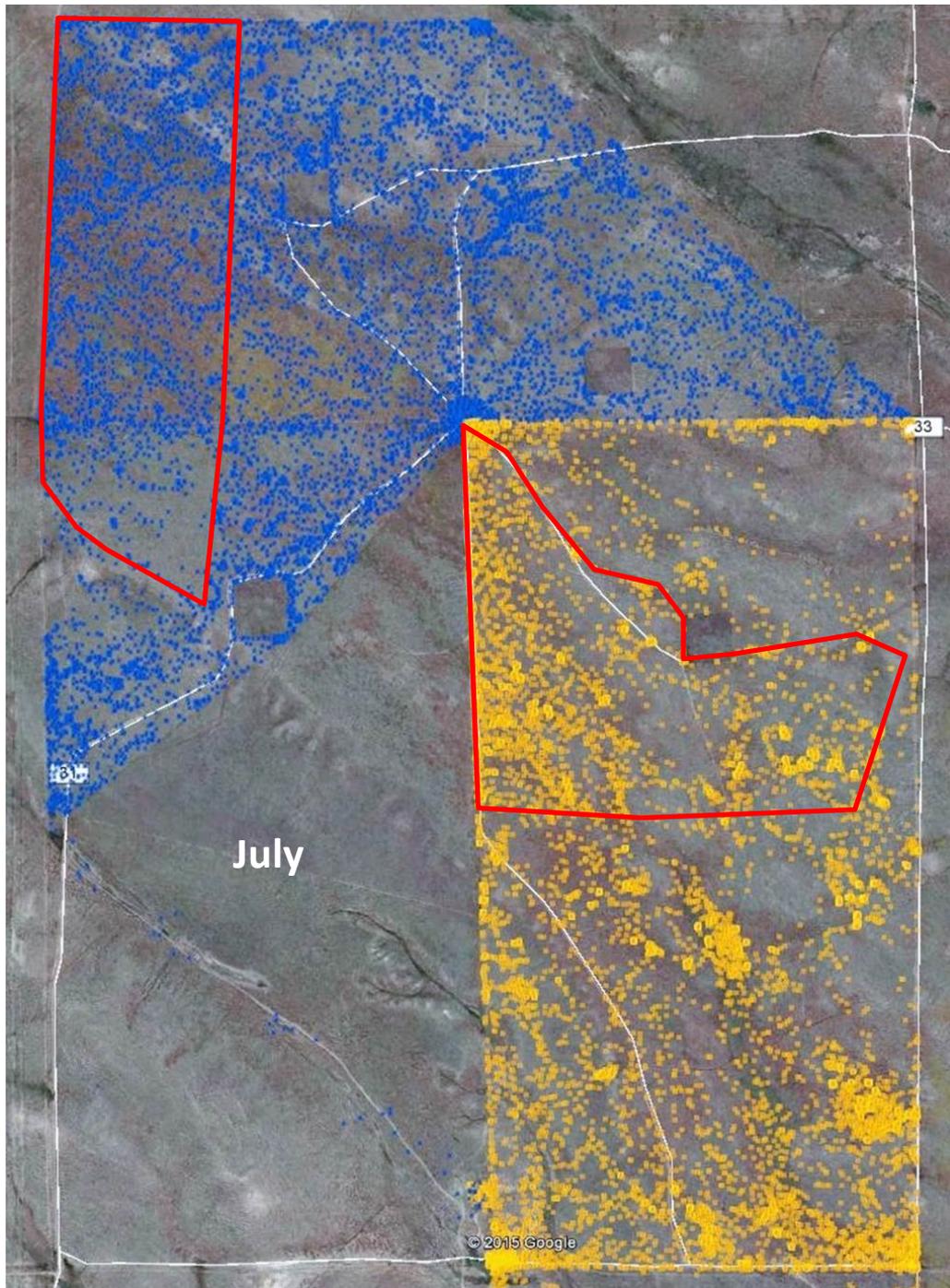


# How did the patch burns affect cattle distribution?



# How did the patch burns affect distribution?





**How did the patch burns affect cattle distribution?**

## **How did the patch burns affect forage quality and cattle distribution?**

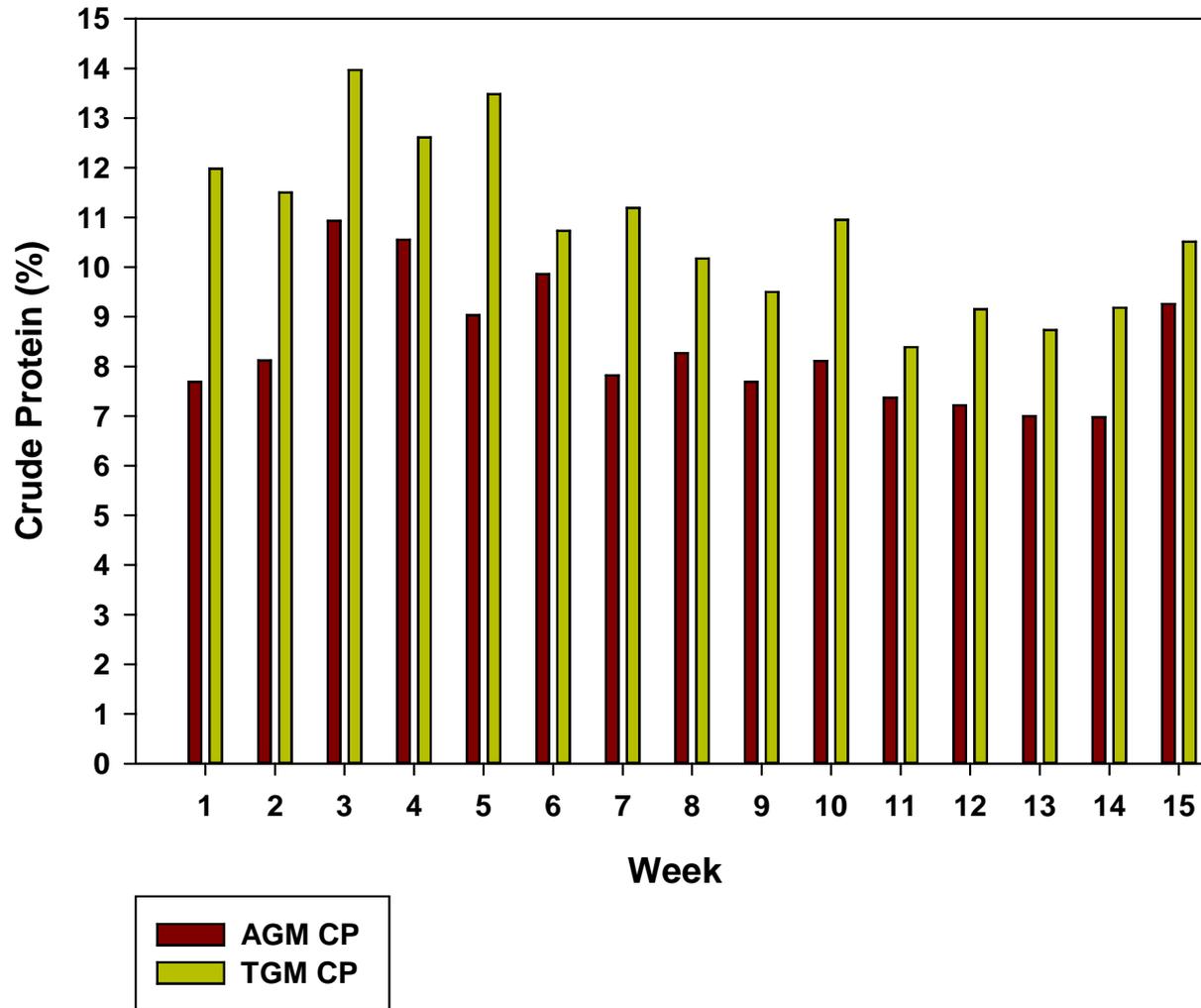
Both AGM and TGM herds selectively grazed patch burns early in growing season (late May/early June)

Stronger selection of burn by small TGM herd vs. large AGM herd in early season

Both AGM and TGM herds show weak selection for patch burns later in the growing season

# Cattle forage quality

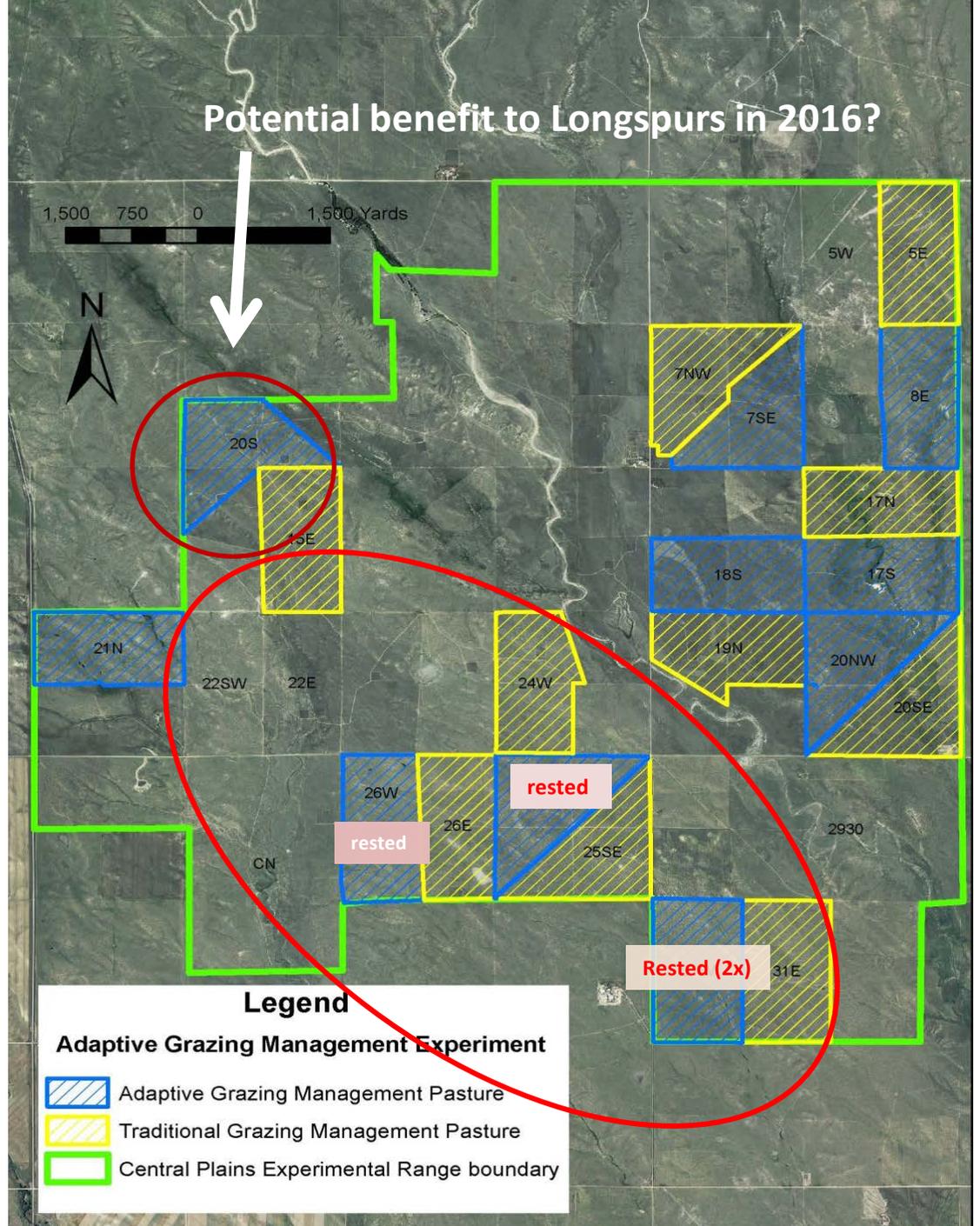
Fecal Crude Protein (%)



# Pasture Conditions, June 2015

Pasture	Ecological Site	Four wing saltbush	Upland vs Saltflat	VOR in June (cm)	Western Wheat (tillers/m <sup>2</sup> )	Needle & Thread (indiv/m <sup>2</sup> )	Cactus (cladodes /m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Nighthawk</b>	Loamy	Low	Upland	6.9	40.8	0.2	6.7
<b>Highway</b>	Loamy	Low	Upland	6.0	41.2	0.6	12.5
<b>Hilltank</b>	Loamy	Low	Upland	4.0	8.4	0.0	6.6
<b>Crossroads</b>	Mixed	Low	Upland	7.9	57.3	0.5	2.1
<b>South</b>	Mixed	Mod	Upland	5.8	105.9	0.7	9.5
<b>Ridgeline</b>	Mixed	High	Upland	4.8	91.4	0.0	12.1
<b>Headquarters</b>	Mixed	Mod	Upland	3.9	19.7	2.3	10.8
			Saltflat	8.9	292.0	2.9	15.3
<b>Salt Flat</b>	Sandy	Low	Upland	5.1	30.0	7.5	13.8
			Saltflat	8.1	114.4	3.8	9.5
<b>Elm</b>	Sandy	Low	Upland	5.9	34.7	25.7	5.9
			Saltflat	9.1	148.4	5.5	0.1
<b>Snowfence</b>	Sandy	High	Upland	5.8	70.3	15.7	19.6

# 2015 Grazing Season Recap



### **AGM Achievements, 2014-2015:**

++Grassbanking

+C3 Perennial Grasses

+Fourwing Saltbush

+Diverse perennial communities

++Among-pasture heterogeneity

++Grasshopper Sparrow habitat

++Cactus removal in patch burns

+Plover habitat (migration/early breeding)

### **AGM Tradeoffs, 2014-2015:**

-- Cattle weight gains

-- McCown's Longspur habitat