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Select Accomplishments in FY21 Q2 (Jan – Mar 2021)

NPCH is pleased to welcome three new team members for 2021!



Julie Elliott
NRCS Liaison



Toni Klemm
Postdoc



Katie Walsh
Postdoc

Julie Elliott, NRCS liaison from Holyoke, Colorado, conducting *outreach on Grass-Cast* and drought planning.

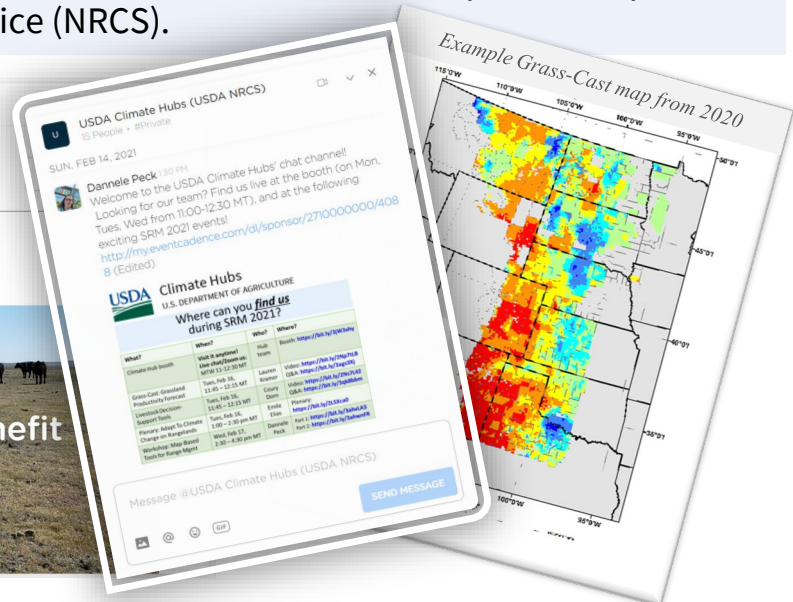
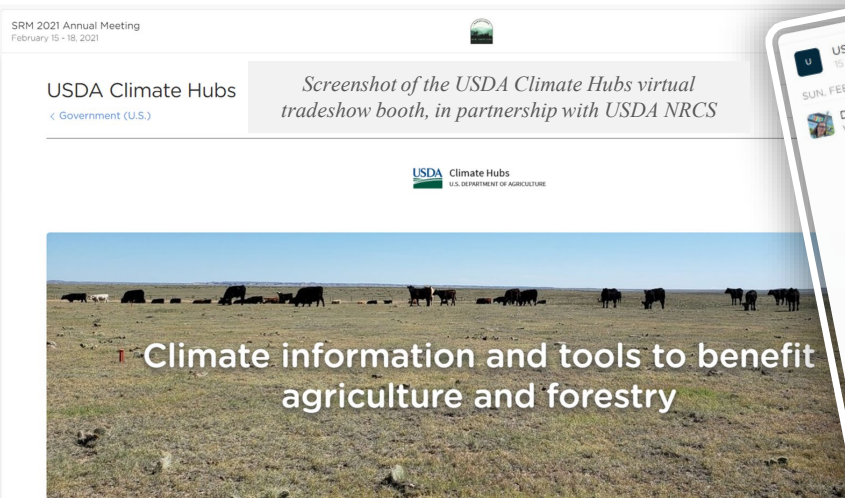
Toni Klemm, postdoctoral research associate, leading a *grasslands vulnerability assessment* for the N. Plains.

Kathryn Bills Walsh, postdoctoral research associate, and *social scientist* for ‘Ranching, Rangelands & Resilience’.

To learn more about them: <https://go.usa.gov/xHRjQ>

Science Synthesis & Tool Development

With much of the West in drought, rangeland managers are busy assessing conditions and anticipating how much or little grass their livestock might have. At the **2021 Society for Range Management meeting**, the Northern Plains Climate Hub gave two presentations about Grass-Cast, engaging with over **190 participants**. Those interested in learning more about **Grass-Cast** and other climate information and decision tools could also visit the USDA Climate Hubs’ virtual **tradeshow booth**, co-hosted by the Northern Plains and Southwest Hubs, in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

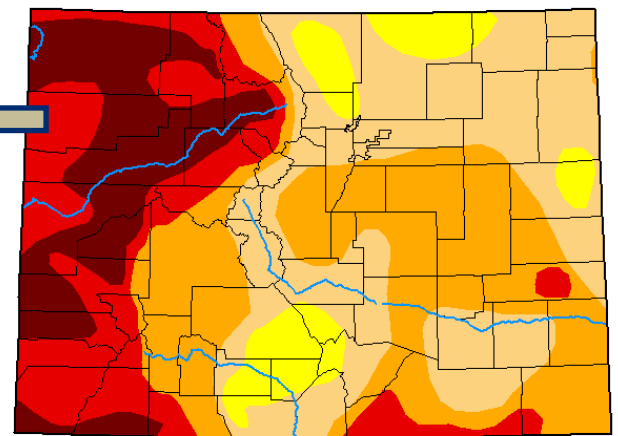


Outreach & Engagement



Rangelands are essential for grazing livestock in **Colorado**, so the prospect of 2021 being **yet another drought year** has ranchers in parts of the state worried. In response, **Climate Hub liaison, Julie Elliott (from NRCS in Colorado)**, is busy sharing drought planning resources, such as Grass-Cast, the U.S. Drought Monitor, and USDA program information.

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

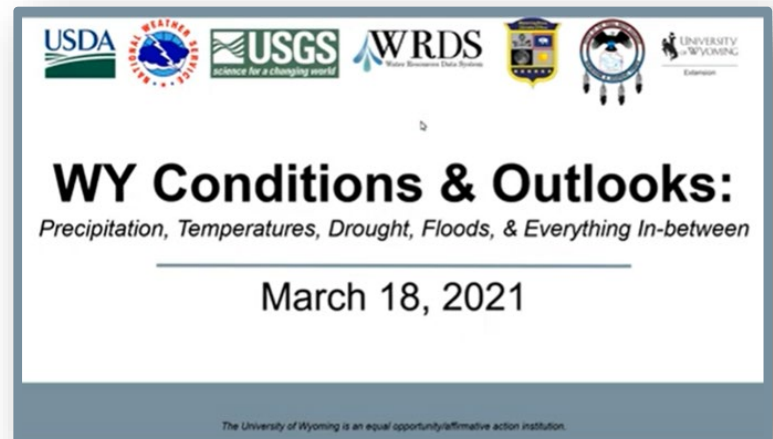


Julie serves on the **Colorado Drought Advisors Team**, which farmers and ranchers can call or text at (970) 988-0043 for drought-related resources. She also presented at a **drought webinar** hosted by the Yuma & Yuma County Conservation Districts (watch the video at <http://y2u.be/WvWRnX1NbnM>). Through these activities, **Julie reached ~230 people!** She also co-wrote an **ag news article** about Grass-Cast and other drought decision tools, which you can read at <https://bit.ly/32R5c0c>.



March 30, 2021
(Released Thursday, Apr. 1, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

The state of **Wyoming** also faces a second year of **widespread drought**. To facilitate communication between stakeholders and climate service providers, the **Wyoming Conditions Monitoring Team (WCMT)**—a state, federal, and tribal partnership started in 2020 by the **Northern Plains Climate Hub coordinator, Windy Kelley**—held 4 virtual outreach events this quarter.



WY Conditions & Outlooks:
Precipitation, Temperatures, Drought, Floods, & Everything In-between

March 18, 2021

The University of Wyoming is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

During the first-ever **Wyoming Conditions & Outlooks webinar**, on March 18th, the WCMT team summarized current drought information, and shared helpful resources, such as USDA programs. The webinar is now held monthly and can be viewed at http://y2u.be/Gv3X_1az2sl. Through this and three other virtual events this quarter, **WCMT reached ~200 individuals!**