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Select Accomplishments in FY21 Q3 (April – June 2021)

Outreach & Engagement



Northern Plains Drought Update & Outlook: Tribal Webinar Series (Webinar 2)
Wednesday, June 23, 2021 from 10am MT/11am CT

Screenshot of the second tribal drought webinar, held on June 23, 2021, in partnership with NOAA, NIDIS, NC CASC, HPRCC, and USDA

Tribes in the Northern Plains are feeling the effects of this year's **widespread drought**. Low river levels are putting culturally important sites at risk. Heatwaves and wildfires are triggering health concerns. Water and forage are limited for livestock and wildlife. To understand drought impacts and share resources, including USDA assistance programs, the Northern Plains Climate Hub **partnered with NOAA, NIDIS, NC CASC, and HPRCC** to organize a three-part **drought webinar series for tribes** in the region. The second webinar, on June 23, involved seven speakers from Tribal agencies and NGOs, federal agencies, and Extension. This quarter, the first two webinars have **reached 180 people**.

Wyoming is experiencing one of its driest water-years on record, and many people are looking for resources and assistance. But this information is spread across numerous websites, making it hard to find. So, the WY Conditions Monitoring Team (WCMT)—led by the N. Plains Hub—collaborated with the Wyoming Governor's Office to create a **Drought Information & Resources website**. It includes the WCMT's **monthly webinars**, which reached **360 viewers** this quarter. To view the website and recent webinars, visit **drought.wyo.gov**. To report drought conditions, visit **droughtimpacts.unl.edu/ConditionMonitoringObservations.aspx**.

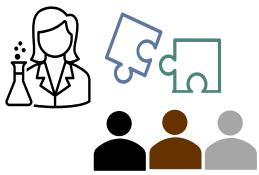
Screenshots of Wyoming Drought Info & Resources website (right) and the CMOR Drought map (left), showing drought conditions & impacts in Wyoming



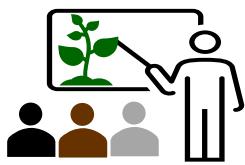
Education



The effects of climate change are increasingly being felt in our own backyards, and many **schoolkids around the country are curious to learn** about climate science and how it helps society understand the causes, effects, and potential solutions.



With the help of ‘Skype a Scientist’—an organization that **matches classrooms around the world with scientists**—two N. Plains Hub postdocs, Drs. Katie Walsh and Toni Klemm, **visited virtually with 45 inquisitive fifth-graders** across two states.



The Hub postdocs **answered students’ questions** about how climate change affects agriculture, how scientists study climate change in grasslands, and **what it’s like being USDA Climate Hub scientists**.

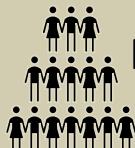
Science

Developing climate services to help agricultural producers manage risk requires **scientific training** and **communication skills**, as well as **stakeholder engagement**, a **collaborative mindset**, and **team leadership** skills. To hone these skills, a Northern Plains Climate Hub postdoc, Dr. Toni Klemm, participated in the **MED-GOLD Living Lab**, a European virtual workshop hosted by researchers and industry partners from the Mediterranean grape, olive, and durum wheat sectors. As part of a **five-person team** from the U.S., Europe, and Africa—with mentorship from professionals in Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom—Dr. Klemm helped assess the **climate change impacts on olives** for one of the world’s largest olive oil producers.



Toni Klemm
USDA ARS
Postdoctoral Researcher

FY21 Q3 At-A-Glance



Reached **1,155** people by:



Delivering **18** presentations



Hosting **6** webinars or virtual workshops