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Selected Accomplishments in FY20 Q2

Northern Plains Climate Hub Fellow, Dr. Hailey Wilmer, served as **Program Co-Chair** of the 2020 Society for Range Management (SRM) meeting in Denver. Over 1,000 rangeland scientists, managers, students and producers attended from across the U.S. and globe. Dr. Wilmer was key **in envisioning and organizing a diverse and interdisciplinary** set of sessions and events. Through these efforts, the meeting explicitly incorporated (for the first time in SRM's history) specific recommendations and activities to enhance **accessibility, diversity and inclusion**. Dr. Wilmer also convened a group of 35 rangeland colleagues engaged **in social science research**.



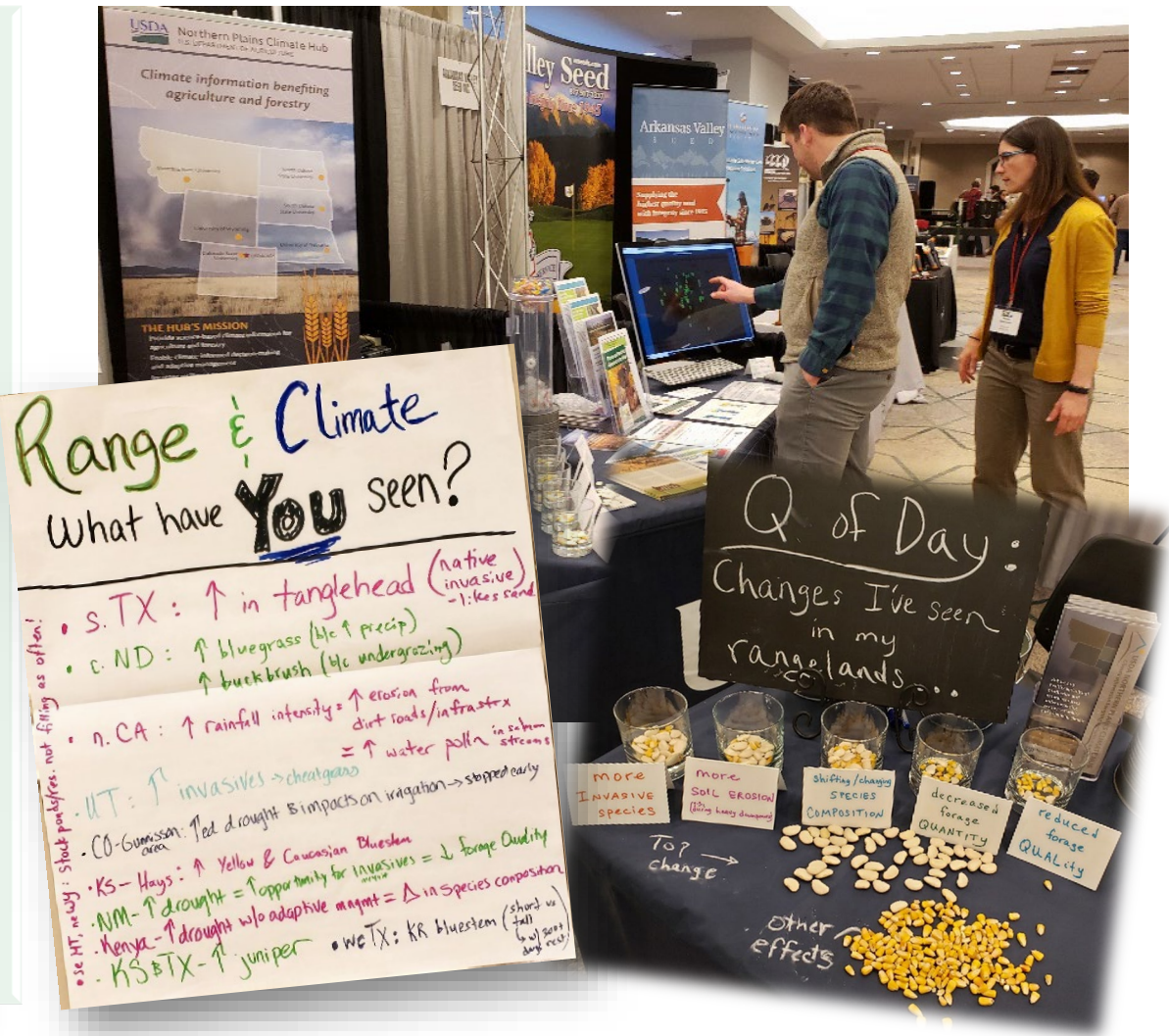
Climate Hub Fellow, Dr. Hailey Wilmer, served important leadership roles in organizing the 2020 Society for Range Management meeting.



Climate Hub Director (Dr. Dannele Peck) and Coordinator (Windy Kelley) helped organize a world-café discussion about climate-related changes & challenges that rangeland managers and scientists are facing, and possible adaptation options.

The Northern Plains Climate Hub Fellow also co-organized an interactive **world-café session** at the 2020 Society for Range Management meeting in Denver. Nearly **150 participants** engaged in three rounds of **facilitated small-group discussion** on a variety of topics, including climate-related challenges in rangeland management. As part of this event, the Northern Plains Climate Hub Director (**Dr. Dannele Peck**) and Coordinator (**Windy Kelley**) partnered with the Bureau of Land Management and North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center to **facilitate discussion among range managers and scientists** about **changes they have observed** in their rangelands, **management challenges exacerbated by climate change**, and **potential adaptation options**.

During the 2020 Society for Range Management meeting, the Northern Plains Climate Hub hosted an interactive booth in collaboration with USDA NRCS. Booth visitors were engaged through a “Question of the Day,” touchscreen computer, and a crowd-sourced list of changes they have observed in their rangelands.



The Northern Plains Climate Hub shared **Grass-Cast** (the Grassland Productivity Forecast) with ~250 stakeholders during three recent events. Grass-Cast provides ranchers and other grassland managers with an **early-spring forecast of how well vegetation might grow during the upcoming summer grazing season**. Grass-Cast maps for the 2020 season will be made publicly available soon at <https://grasscast.unl.edu>, stay tuned!

- At the **National Grasshopper Management Board** meeting, ARS, APHIS, universities, and private industry brainstormed how Grass-Cast can inform insect modeling & management.
- The **Colorado FSA State Committee** discussed Grass-Cast’s ability to estimate grassland production losses, which are needed to administer the **USDA FSA “Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.”**
- At the **2020 Society for Range Management** meeting, we facilitated a **Grass-Cast workshop** in partnership with ARS, NRCS, Forest Service, CSU, U of AZ, UNL, and NDMC.

