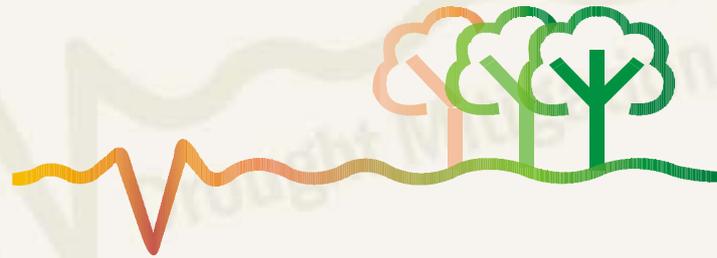
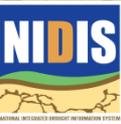


# The National Drought Mitigation Center Interactive Drought Planning Session

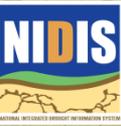
Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



*Drought Outlook and Management Considerations for  
Rangeland Livestock Production*  
Socorro, NM, May 29, 2013



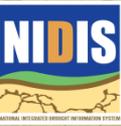
# Process



# Round 1

**What water/drought dependent decisions do you need to make?**

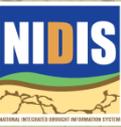
Decision
Stocking rate adjustment



# Round 2

- **What information do you need to make these decisions?**
- **Who and/or where can you get the information that you need in to make these decisions?**

Decision	What Information do I need to make decision?	Information Source
Stocking rate adjustment	Extent of drought, water year precipitation...	State Climate Office Drought.gov, vegdri.unl.edu



# Round 3:

## What are the critical dates for making your decisions?

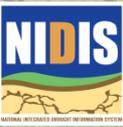
### CRITICAL DATES

AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL- 21 inches/year.

CRITICAL DATES- April 1, June 15, August 15, & Nov 1

#### June 15

- About half of the forage is produced by June 15
- 75%(15.75") of the annual average rainfall is received between Nov 1 & June 15
- If the rainfall is <80% (12.60") of the 75% (15.75") then the stocking rate should be decreased 30% by weight. ( Finish culling herd C)
- If the rainfall is <60%(6.30") of the 75%(15.75") then the stocking rate should be decreased 40-50% by weight (Cull herd B deep)
- The 3 weeks following June 15<sup>th</sup> is very critical. By July 15 the destocking should be completed.
- Rest periods should be as long as possible by June 1 if any indicator of a drought is present.



# Round 4: Focus on what you have!

**What resources are available that will support potential strategies to reduce drought impacts?**

- **Built:** water delivery system
- **Financial:** Savings, credit
- **Political:** Associations with political influences (SRM)
- **Social:** Neighbors, church
- **Human:** Extension Agents, your skills
- **Cultural:** Generational knowledge, regional practices
- **Natural:** land

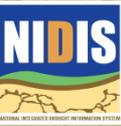


# Round 5: Strategies

**How can you use your resources to help reduce drought impacts and assist in recovery?**

## Examples

- Impact = reduced forage requires destocking
- Your resource = connections for moving livestock
- Potential strategies = early weaning, buy feed, move to grass...



# Contact Information:

Deborah Bathke  
[dbathke2@unl.edu](mailto:dbathke2@unl.edu)  
402-472-6199

National Drought Mitigation Center  
School of Natural Resources  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

