AGM Weekly Update

Greetings Adaptive Grazing Managers,

By all measures of readiness, the CPER pastures are ready for steers. The windmills are flowing, the tanks are holding, and the grass is growing. Besides the annual preseason fence and road maintenance, the CPER staff was busy installing two new solar powered water pumps (see photos) in the Elm and Snowfence pastures. It is our hope that the solar pumps will help the windmills provide enough water for the AGM cattle on the less windy days. Highlights of happenings:

- Solar powered pumps installed and working in the Elm and Snowfence pastures.
- Steers begin arriving on the 8th and 9th and will be sorted lead to their respective pastures beginning on the 12th.
- CPER headquarters received about .05in of precipitation last night and I am currently typing under the pitter-patter of hail and warnings of tornados.
- Automated soil moisture and temperature probes, anemometers, and NDVI sensors are up and logging.

For more detailed precipitation data, maps, and whole host of great information about the AGM project see our website: <u>http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=24218</u>





On behalf of the USDA-ARS-Rangeland Resources Research Unit, I thank you all for your continued participation in this project.

Nick Dufek Biological Science Technician USDA-ARS-RRRU Central Plains Experimental Range Nunn, CO