



UINTAH COUNTY
STATE OF UTAH
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May 3, 2023

Thomas Parrack
District Ranger
Vernal Ranger District

Re: Marsh Peak Allotment Boundary Adjustment

Thomas Parrack,

Thank you for including Uintah County in your proposal for the Marsh Peak Allotment Boundary Adjustment Project. The Ashley National Forest is a wonderful asset to Uintah County, and we take deep interest in any changes that might affect forest health or our citizens. It is clear to us that grazing is a helpful and important activity taking place on our forest lands. We are grateful for the review of the area around Marsh Peak and the interest of the Forest Service to increase grazing in this area. We believe that grazing is an important tool that can help promote a healthy forest. After reviewing the proposal we have decided to share the following comments with the Forest Service.

Uintah County supports Alternative 1. Alternative 1 opens more ground and options for grazers on the different allotments around Marsh Peak. Opening more ground and providing more options to grazers on the different allotments would be the most helpful for vegetation and livestock management in this area. The Uintah County Resource Management Plan (RMP) 15.4.3 states, “Manage lands to maintain or increase forage allocation for livestock grazing.” We believe that alternative 1 is the best alternative and is the most consistent with this policy. However, if alternative 1 is not able to be approved Uintah County would support Alternative 2, the Proposed Action. Uintah County does not support alternative 3.

We encourage the Forest Service to take some time and read through Chapter 15 in our RMP. This entire chapter is dedicated to Livestock and Grazing. We appreciate the efforts of the Forest Service to be consistent with our RMP with this proposal.

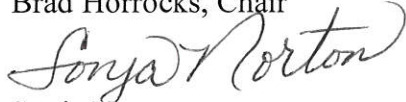
We appreciate the Forest Service for developing an appropriate range of alternatives for this decision. The proposed allotment boundary adjustments will allow for greater livestock distribution and improved management of livestock grazing. Thank you for your willingness to work with Uintah County, and we hope that our comments will be helpful as a decision is made

on this boundary adjustment. Please let us know if you have any questions or if you need further clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brad Horrocks", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brad Horrocks, Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sonja Norton", written in a cursive style.

Sonja Norton

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Laursen", written in a cursive style.

John Laursen

Uintah County Commissioners