

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/16/2021 6:55:30 PM

First name: Randy

Last name: Guthrie

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for reading and considering my comments about the Rangeland Management Directives. I have worked for the National Park Service and for the National Forest Service during the past 30 years. I have seen first hand the significant and irreversible damage that grazing has caused to ecosystems throughout the western United States. Grazing greatly increases the introduction of invasive plant species while significantly disrupting and damaging native plant and animal communities. Vitally important riparian ecosystems are often extensively damaged by grazing livestock. Stream banks are eroded, water sources are contaminated, and native wildlife is greatly adversely affected as their homes are trampled, their water polluted and their food sources devoured by significant numbers of large non native animals. Grazing in designated Wilderness areas is especially damaging to these often delicate ecosystems and goes against various aspects of the Wilderness Act. Grazing on public lands is profitable for a few livestock owners but is terrible for wildlife, awful for healthy sustainable ecosystems and prevents scientists and the public from being able to experience and learn about natural, untrammelled wild environments. Please do not allow the new Rangeland Management Directives to cause further disruption and destruction of our shared public lands. Thank you for considering my comments.

Randy Guthrie