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Comments: I appreciate the diligent and professional work involved in preparing this information for public review.

I deeply care about these federal public lands, and I know from personal experience that sheep and other commercial livestock grazing can and does cause significant adverse impacts on public resources. I believe that the Forest Service has an improper historic bias favoring ranchers and grazing regardless of the relevant laws and science. I hope that this bias is ending and that courage and fidelity to law and science are the new norm.

The High Uintas Wilderness is a magnificent gem in Utah. It provides critically important habitat for bighorn and myriad other native species. As such, I strongly believe that the High Uintas Wilderness should be dedicated to its native wildlife as the top management priority. I therefore strongly support and urge the Forest Service to adopt the No Grazing Alternative. Existing grazing permits should be acquired or allowed to expire and the allotments permanently retired. Vacant allotments should also be kept vacant and permanently retired.

There is abundant scientific evidence that grazing by domestic sheep and cattle compromises the High Uintas watersheds, fouls the lakes and streams, and destroys or degrades important wildlife habitats. This grazing also severely degrades the experience of visitors seeking a bona fide wilderness experience.

In particular, domestic sheep grazing is incompatible with and threatens the recovering native bighorn sheep population. If domestic sheep grazing remains in the High Uintas, the native bighorn sheep are likely to greatly decline or become extirpated. This would be unacceptable and inconsistent with the conservation values of most Americans.

In addition, killing native predators to protect sheep or cattle should be prohibited if domestic livestock grazing is allowed to continue. The SDEIS fails to disclose how many native predators-such as black bears, mountain lions, or coyotes-are killed in the High Uintas Wilderness to protect domestic sheep. The SDEIS also fails to disclose the effects continued sheep grazing has on the potential for recovering native wildlife such as wolves and grizzly bears.

Please carefully review the attachments that may provide generally relevant information. I hereby incorporate these attachments by reference as part of my comments.

In closing, I urge the Forest Service to stop all commercial livestock grazing in the High Uintas Wilderness. This would best protect and restore wilderness values for the benefit of wildlife and the visiting public.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration of my comments and the attachments.