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Comments: The scoping document correctly notes the importance of grazing on the economic feasibility of ranching in the area. In this regard, the revised Forest Plan should continue to emphasize making additional US Forest Service lands available for grazing leases and for longer periods of time, while continuing management goals aimed at preventing degradation of soil, water and vegetation.

With respect to water resources, the revised Forest Plan should emphasize the recognition of existing privately owned water rights and related infrastructure (headgates, ditch easements etc.) which originate or pass through USFS lands in accordance with FLPMA, and private owners' rights to access such structures. The owners of such private water rights are in the best position to manage their rights and it is in their best interests to ensure that infrastructure remains in good repair. The recognition of privately owned water rights should apply to both USFS lands and designated lands alike.

As noted in the scoping document, the Forest Plan should address areas with potential conflict between public recreation/access and private lands by ensuring that all interests are taken into account before any management decisions are made. US Forest Service roads should be carefully managed against overuse and degradation and such roads should not be permitted to be used for recreational purposes that are incompatible with or which disrupt the preservation of surrounding lands.

The Forest Plan should emphasize the management and control of invasive species on public lands and improve cost-sharing with private landowners to manage invasive species on private lands adjacent to USFS lands.