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Comments: Thank you for the effort that has been extended on the GMUG plan thus far. We realize this is a big project and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of it.

Our comments are related to grazing on the GMUG. Understanding the economic impact of livestock production is critical to the livelihoods and lifestyles of our rural areas, particularly in Mesa County. Each cow that is observed in the County contributes \$600-\$800 in direct economic impact. Grazing on the GMUG is an important part of this equation. The impact is direct to local feed stores, auto & equipment dealerships, tire and fuel distributors, families working on the ranches, etc.

Culturally, it is important to maintain the legacy and nature of the rural areas. Local ranching families are an integral part of the rural environment. These families are part of the fabric of the communities, involved with youth organizations such as 4-H and FFA, on school boards, Chambers of Commerce, etc.

Food production is to be considered as well. Grazing in the GMUG allows land to be used to provide food for our local areas as well as across the nation and globally. Through multiple use, this land also contributes to our economies in many other ways as well. In the US, an average family spends less than 10% of their disposable income on food. Efficient and effective livestock production contributes. Grazing on the Forest is a part of the sustainable livestock production cycle.

The interaction of outdoor recreation and livestock production must also be evaluated and managed. We must all work together to ensure the multiple use is managed appropriately. Grazing should not be the mitigation for the impacts of recreation. Livestock are handled to provide managed grazing of the resources to ensure sustainability.

Ranchers are accountable for actions by virtue of the permits that we are issued and pay for grazing. We see numerous examples of other forest users not being accountable for their use. Dispersed camping is an impact that is growing in a negative manner. Many areas used for camping are getting larger and larger with only dirt being there because of the continual use in the summer and fall. Camps get further and further away from the roads and have more and more impact. There is no vegetative cover as the ground never gets an opportunity to regrow as it does through managed grazing. Enforcement of rules of dispersed camping is vital to ensuring the sustainability of the ecosystems.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Working Draft. Feel free to contact us at the attached information.