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Organization:

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Comments: I strongly oppose your four plan amendments, all of which would increase the killing of prairie dogs to increase the convenience of ranchers who lease public lands to graze their private livestock.

The Forest Services need to be practicing sound management, not catering to the needs of the ranchers! Please remember these facts:

Prairie dogs are a Sensitive Species that must not be poisoned or shot anywhere on Forest Service lands.

Prairie dogs are important to you, personally, as native wildlife, and the relative importance (indeed, negative ecological consequences) of non-native livestock.

The Forest Service has no business killing or preventing prairie dogs from accessing their native habitats, either on or off National Grasslands.

If the livestock industry cannot coexist with native wildlife on the Thunder Basin, all livestock must be removed, and replaced with free-roaming bison.

Prairie dogs must be restored to their natural densities and historic range.

"Management" of prairie dogs should be limited to nonlethal translocation of prairie dogs to repopulated areas where their population densities are low, and a blanket authorization should be granted to dust for flea control in areas where fleas carry sylvatic plague, which decimates prairie dog populations.

The Black-Footed Ferret Reintroduction Area must be fully restored and protected to support ferret reintroduction on the Thunder Basin.