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Comments: I am opposed to the USFS's proposed revisions that would expand grazing across our National Forests and within Wilderness. Vacant allotments should not be fully restocked or returned to grazing. It was excessive in the 1960s, and now we know that those conditions cannot support increased grazing. This is the opposite direction the FS should take. Vacant allotments should be permanently closed to protect Wilderness instead of increasing livestock grazing on public lands. The agency should protect public lands and wildlife by limiting inappropriate livestock grazing in National Forests.

This leftover Trump administration proposal fails to hold livestock grazers accountable by not setting proper standards to adequately monitor conditions on the ground. It excludes the public from some grazing decision processes, as well. Increased grazing would increase livestock grazing's contribution to the climate and biodiversity crises, and it runs directly counter to the Biden Administration's 30x30 land conservation agenda by sacrificing what could be protected lands to the commercial livestock industry. In particular, I am opposed to the addition of a Section on Conservation Easements and Agricultural Land Trusts that will allow ranches to remain in agricultural production in perpetuity when these easements did not exist or were very seldom used 30 years ago.

I urge the Forest Service to do the right thing to do for Wilderness and other public lands by dropping its proposed Rangeland Management Directives.