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Comments: OUR Public Lands are under vast stress from multiple sources, including climate change, raging fires caused by decades of suppression, severe droughts in much of the West, abusive uses by people pursuing destructive forms of recreation, loss of biodiversity, & worst of ALL, the leasing of OUR lands for the benefit of a handful of private, profit-driven, extractive industries that do incalculable damage to our air, waters, & lands.

In addition to the above attacks suffered on public lands, there is also the highly damaging practice of leasing them out for livestock grazing. This is wrong on so many fronts -- from decimation of native grasses, competition for food sources with diminishing native wildlife, soil erosion & depletion, & contamination of water sources, to the spread of infectious diseases.

If you want to see the results of a century or more of extensive cattle grazing & over-grazing, just look at the ruin that is now glaringly apparent in the landscapes of most of western Texas, which is fast turning into a barren desert, dotted with non-native weeds, an explosion of Mesquite trees that are sucking the water tables dry, & soil that is so thin nothing but tumbleweeds are seen!

Our precious public lands MUST be protected, in order to preserve what is left of them as buffers against the surrounding, human-caused environmental destruction that is approaching apocalyptic levels in many parts of the U.S. Extractive operations MUST cease, & the large-scale grazing that is allowed on much of the larger Public Lands MUST BE STOPPED!

You must act NOW to curtail & ban these activities which represent an ongoing ASSAULT on the viability & sustainability of the VITAL tracts of supposedly PROTECTED lands, which MUST be maintained as such in perpetuity!!!

Please heed the dire warnings of scientists & environmentalists & PROTECT THESE CRITICAL LANDS from further destruction wrought by livestock!!

Thank you,