

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/16/2021 6:24:42 PM

First name: Brigitta

Last name: Nagy

Organization: Brigitta Nagy

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern -

If the Forest Service wishes to amend its directives, the Forest Service MUST undertake a more comprehensive rulemaking process that complies with the National Environmental Policy Act.

This proposal runs directly counter to the current Administration's 30x30 land conservation agenda by sacrificing what could be protected lands to the commercial livestock industry.

The Rangeland Management Directives have the potential to significantly affect millions of acres of public land, including Wilderness, where livestock grazing is fundamentally at odds with the mandate of the Wilderness Act that Wilderness remain "untrammeled." Policies must be developed that ensure the Forest Service will maintain authority for grazing management decisions and hold grazing permittees accountable for the impacts their livestock has on public lands.

Livestock grazing on National Forests, including millions of acres of Wilderness, significantly degrades our public lands. Impacts from grazing must be fully examined and addressed through a transparent, public process that complies with federal laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act.

Any revisions to Forest Service grazing policies should encourage and prioritize voluntary grazing permit retirement to reduce permitted livestock grazing across the National Forest system, including within Wilderness, so as to protect Wilderness, other public lands, and wildlife. The FS should not return grazing to the excessive levels permitted in the 1960s when it is clear conditions oftentimes cannot support increased, or even current, grazing levels.

As someone who grew up adjacent to overgrazed public lands, I know how ruinous commercial grazing can be for the land. The Forest Service must do the right thing for Wilderness, other public lands, and wildlife by dropping its proposed Rangeland Management Directives.

Thank you.