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Comments: I'm writing comments to you as a citizen very concerned about proposed changes to the grazing directives and all management of grazing on National Forests and wilderness areas in the lower 48 states as well as the current directives (or increases) put in place by the former Trump administration. I lived in Montana for over 28 years and I do understand many of the controversies concerning land management.

For all the reasons listed below, the proposed Rangeland Management Directives should be immediately DROPPED.

In our democracy it is VITAL that all citizens have the ability to comment on and address this and all other management issues through a completely transparent public process that include NEPA.

I believe there are approximately 8 million acres being grazed by sheep and cattle on public lands, with over 2 million acres being unallocated and unused. To allow grazing on all these lands runs counter to almost any idea of true wilderness and was certainly never the intention of the 1964 Wilderness Act authors as the Act stated lands should remain "untrammelled". Grazing can often do irreparable damage to these lands, and I have seen such damage myself, in person. In light of the current state of climate change and extreme drought being experienced in the west where most of these lands are located we must TAKE EVERYTHING WE KNOW INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN IT COMES TO MANAGEMENT. Clearly, our wilderness and public lands CANNOT continue to be used for grazing as they have in the past and grazing CERTAINLY SHOULD NOT BE EXPANDED AT ALL!! Due to the climate conditions we are now experiencing, we MUST be much more protective of ALL these lands to the fullest extent of our ability and part of that means grazing SHOULD BE VASTLY CURTAILED AND PHASED OUT, certainly NOT allowed to expand, not now, not ever!

ANYONE using any public lands for grazing should also absolutely be held accountable for how their allotments are utilized and managed. Violators of the rules should NEVER be allowed to get away with abusing the law or simply being a poor manager of public lands as has happened in the past! GRAZING ON PUBLIC LANDS and/or WILDERNESS LANDS IS A TRUE PRIVILEGE AND NO ONE IS ABOVE THE LAW IN THIS MATTER!

Land managers and biologists possess much more scientific knowledge now than in years past as to what is actually a safe, productive way to manage lands, certainly when it comes to grazing. Impacts to public lands used for grazing, which are often VERY negative, are much more clearly understood than in past years. These damaging effects of grazing OFTEN INCLUDE reduced forage and the displacement of many native species, the obvious spread of invasive weeds, damage and destruction of riparian and other crucial habitats, increased erosion of land and stream beds, degraded soils and much degraded water. These and other negative effects clearly inhibit and degrade the lands for nearly all plant and wildlife species and that is absolutely unacceptable! ALL threatened and/or endangered species must be given priority over ANY grazing on public lands so their recovery is never in jeopardy.

There are obviously much better ways to truly protect these lands than are currently being used and I strongly recommend we begin to use them immediately. OBJECTIVE SCIENCE SHOULD BE UTILIZED AND PREVAIL IN ANY DECISIONS CONCERNING WILDERNESS OR PUBLIC LANDS AND THIS INCLUDED GRAZING! This would be for the betterment of everyone concerned and is simply the right thing to do!!

PLEASE DROP THE PROPOSED RANGELAND MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVES AND START OVER! THANK YOU!