

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/16/2021 9:47:09 PM

First name: Jim

Last name: Cane

Organization: Cane, Jim

Title:

Comments: Dear Folks- in understand the need to update management regulations on National Forests, but aspects of the revised Rangeland Management Directives are a step backward, not forward. Here in the Bear River Range, we have examples of both responsible ranchers, incl a 3rd generation sheep man who always has a shepherd out with is sheep, moves them daily to new pasture, and walks different routes in different years. Contrast that with some awful practices on a neighboring allotment, where cows commonly wallow in every springhead, break down stream banks, and they are so overstocked that they even chew down unpalatable elderberry shrubs to nubs. There is no cowboy oversight, and come fall, we have had a cowboy inquire if "we had seen his cattle"!

I recommend that the USFS allow the retirement of allotments so that those watersheds can be helped along to recover, or can be used in a rest rotation scheme. I'd also suggest that grazing in Wilderness areas be more strictly supervised for impacts on those sensitive plant communities. If the USFS wants to be pro-active, then recognize that droughts are becoming worse and business as usual for grazing needs to be throttled back, not stocked more. I work with native forbs favored by wild bees, and there are a number of species that persist where cattle grazing ceased several decades ago. That is indicative of overgrazing.