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Comments: The Forest Service must do the right thing for Wilderness, other public lands, and wildlife by dropping its proposed Rangeland Management Directives.

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. 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."

"In Wildness Is The Preservation Of The World" - Thoreau

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.

"I Wonder If we Have Enough Reverence for Life to Concede to Wilderness the Right to Live On" - Margaret Murie

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.

"It is not enough to UNDERSTAND the natural world. The point is to DEFEND and preserve it" - Edward Abbey

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 and must develop policies that ensure the agency will maintain authority for grazing management decisions and hold grazing permittees accountable for the impacts their livestock has on public lands. The recovery of imperiled or threatened species needs to be prioritized on National Forests and livestock grazing managed so as not to jeopardize species' recovery.

Increasing grazing would not only fuel livestock grazing's contribution to the climate and biodiversity crises, but would sacrifice what could be protected lands to the commercial livestock industry. The people say NO!