

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/17/2021 2:45:55 AM

First name: kay

Last name: levin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please drop the proposed revisions in the Rangeland Management Directive that expands grazing in National Forests.

Grazing is incompatible with wilderness and should be prohibited in designated Wilderness Areas.

Livestock grazing produces significant negative impacts, including water pollution, degraded soils, spread of invasive species, damage to native vegetation, destruction of riparian and other important habitats, reduced forage for and displacement of native wildlife. The entire revision process of the Rangeland Management Directive, must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, and thus include assessments of the above listed negative impacts.

Instead of the proposed enormous expansion of grazing, Forest Service should be preserving public land by encouraging voluntary grazing permit retirement to reduce permitted livestock grazing across the National Forest system. Any public land management policy must also ensure that permit holders compensate the public for degradation of ecosystems caused by their activities.

The proposed expansion of grazing on public lands is unacceptable. Forest Service should overhaul its Rangeland Management Directive such that it is consistent with President Biden's commitment to protect 30% of U.S. land and coastal seas by 2030.