

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/17/2021 4:19:18 AM

First name: shana

Last name: kelly

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am extremely concerned regarding the significant impact livestock grazing will have on millions of acres of public land; including Wilderness. Livestock grazing is fundamentally at odds with the mandate of the Wilderness Act that Wilderness remain "untrammeled."

Further, grazing in National Forests, significantly degrades our public and impacts should 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 Forest Service 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, as well as impacts on the wild animals, some of which are protected by the ESA. 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. Unfortunately, these same threatened species are those blamed for animal / livestock conflict, when the livestock is on public land.

This leftover Trump administration proposal to increase grazing would not only fuel livestock grazing's contribution to the climate and biodiversity crises, but runs directly counter to the Biden Administration's 30x30 land conservation agenda by sacrificing what could be protected lands to the commercial livestock industry.

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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter!