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Title:

Comments: I OPPOSE the Rangeland Management Directives as they have the potential to significantly and negatively 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."

It's time to starting retiring and reducing grazing allotments as cattle and sheep are destroying the landscape as they are non-native species. Due to the overuse of these lands by the ranching industry, native wild animals like Yellowstone bison and wild horses and burros are used as a scapegoat and are routinely blamed for the lands being overgrazed. Wild horses and burros continue to be cruelly rounded up at an alarming rate, and Yellowstone buffalo are hunted and slaughtered every year to keep the ranching industry happy as they refuse to share our public lands with the animals who actually belong there. Our public lands belong to the American people and the vast majority believe the wild animals should be allowed to roam freely on them, and are tired of our tax dollars being use to remove them. Ranchers continue to graze their livestock for pennies on the dollar and it's frustrating that the USFS doesn't seem to want to change or update this antiquated and pro-rancher/anti-wildlife directive.

I agree with the bullet points listed below:

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