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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The monopoly that the cattle industry has on the decisions about grazing has to stop now.

Otherwise, your organization has become an arm of that industry in a similar manner that the timber industry came to control decisions about how to utilize our national forests in the 1900's. Those lands are not owned by the cattle owners, but they are owned by all of the citizens in the US and this favoritism to a particular group has to stop or you in the agency are not fulfilling your oath and responsibility to the American people. Complicating this scenario is the fact that we have overused habitat across our nation and really around the world to the extent that we are wiping out species at a significantly exaggerated rate. These conditions must be considered in the formula for making the decisions about how to use our public lands. The former model of placing priority on grazing has led to the unenviable position we are now in. We need to restrict the use of lands for grazing far more than we have in the past to allow the preservation of natural habitat for other species to have a chance to survive. Yes, it may cause food prices to go up and our standard of living to go down, but that is exactly what needs to happen. We have been living too high on the hog for too long and ignoring the hidden costs that continue to grow in the environment. These proposals to expand grazing rights are going in precisely the wrong direction. You need to do your duty and make the hard decisions to deny proposals that increase grazing rights and show some backbone and stand up to the cattlemen's associations! It is well past the time to do the right thing and as employees of the US government you have a responsibility to do the right thing and not to heed the beck and call of the powerful commercial interests who put pressure on you to make decisions that benefit them!