Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/18/2021 2:38:01 AM First name: J. Last name: Ruckdeschel Organization:

Title:

Comments: The fact is, 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 recovery of imperiled or threatened species needs to be prioritized on National Forests and livestock grazing managed so as not to jeopardize species' recovery.

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.

I encourage the Forest Service to do the right thing for Wilderness, other public lands, and wildlife by dropping its proposed Rangeland Management Directives.