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Comments: I am a native of San Luis Obispo County and an expert on California native plants with a longstanding interest in the flora of the Santa Barbara County backcountry. I care deeply about the vegetation and flora of the Los Padres National Forest and the San Rafael Wilderness and am concerned that the draft environmental assessment (EA) for the Porter, Pine Canyon, and South Fork La Brea Allotments Project is woefully insufficient. After 13 years since the project was first announced, the draft EA appears rushed and incomplete.

I ask that your agency go back to the drawing board to analyze additional alternatives to the proposed action. These should include at least one alternative that would have a lower maximum number of livestock allowed in each of the three allotments, especially where they overlap the San Rafael Wilderness and designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog and steelhead.

Your agency should also commit to releasing all of the environmental analysis documents being relied upon before or at the beginning of the public comment period for a new draft EA. Myself and other stakeholders are unable to fully understand the basis for many of the findings in the current draft EA due to so many referenced documents being withheld from public consumption.