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Title:

Comments: Please do not allow domestic sheep grazing in the High Uintas wilderness area.

This alpine wilderness area should be dedicated to its native wildlife. If any livestock grazing is allowed, it should be very limited so as to not compete with wildlife for food or space or to spread disease to native species. Grazing should be curtailed to meet the public's interest in protecting the High Uintas for wildlife and an authentic Wilderness experience for visitors.

Grazing by domestic sheep and cows compromises the High Uintas watersheds, fouls the lakes and streams, and severely degrades the experience of visitors seeking a Wilderness experience.

First and foremost, native bighorn sheep need protection. Their population is in jeopardy, and domestic sheep grazing is incompatible with recovering native bighorn sheep population. If domestic sheep grazing remains in the High Uintas, the native bighorn sheep are likely doomed.

Killing native predators to protect sheep or cows should be strictly prohibited if domestic livestock grazing is allowed to continue. Killing predators severely compromises the natural order of things and ecosystems and throws everything out of balance. The SDEIS fails to disclose how many native predators-such as black bears, mountain lions, or coyotes-are killed in the High Uintas Wilderness to protect domestic sheep. The SDEIS also fails to disclose the effects continued sheep grazing has on the potential for recovering native wildlife such as wolves and grizzly bears.

Support the no grazing option as it is best for the wildlife, watersheds, recreation, and the Wilderness. At the very least, the Forest Service should close any sheep grazing allotment if the permit is waived back to the Forest Service.?