Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/22/2023 6:38:23 PM

First name: Joanne Last name: Lowery Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am concerned that The High Uintas Mountains in Utah are being overgrazed by domestic sheep at the expense of native bighorn sheep and predators. The High Uintas Wilderness should be dedicated to its native wildlife without competition from livestock grazing which could spread disease to native wildlife.

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. Grazing should be curtailed to meet the public's interest in protecting the High Uintas for wildlife and an authentic Wilderness experience for visitors and is incompatible with recovering native bighorn sheep population. The bighorn sheep populations must be protected and given priority.

Killing native predators to protect sheep or cows should be prohibited if domestic livestock grazing is allowed to continue. 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.

I urge you to eliminate sheep or cows from this area and support Wilderness proposals in managing this land. At the very least, the Forest Service should close any sheep grazing allotment if the permit is waived back to the Forest Service.?