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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To: The U.S. Forest Service Chief Randy Moore.

Dear Chief Moore

To whom this may concern,

As a concerned citizen and an environmentalist, I would like to submit a comment on your purposed Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS). Your proposal is to continue the status quo on the High Uintas Mountain, range in Northeastern Utah, by allowing the grazing of domestic sheep, and cattle.

The High Uintas has more livestock grazing on it than any other wilderness in the country. Years of extensive grazing by domestic sheep has not only displaced native wildlife species like: Bear, Big horn Sheep, Coyotes, and Mountain Lions. The SDEIS report fails to disclose how many predators are being killed just to protect domestic sheep instead of removing the sheep. Sheep also have spoiled the landscape, compromising water quality, and negatively impacting visitors seeking solitude and an authentic wilderness experience.

I am urging you to reverse your decision to allow domestic sheep to continue to use the High Uintas Mountains range for grazing. By continuing the status quo, you are not only upsetting the balance of nature in this wilderness country where the native species are being pushed to the brink of extinction due to habitat destruction and Big Horn Sheep are also being exposed to diseases that are being carried by the domestic sheep.

If continued livestock grazing should continue it should be limited so as not to compete with wildlife for food or space or to spread disease to native species. The High Uintas is a vacation destination for people seeking a true wildlife experience. By allowing grazing of sheep and cattle you compromise the High Uintas watershed, fouling the streams, lakes and severely degrading the experience of visitors searching for that true wilderness experience.

In conclusion, I support a no grazing option as it is the best for wildlife, watersheds, recreation, and the Wilderness. Barring that the Forest Service can at least close any sheep grazing allotment if the permit is waived back to the Forest Service.

Thank you for considering my opinion and I thank you ahead of time for both the time it took to read this, and your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Mr. Harry E. Battista

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