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Comments: I strongly support the NO GRAZING alternative in the SDEIS. I have spent time studying and working on domestic sheep issues, first as a scientist and now as an attorney. It is abundantly clear that domestic sheep are incompatible with wilderness and public lands and do not belong in the High Uintas Wilderness and adjacent areas.

1) Domestic sheep carry disease that is nearly always fatal to bighorn sheep populations if the two species come into contact. It is nearly impossible to ensure that contact will not occur. When disease is transmitted, it can decimate bighorn populations, which has impacts that last decades and impacts long term viability of bighorn populations.

2) Shooting wildlife when they come into contact with domestic sheep is not a reliable means of mitigating risks and is fundamentally incompatible with regulatory directives to protect wildlife. Killing native predators to protect sheep or cows should be prohibited if domestic livestock grazing is allowed to continue. The SDEIS should have disclosed how many native predators-such as black bears, mountain lions, or coyotes-are killed in the High Uintas Wilderness to protect domestic sheep and the effects continued sheep grazing has on the potential for recovering native wildlife such as wolves and grizzly bears.

3) Domestic sheep degrade fragile high alpine ecosystems and compete with native wildlife populations by consuming vegetation that would otherwise support wildlife. They also negatively impact visitor and recreation experiences. I have had experiences coming into contact with large herds of domestic sheep in high alpine environments and it is truly incompatible with the pristine wilderness experience. 3) I have studied and spent significant time with domestic sheep herds on public lands. Sheep herders are in charge of numerous sheep, cannot reliably track them, and strays are a frequent occurrence. (Often, herders are unaware that domestic sheep have strayed.) Livestock guard dogs, which are utilized and relied on, are often

I support no grazing option because 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.?