Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/23/2023 4:56:51 PM First name: Jerald Last name: Vinikoff Organization: Title:

Comments: It is somewhat dismaying to learn of one unsound Wilderness proposal after another. With all of the environmentally detrimental events that we have seen and continue to see, where is the recognition?

I live in upstate New York. We have the highly protected Adirondack Park wild forest preserve. Even without industrial or Big Ag harms, it is suffering from overuse simply due to too many hikers on the trails.

How much worse are the proposals that I see for Wildernesses out West.

The U.S. Forest Service should should end grazing in the High Uintas Wilderness in order to protect native wildlife, restore the degraded watershed, and enhance opportunities for an increasingly rare Wilderness experience. To mitigate impacts to the few affected ranchers, the Forest Service should decide to retire grazing permits that are voluntarily waived back to the agency, giving the ranchers the opportunity to seek compensation from conservation interests before the allotments are permanently closed.??

Using this unique (for its diversity of plant and animal life in this type of area) for domestic livestock grazing and all of its associated harms is a tragedy. We must give way to native Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and allow their population(s) once again to flourish where they belong. We must also allow natural predators to remain where nature put them.