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First name: John Last name: Herbert Organization:

Title:

Comments: The High Uintas Wilderness is a unique habitat and should be reserved for its native plants and wildlife and human backpackers. Livestock grazing damages or destroys wilderness habitats and takes food and space from and spreads disease to native species.

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 phased out to meet the public's interest in protecting the High Uintas for wildlife and an authentic Wilderness experience for visitors.

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 prohibited. 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.

The no grazing option is best for the wildlife, watersheds, recreation, and the Wilderness. The Forest Service should close all sheep grazing allotments if permits are waived back to the Forest Service as grazing is phased out.