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Comments: As a wildlife scientist, and daughter of a rancher, I am writing in support of the "no grazing" option for this project. This option is best for the wildlife, watersheds, recreation, and the ecosystem as a whole of the High Uintas. 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 ecological resilience. The High Uintas wilderness should be dedicated to its native wildlife. To the extent livestock grazing is allowed, it should be limited so as to not compete with wildlife for food or space or to spread disease to native species. 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.

And crucially, 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.

The High Uintas is a special place and critical habitat for native species, and domestic sheep have no business being in that place.

No matter what, the Forest Service should close any sheep grazing allotment if the permit is waived back to the Forest Service.?

Thank you,  
Jennifer Davison