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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing this objection letter due to the recent decision on the Flat Canyon Allotment. I feel that your recent decision was done very poorly and didn't think of all the consequences it would have to the people. First thing is we have a piece of property right across the freeway that we put our rams in during the late spring early summer. Bighorn sheep and domestic sheep are not supposed to be somewhat next to each other. It is to protect domestic sheep and

BigHorn Sheep. Second, we run our sheep in Sevier County during all seasons winter, spring, summer and fall which is a very big concern for both domestic sheep and Bighorn Sheep. Another concern I have is you truly have not done research on the surrounding areas of the allotment. I know right now that there are 2 different ranches that trail sheep on the Pavahant Mountain Range. One person trails them over Clear Creek to the West Desert. The other literally goes right by the Flat Canyon Allotment with his herd of sheep through the fall from going from fields all the way by Aurora to Monroe. Using the canal easement. We have used it in the past as well. People have been using this canal easement for some time. A concern also I have was in your recent report you said there is a limit of water. How are BigHorn Sheep gonna make a living during late spring, summer and fall. One thing you said was that it would be best suited for cows how is that the case when you cut all these AUMs out. If it is best suited for cows there shouldn't be such a lot of AUMs. The simple reason why there is such a loss of AUMs is because it is best suited for sheep. I am amazed at how fast you were able to do the NEPO study on this. It seemed very fast. I know of other NEPO studies that started before this NEPO study and are still going. I feel how this whole current decision has come about is very sneaky and that there might be some personal interests in the Forest Service side. Sevier County has a policy in coordinating with the county on converting permits. You misrepresented that to the county because the only reason they were okay with the conversion is because you said there were no interested people with sheep. That was mislead to the County because you had applicants interested. The state also has a policy in turning AUMs in for more wildlife. If you look at the history of the Permit they were converting cows to sheep for a reason. I am a true believer that if you start converting and changing allotments like this you are opening up a mess that I believe will be hard to contain. There was a reason why that was sheep country. I hope you take in my concerns and really think about it. I know that changing that to cattle and putting Big Horn on Flat Canyon Allotment is very wrong. There are sheep producers in Sevier County still and herds of sheep that come here for the fall feed from the fields.