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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I wrote a Comment Letter during the comment period but emailed it to Brian Monroe.

I am very concerned with the recent decision on the Flat Canyon Allotment. There are some issues that you have not address well or consider. There is a huge AUM loss, Sevier County has a policy in coordinating with the county before conversion of permits, EA misleading the preference there were no people with sheep who applied, Utah states policy on using AUMs for conversion of wildlife, people that trail and have sheep by the Flat Canyon Allotment, and some strange things happening in the Forest Service side.

In the EA you stated that the Flat Canyon Allotment was best suited for cows. How is this the case? If this allotment is best suited for cows why is there such a loss in AUMs. Also you stated theres very little water. How is having cows on Flat Canyon from May to October increase water. What are the cows going to drink? If there's little water in the winter. What are they going to drink in the summer. There's a huge loss of AUMs in this conversion because this allotment is not best suited for cows but sheep instead.

Sevier County has a policy where any permit converting needs to be coordinated with the county. You mislead the County of this conversion. The County's concern was if there was any on with sheep interested in the permit. You mislead them and told them there was nobody.

In the EA you miss lead the preference saying there were nobody interested in the permit with sheep. This is not true. There were 4 applicants who applied. Which goes back to the Sevier County concern's.

Utah State has a policy in not allowing any AUMs being used for the increase of wildlife. This is concern with such the AUM loss in conversion to cows. Where are all these other AUMs going. There are other organizations that believe there is going to the introduction of Bighorn sheep on the Flat Canyon Allotment. If this is the case that is against Utah States policy's.

There are some organizations that believe this permit is going to have Bighorn sheep on the Flat Canyon Allotment. This is a huge concern. There are 2 individuals right now that trail sheep by the Flat Canyon Allotment. One individual trails them through Clear Creek to the West Desert. The other individual uses a canal easement right by the Flat Canyon Allotment. I have also use this canal easement to trail my sheep. I have a piece of deeded ground right across the freeway by the Flat Canyon Allotment That I put my bucks in during the late spring and early summer. I also always have sheep in Sevier County all the time winter, spring, summer, and fall. This is a huge concern for me because there are organizations that believe there would be an introduction of Bighorn sheep on the Flat Canyon Allotment. You are suppose to keep Bighorn and domestic sheep from cohabitating with each other. It is for the benefit of both domestic and bighorn sheep from passing diseases to each other.

My last concern is how the Forest Service has conducted themselves through this whole process. The NEPA study was very fast. I know of other NEPA studies that have began before this and are still happening. The misleading of people. The policies that seemed to be mislead. Organizations that have been mislead. It seems like the Forest Service or someone in the Forest Service stands to benefit. I believe this is very true.

I am very concern that you have not considered all the impacts this would have on the people, sheep producers, and cattle producers with such a loss of AUMs. I hope you reconsider and relook this better and consider everything this would affect.

