



*“Voice of the Western Slope since 1953”*  
*A coalition of counties, communities, businesses & individuals*

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(970) 242-3264 ★ FAX (970) 245-8300  
P.O. Box 550 ★ Grand Junction, CO 81502-0550  
[www.club20.org](http://www.club20.org)

**PL 02 4**  
**Livestock Grazing on Public Lands**

**WHEREAS:** Properly managed livestock grazing is compatible with and promotes wildfire mitigation, biological diversity, open space, species conservation, enhanced wildlife habitat and land resource protection; and

**WHEREAS:** The livestock industry is integral to the economy, custom and culture of western communities dependent upon public rangelands; and

**WHEREAS:** Blanket proposals have surfaced which promote the removal of livestock grazing from public rangelands in Colorado; and

**WHEREAS:** wild ungulates have significant impacts on the public rangelands; and

**WHEREAS:** CLUB 20 and the state of Colorado have a longstanding tradition of supporting the resolution of difficult issues in a cooperative and collaborative manner, rather than a radical wholesale elimination of a basic culture and an important industry;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that CLUB 20 opposes any proposals to eliminate livestock grazing as an accepted use of public lands or to remove specific livestock grazing that complies with existing resource management plans and encourages the state of Colorado, the Colorado Congressional delegation and the administration to oppose proposals to remove livestock grazing from public lands; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that CLUB 20 believes any efforts to reduce grazing impacts on public lands must also recognize the contribution which the increasing population of wild ungulates makes to such impacts and provide appropriate management prescriptions to address these wildlife impacts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that CLUB 20 supports the concept of allowing grazing permittees and land management agencies to enter into flexible incentive-based “stewardship contracts” that reward good management with increased stocking rates; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, in recognition of the positive contribution that well-managed public lands livestock grazing makes to local economies and the environment, CLUB 20 believes that any reductions in, or removal of, livestock grazing should be temporary in nature and only allowed for the purpose of improving the rangeland so as to better provide a future condition more suitable for livestock grazing, or to provide additional drought forage supplies that support a related active grazing unit (the “non-use” status should not be authorized simply to remove or restrict livestock numbers on a permanent basis); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that CLUB 20 supports the use of “common grazing allotments” to provide for reserve forage supplies, but only if the stated intent of such allotments is for the purpose of sustaining a critical mass of livestock grazing (as opposed to simply providing a means to permanently reduce or remove livestock grazing); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that CLUB 20 supports agreements between land management agencies and grazing permittees that would allow permittees to temporarily convert their livestock use to other non-traditional management approaches that accomplish desired land management objectives and preserve the opportunity for future livestock use; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that CLUB 20 believes agreements between a land management agency and the permittees, which result in changes in historic grazing use for the benefit of T&E species, should contain “safe harbor” provisions (similar to those afforded by the Federal Government to private landowners) that prohibit the agency from unilaterally abandoning such agreements in the future.

**Adopted September 6, 2002.**

***Amended September 5, 2003.***

***Renewed April 3, 2009***