

**A One-Page Guide to
Your Aug 11-Sept 29, 2014
Opportunity to Tell the Forest Service What You Know and Think About
Livestock Damage on the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal National Forests**

The Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal NFs have finally begun a process to amend their 29-year old forest plans for livestock grazing. The first step they are taking is to review livestock grazing effects on the three forests and they are asking **YOU** to “share information you may have about this subject” by **September 29, 2014**.

Here is a step-by-step guide to how you can help (and your help **IS** needed):

1. Read the Forest Service’s [Public Letter](#) encouraging you to submit photos and other information about livestock impacts on the three forests (specifically, riparian vegetation; lakes, ponds, springs, and wetlands; stream channel habitat; and sagebrush grasslands), as well as “information about social, economic, and ecological values relevant to these ecosystems and the use of these ecosystems for livestock grazing.”
2. Read the Forest Service’s [Initial Review of Livestock Grazing Effects on Select Ecosystem of the Dixie, Fishlake and Manti-La Sal National Forests](#). It is far more candid than usual for the Forest Service.
3. Here’s an unfortunate limit the Forest Service has placed on their request for information: They should also have included **meadows, grasslands, and the understory grasses, forbs, and shrubs of forests** (e.g., aspen, ponderosa pine) as habitats of concern. In reality, most cattle-use areas of less than 15% slope (and many of greater slope) are overgrazed, as long as livestock can get to them. There is no reason to limit concerns about current livestock grazing on the three forests to riparian vegetation, wetlands, stream channels, and sagebrush.
4. **Submit photos** (e.g., on a CD or DVD, on a pdf, or embedded as a Google link within your email) **and comments on social, economic, and ecological values** relevant to the use of the three forests for livestock grazing to:

grazingassessment@fs.fed.us

or by mail to

Attn: John Zapell Fishlake National Forest;
115 E 900 N; Richfield, UT 84701

or by fax

435.896-9347.

5. **Sign up for future notices** of how you can participate in this process of amending the three forests’ plans for grazing by emailing Mary O’Brien of Grand Canyon Trust at maryobrien10@gmail.com or direct mail at HC64 Box 2604; Castle Valley, UT 84532. We will put you on our list of people interested in this amendment process, because it is likely to take at least two years, with additional steps, and we ALL need to hang in there to the end.

For some easy-to-read background on this process, see [Three New Forest Plans](#) on the Grand Canyon Trust’s website.

SUMMARY: If you have ever seen damage to the Dixie, Fishlake, and/or Manti-La Sal National Forests due to livestock use; and/or you have comments on the social, economic, and ecological values relevant to livestock grazing on these three forests, **YOUR PHOTOS AND/OR INFORMATION ARE IMPORTANT**. Please start on this ASAP so you’ve helped by or before September 29.