

Manti-La Sal NF Forest Plan Revision Assessment Information

The resource concerns noted by the Forest Service in *Initial Review of Livestock Grazing Effects on Select Ecosystems of the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti La Sal National Forests (August 2014)* are widespread on the Manti-La Sal NF and ecologically significant

**Grand Canyon Trust
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Significant Issue

In its August 2014 *Initial Review of Livestock Grazing Effects on Select Ecosystems of the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti La Sal National Forests*, the Forest Service acknowledged numerous resource concerns frequently observed in relation to livestock use of five particular habitats on the three forests:

- riparian and aquatic ecosystems
- lakes, ponds, springs, and wetlands
- physical stream channel habitat
- aspen
- sagebrush grasslands

The 30 types of resource concerns noted in that *Initial Review* are not a complete list, nor is the list of habitat types exhibiting livestock-related resource concerns complete, but the *Initial Review* provides an accurate assessment that will need to be fully analyzed in the forest plan revision DEIS.

These resource conditions constitute a significant issue due to:

1. Depletion of native vegetation populations and diversity
2. Consequent depletion of wildlife populations and diversity
3. Soil erosion
4. Water concerns: compromised hydrology, water quality, water quantity
5. Irreversibility in some cases (e.g., monocultures of smooth brome)

Information Provided for the Assessment Phase

1. Grand Canyon Trust. 2016. [An Illustration of Forest Service Resource Concerns: Photos on Manti-La Sal NF](#)
2. Grand Canyon Trust. 2016. [Rocky Mountain iris \(*Iris missouriensis*\): Unpalatable increaser](#)

3. Forest Service. 2014. [Initial Review of Livestock Grazing Effects on Select Ecosystems of the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti La Sal National Forests](#)

Assessment in the Draft EIS

The Draft EIS needs to describe resource conditions that have been found by the Forest Service to be associated with the multiple use of livestock grazing in particular habitats throughout the Manti-La Sal NF.

In addition, the Draft EIS needs to describe additional resource concerns in additional habitats, as noted in “An Illustration of Forest Service Resource Concerns: Photos on Manti-La Sal NF” and “Rocky Mountain iris (*Iris missouriensis*): Unpalatable increaser”