

From: Katie Fite
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2009 10:43 AM
To: Palensky, Lynn
Subject: Comment on ISRP Report, ISRP 2009-17

Dear NW Council and Ms. Palensky,

Western Watersheds Project requests that the Council discontinue funding any and all activities of Washington State and WDFW related to the Pilot Grazing Program and cattle grazing activities in the Asotin and Pintler areas. See Cattle Grazing activities in Council info pasted below. This program to date has been an environmental disaster. It has imposed cattle on lands that had been free from grazing for significant periods, and/or that had been purchased for wildlife, not a private cattle operation. It has fragmented and destroyed wildlife and rare plant habitat and ripped apart watersheds (including through building fences to keep cows into WDFW lands and digging into and destroying wild land springs solely for cattle water “development”).

Further, it appears that one of the current reviewers has a conflict of interest since that person is receiving funding to monitor damage of this grazing activity.

We request a tour with Council members responsible for funding this to date – so you can see first hand all the problems grazing and projects funded by the Council here has already created.

The grazing activities are irreversibly DESTROYING habitats and promoting rampant spread of noxious weeds in steelhead and *Silene spaldingii* watersheds.

Please also bring this matter to the attention of the Directors of the Council. It is highly controversial and destroys rather than enhances habitat.

Sincerely,

Katie Fite
Western Watersheds Project
PO Box 2863
Boise, ID 83701