

Prominent Grazing Permit Revoked in Wyoming

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On August 26, the US Forest Service (USFS) canceled Kane Land and Livestock's grazing permit in Wyoming's Big Horn National Forest. The Kane family is one of the original permittees in the area and began livestock grazing in 1905. The action is only the third cancellation of a grazing permit on the Big Horn National Forest since the USFS was created.

"We began documenting Kane L&L's grazing practices in 2000," reported a USFS spokesperson. "The operation was cut by 40 percent before the 2001 grazing season, and then again before the 2002 season, for exceeding allowable use standards."

Until he came under scrutiny from the USFS, Charles Kane maintained a high profile in the livestock industry. He resigned as president of the Big Horn National Forest Grazing Permittees Association when the USFS began to take action on his grazing permits.

Livestock grazing on public lands has led to soil erosion, the siltation of rivers and the destruction of habitat vital to endangered plants and animals.

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