

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS GRAZING CAMPAIGN

NPLGC Goals and Plan

The National Public Lands Grazing Campaign is a multi-year, multi-organization strategy to end abusive livestock grazing on the nation's public lands. A steering committee representative of public lands grazing activists and organizations across the West is coordinating the NPLGC. The Campaign seeks to (a) educate the American people of the ecological, economic and fiscal impacts of public lands livestock grazing; (b) fully enforce environmental law to end abusive livestock grazing and/or hold public grazing permittees accountable for their activity; and (c) amend federal law to allow for the voluntary retirement of federal grazing permits for \$175 per animal unit month. If voluntary permit buyout legislation is enacted, livestock grazing can be ended for an average of \$13.45 for each acre in the program.

1. Public Education

Most of the American public does not realize that livestock grazing in the arid West has caused more damage than the chainsaw and bulldozer combined. One of the educational activities of the National Public Lands Grazing Campaign is to promote and distribute *Welfare Ranching: The Subsidized Destruction of the American West*, a seven-pound book featuring 346 pages of articles and photographs by expert authors and photographers on the severe negative impacts of livestock grazing on western public lands.

2. Enforcement and Accountability

Current federal environmental law, when properly administered, requires less or even no grazing on public lands. These laws include, but are not limited to: the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, National Forest Management Act, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. NPLGC member organizations and others are increasing their law enforcement efforts under these laws and others through administrative appeals, litigation and species listing efforts.

3. Legislative and/or Administrative Reform

The NPLGC is advocating for legislation to allow federal grazing permittees and lessees to voluntarily retire their grazing permits and leases--and permanently close the associated allotments to grazing use--in exchange for \$175 per animal unit month. (Due to the magnitude of ongoing subsidies to federal grazing programs, the taxpayers will greatly benefit by this proposal.) NPLGC is also seeking legislative reform to allow third parties to facilitate permanent permit retirement.

For complete information about the National Public Lands Grazing Campaign and voluntary federal grazing permit buyout respectively, please visit www.publiclandsranching.org and www.permitbuyout.net.