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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

Neighbors of the Mogollon Rim, Inc.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

United States Forest Service;
United States Fish and Wildlife Service,

Federal Defendants.

No. CV-20-00328-PHX-DLR

**PLAINTIFF’S REPLY IN SUPPORT
OF PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
MOTION**

Oral Argument Requested

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INTRODUCTION

1
2 In their response to Plaintiff’s preliminary injunction motion, Federal Defendants
3 mischaracterize the nature of the difficult decision that Plaintiff’s members must make
4 with respect to whether to install fencing. FD PI Resp. (ECF No. 48) at 8–10. According
5 to Federal Defendants, the only burden faced by Plaintiff’s members in connection with
6 installing fencing is the burden of “complying with the law,” which cannot amount to
7 irreparable harm. This is incorrect: Plaintiff’s members who choose to put up fencing will
8 not be doing so in order to comply with any law—there *is no law* requiring fencing—but
9 rather to protect against the likely irreparable harm flowing from the Forest Service’s
10 flawed decision to authorize grazing on the Colcord/Turkey Pasture. If this Court denies
11 preliminary relief but ultimately ends up agreeing with Plaintiff that the Forest Service’s
12 decision was unlawful, Plaintiff’s victory will be a somewhat hollow one, as its members
13 will be out thousands of dollars they cannot recover and stuck with fences they do not
14 want. Plaintiff simply asks that its members not be forced to choose between two forms
15 of irreparable harm (paying for unwanted fencing or risking personal injury and property
16 damage) unless and until the Court finds the agency’s decision was lawful.

17 As for the “balance of harms” and “public interest” preliminary injunction factors,
18 Federal Defendants lean heavily on the supposed harm that an injunction would cause to
19 the private interests of the Bar X grazing permittee. FD PI Resp. at 16–17. But Federal
20 Defendants make a number of incorrect assertions and leave out some key facts. For
21 instance, they fail to mention that the permittee’s cattle herd is *larger* this year than it was
22 the last three grazing seasons, giving lie to the claim (one never made by the permittee
23 itself) that the permittee cannot reduce its herd size in response to the current drought.

24 The one year that grazing was allowed on the Colcord/Turkey Pasture, it had
25 seriously deleterious effects on Plaintiff’s members. There is no reason to think that
26 things will be different this summer, which is why many of Plaintiff’s members are
27 considering paying for expensive fencing that they do not want. Those harms outweigh
28 any speculative harm to the permittee or the public, so preliminary relief is appropriate.

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ARGUMENT

I. NO MATTER WHAT THEY CHOOSE TO DO, PLAINTIFF’S MEMBERS ARE LIKELY TO SUFFER IRREPARABLE HARM IF GRAZING IS ALLOWED ON THE COLCORD/TURKEY PASTURE.

A. The Harms Associated With Installing Fencing Are Irreparable.

Federal Defendants argue that any harm flowing from having to install fencing is not irreparable because such fence installation would be mere “compliance with state law.” FD PI Resp. at 8–10. This argument is wrong for at least two reasons.

First, nothing in Arizona law requires Plaintiff’s members to install fencing, so those who choose to install fencing will not be doing so in order to “comply with” any law. The relevant state statute does not require *anything*,¹ but merely “mak[es] fencing a prerequisite to recovering damages from livestock owners” whose livestock trespass on private property. *Carrow Co. v. Lusby*, 804 P.2d 747, 750 (Ariz. 1990). Plaintiff’s members have made clear that they are not installing fencing in order to “comply with state law,” but because they fear physical harm and property damage if they fail to put up fencing. *See, e.g.*, Second Olsson Decl. (ECF No. 46-1) ¶ 7 (“For my part, I have no choice but to put up a fence to protect my family and property.”). For that reason, the cases cited by Federal Defendants for the proposition that costs associated with “following the law” do not ordinarily constitute irreparable harm are simply inapposite.

Second, and even more importantly, it is the Forest Service’s legally flawed decision to open the Colcord/Turkey Pasture to grazing—not any state law—that is ultimately causing some of Plaintiff’s members to make the hard choice to install fencing. The relevant state law has existed for many years, and yet Plaintiff’s members have never installed fencing. Even if the law *required* Plaintiff’s members to install fencing if there is grazing in their area (which it does not), the cost of complying with the state law would still constitute irreparable harm in this case, because the need for compliance has arisen only as a result of the Forest Service’s illegal actions.

¹ Federal Defendants ultimately admit this. *See* FD PI Resp. at 10 (“Plaintiff’s supporters may or may not choose to fence their property . . .”).

1 The situation is similar to *California v. Azar*, where the State of California claimed
2 irreparable economic harm due to the threat that the federal government’s allegedly
3 illegal action would cause women to lose insurance coverage for contraceptives and “turn
4 to state-based [insurance] programs or programs reimbursed by the state.” 911 F.3d 558,
5 572–73, 581 (9th Cir. 2018). On Federal Defendants’ view, this would not be irreparable
6 harm, because California was merely suffering the effects of “complying with” its own
7 laws requiring it to provide contraceptive care to uninsured women. But the Ninth Circuit
8 saw it differently, concluding that California had shown irreparable harm and affirming a
9 preliminary injunction entered by the district court. *Id.* at 581. Under *Azar*, harm
10 connected to installing fencing is irreparable because cattle will be present near Plaintiff’s
11 members’ homes only as a result of the Forest Service’s allegedly illegal actions.

12 At one point, Federal Defendants appear to suggest that Plaintiff cannot show
13 irreparable harm from installing fencing because such fencing is only necessary to
14 prevent damage from “a lawful use of Forest land.” FD PI Resp. at 10. But whether
15 grazing the Colcord/Turkey Pasture is “a lawful use of Forest land” is precisely the merits
16 question at the heart of this case. For purposes of assessing irreparable harm, this Court
17 should assume that Plaintiff is correct about the merits. *See Chaplaincy of Full Gospel*
18 *Churches v. England*, 454 F.3d 290, 303 (D.C. Cir. 2006) (“Within the irreparable harm
19 analysis itself—which assumes, without deciding, that the movant has demonstrated a
20 likelihood that the non-movant’s conduct violates the law—we examine only whether
21 that violation, if true, inflicts irreparable injury.”). Thus, the irreparable harm inquiry is
22 whether an *unlawful* authorization of grazing on the Pasture will lead to harm. As shown
23 by Plaintiff’s opening preliminary injunction memorandum, the answer is plainly “yes.”
24

25 **B. Contrary to Federal Defendants’ Arguments, Irreparable Harm Is**
26 **Likely for Plaintiff’s Members Who Do Not Install Fencing.**

27 Federal Defendants next argue that it is “unlikely” that Plaintiff’s members who
28 do not install fencing will be harmed in the absence of an injunction. FD PI Resp. at 10–
13. Of course, in making this argument, Federal Defendants must try to somehow explain

1 away the events of 2015—the one year in recent history in which grazing occurred on the
2 Colcord/Turkey Pasture. As laid out at length in earlier filings, 2015 saw Plaintiff’s
3 members endure dangerous encounters with cattle, harms to their recreational interests,
4 and other negative impacts from cattle grazing on the Pasture. *See* PI Memo. (ECF No.
5 45) at 3–5; Pl. SJ Memo. (ECF No. 33) at 6–7, 20–23. A repeat of 2015 would clearly
6 lead to likely irreparable harm. *See* PI Memo. at 12–13.

7 Faced with this reality, Federal Defendants attempt several different evasive
8 maneuvers, none of which is convincing. Perhaps most astonishingly, Federal Defendants
9 argue that, because Plaintiff has not claimed that any *actual* physical injury or property
10 damage occurred in 2015, such harms are not likely this summer.² FD PI Resp. at 11–12.
11 This is, to put it bluntly, the inane logic of the drunk driver who managed to make it
12 home without a scratch last time and is now convinced that it is perfectly safe to try
13 again. The fact that several of Plaintiff’s members narrowly avoided physical injury and
14 property damage in 2015 does not mean that such harm is less likely to occur in the
15 future—it means that Plaintiff’s members got lucky. Moreover, even if Plaintiff’s
16 members again get lucky and “only” endure close calls with cattle, the fear and anxiety
17 caused by those experiences would amount to irreparable harm. *See Chalk v. U.S. Dist.*
18 *Ct. C.D. Cal.*, 840 F.2d 701, 709 (9th Cir. 1988).

19 Federal Defendants’ second tactic is to try to distinguish the circumstances in 2015
20 from the circumstances this year. They point out that slightly more cattle were authorized
21 to graze in 2015 than this year. FD PI Resp. at 11. That is true, but cattle will graze the
22 Colcord/Turkey Pasture for longer this year. *Compare* Ex. L (ECF No. 47-2) at 2 (three
23 months in 2021), *with* FS000023Sup (less than two and a half months in 2015). In fact,
24

25 ² Federal Defendants spend an inordinate amount of time arguing that cattle do not pose
26 any more of a threat to the integrity of septic systems than the elk and deer prized by
27 Plaintiff’s members. FD PI Resp. at 12. There is an easy answer to this argument: the
28 average bull elk weighs around 600–800 pounds, the average elk cow weighs around
450–600 pounds, and deer weigh far less, whereas the average mature cow in Arizona
weighs 1,200–1,400 pounds and the average bull even more. *See* Ex. R.

1 the grazing intensity in terms of animal unit months (“AUMs”) will actually be slightly
2 *higher* this year than in 2015: roughly 858 AUMs this year versus 797 AUMs in 2015.

3 Federal Defendants also try to distinguish this year from 2015 by pointing to
4 different weather conditions—specifically, the severity of the current drought. FD PI
5 Resp. at 11. In his declaration, Forest Service employee Jeffrey Sturla states that “there is
6 little if any free water near the subdivisions” this year and speculates that “there may
7 have been scattered water in drainages [in 2015] that allowed cattle to stray further from
8 developed water sources, which allowed some to make it to the communities” Sturla
9 Decl. (ECF No. 49-2) ¶ 11. This speculative attempt to distinguish this year from 2015
10 ignores the fact that both 2015 and 2014 were drought years in the area (albeit not as bad
11 years as now). Ex. S. Moreover, Mr. Sturla’s statement that there is “there is little if any
12 free water near the subdivisions” this year is refuted by Jim Olsson, who has lived in the
13 area for more than 30 years, and by the Forest Service’s own analysis. According to Mr.
14 Olsson, there are several perennial springs located in and near the communities that
15 provide water for wildlife, including Allenbaugh Spring. Third Olsson Decl. (Ex. T)
16 ¶¶ 6–9. This is corroborated by the Forest Service’s own analysis, which identified
17 Allenbaugh Spring and another spring near the communities as two of only seven “key
18 reaches” on the Bar X—that is, “stream channels/springs/riparian areas . . . selected to
19 survey because they are representative, responsive to changes in management, accessible
20 to livestock, and contain key species.” FS006394; *see also* FS001554 (detailed map).

21 Federal Defendants’ third tactic is to baselessly deny the truth of the sworn
22 assertions made by Plaintiff’s members or try to undermine those assertions by offering
23 generalized statements of their own. For instance, Federal Defendants argue that Bar X
24 cattle are not aggressive, making dangerous encounters between humans and cattle
25 unlikely. FD PI Resp. at 12; Hemovich Decl. (ECF No. 49-1) ¶ 9. This might come as
26 news to Jim Olsson, who watched a Bar X bull nearly run over his wife, or Michael
27 Lemon, who was charged by cows on his driveway. First Olsson Decl. (ECF No. 35-1)
28 ¶ 9; Lemon Decl. (ECF No. 46-2) ¶ 7. Similarly, Federal Defendants suggest that cattle

1 do not and are not likely to drive away elk, deer, and other wildlife from the area, calling
 2 Plaintiff’s claims to the contrary “unsupported.” FD PI Resp. at 13. But multiple sworn
 3 declarations—based on personal observations³—recount how elk and deer were driven
 4 away from the area surrounding the Colcord and Ponderosa communities in 2015. *See,*
 5 *e.g.,* Lemon Decl. ¶ 6 (“I recall in [2015], when the cattle were in, that we did not see
 6 much of the deer—they basically disappeared.”). This is consistent with the history of the
 7 Bar X: grazing drove away elk, deer, and turkey in the 1970s, and those species did not
 8 make a comeback until grazing was drastically reduced. SOF (ECF No. 34) ¶¶ 22, 29.

9 Finally, Federal Defendants argue that any risk of harm will be reduced by
 10 “additional mitigation measures” that the permittee has agreed to implement which will
 11 supposedly lessen the likelihood of cattle intruding on Plaintiff’s members’ properties.
 12 FD PI Resp. at 13. Of course, the very fact that these measures are being proposed is a
 13 tacit admission by Federal Defendants and the permittee that Bar X cattle are likely to
 14 find their way to the Colcord and Ponderosa communities. The proposed measures are
 15 unlikely to change that fact. For one thing, they are unenforceable, so there is no
 16 guarantee that they will occur, and they should not be relied on to undercut a showing of
 17 irreparable harm. *Cf. Ctr. for Biological Diversity v. Bernhardt*, 982 F.3d 723, 743–48
 18 (9th Cir. 2020) (agencies cannot rely on unenforceable mitigation measures in assessing
 19 the effects of an action on endangered species). And the promise to make weekly “efforts
 20 on horseback . . . to try and keep cattle away from private homes that have not fenced
 21 their property” is a mostly empty promise—the permittee is *already* required “to furnish
 22 sufficient riders or herders for proper distribution, protection, and management of cattle
 23 on the allotment.” FS006537. Moreover, herding did not prevent problems in 2015.

24 As for the permittee’s promise not to “place salt, minerals, or protein supplements
 25 near the” communities, that promise, even if kept, will do little to keep cattle from

26 ³ In contrast, Federal Defendants rely on hearsay. The Hemovich declaration refers rather
 27 vaguely to “[s]tatistics from the Arizona Game and Fish Department” that have been
 28 “presented verbally” at meetings at which Mr. Hemovich has been present. Hemovich
 Decl. ¶ 6. The statistics themselves are not offered as evidence.

1 exploring the entire Colcord/Turkey Pasture. When overstocking or drought leads to a
2 scarcity of forage, cattle tend to spread out to seek available forage, regardless of where
3 salt and protein supplements are located. *See* FS003309 (1978 analysis of the Bar X
4 discussing how, under poor range conditions caused by overstocking, “the search for
5 forage by livestock has distributed grazing into all of the accessible areas” and “the use of
6 salt as a distribution tool is of no great value”).

7 Federal Defendants are right about one thing: “[m]any of Plaintiff’s alleged harms
8 reflect concerns that injury or conflict with cattle *might* occur in the future.” FD PI Resp.
9 at 11. But, contrary to Federal Defendants’ implication, Plaintiff is not required to show a
10 *certainty* of future harm to obtain relief. *See Small v. Avanti Health Sys., LLC*, 661 F.3d
11 1180, 1191 (9th Cir. 2011) (“[W]hile ‘likely’ is a higher threshold than ‘possible,’ [a
12 plaintiff] need not prove that irreparable harm is certain or even nearly certain.”). The
13 question is whether irreparable harm is *likely*. *Id.* As much as Federal Defendants resist it,
14 the best available evidence going to that question is what happened in 2015.

15 **C. Federal Defendants Have Not Undermined Plaintiff’s Showing of**
16 **Irreparable Harm Related to Recreational and Aesthetic Interests and**
17 **Road Safety.**

18 Federal Defendants’ arguments concerning other likely harms to Plaintiffs’
19 members are no more convincing. First, as discussed above, Federal Defendants have
20 done nothing to undermine Plaintiff’s factual showing of irreparable harm connected to
21 decreased opportunities to view elk, deer, and other wildlife. And Federal Defendants’
22 legal argument that any diminishment in opportunities to view such wildlife would not be
23 irreparable because such wildlife could later return is simply wrong as a matter of law.
24 *See, e.g., Ariz. Dream Act Coal. v. Brewer*, 757 F.3d 1053, 1068 (9th Cir. 2014) (holding
25 that harm of a temporary nature can be irreparable).

26 Similarly misguided is Federal Defendants’ characterization of Plaintiff’s
27 members’ recreation-related harms. Federal Defendants frame Plaintiff’s members’
28 concerns as “[a] subjective and personal aversion to encountering cattle while recreating
in the Forest.” FD PI Resp. at 14. But Plaintiff’s members are not unreasonably claiming

1 that they will be irreparably harmed by the mere presence of cattle; rather, their
2 recreational interests will be impaired due to entirely reasonable worries about swimming
3 in or drinking water contaminated by cattle feces, First Olsson Decl. ¶ 22; Poulin Decl.
4 (ECF No. 46-5) ¶ 9; or being injured by cattle that are located in or along Haigler Creek
5 or directly on hiking trails, Branco Decl. (ECF No. 46-3) ¶ 11; Lemon Decl. ¶ 10.

6 In another attempt to rebut the specific assertions made by Plaintiff’s members,
7 Federal Defendants point to the fact that the Forest Service concluded during the NEPA
8 process that allowing grazing on the Colcord/Turkey Pasture “will not significantly
9 impact resources on the Bar X, including recreation.” FD PI Resp. at 14–15. This utterly
10 misses the point that the reasonableness (and the legality) of that conclusion is part of
11 what is at issue in this case. *See* Pl. SJ Memo. at 22–23 (discussing the Forest Service’s
12 inadequate analysis of recreation impacts). Federal Defendants cannot rely on the shoddy
13 analysis of the Final EA to undercut Plaintiff’s showing of irreparable harm. On the
14 contrary, the Court should assume for purposes of the irreparable harm analysis that
15 Plaintiff is right about the merits. *Chaplaincy of Full Gospel Churches*, 454 F.3d at 303.

16 Finally, Federal Defendants attempt to undercut the threat of harm posed by cattle
17 in roads by arguing that “Plaintiff has . . . not offered any evidence that cattle would pose
18 more of a danger in roadways than deer and elk.” FD PI Resp. at 12 n.6. This ignores the
19 fact that Plaintiff’s members have explained that Bar X cattle are *particularly* difficult to
20 see at night because of their dark color. Poulin Decl. ¶ 10; Briggs Decl. (ECF No. 46-7)
21 ¶ 10. Moreover, whatever baseline risk elk and deer may pose to motorists, Plaintiff’s
22 members’ declarations show that cattle create a high *additional* risk to motorists.

23 **II. FEDERAL DEFENDANTS GREATLY OVERSTATE THE LIKELY** 24 **HARM TO THE GRAZING PERMITTEE FROM AN INJUNCTION.**

25 Federal Defendants argue that preliminary relief would not serve the public
26 interest and that the balance of equities does not tip in favor of Plaintiff. FD PI Resp. at
27 15–17. A large part of Federal Defendants’ argument on these points centers on the
28 supposed harm that a preliminary injunction would cause to the permittee. *Id.* at 16–17.

1 Federal Defendants greatly overestimate the likely magnitude of that harm.

2 As an initial matter, Federal Defendants’ assertion that the permittee has already
 3 “reduced [its] livestock operation to its core herd” is false. *See* FD PI Resp. at 16; Sturla
 4 Decl. ¶ 5. In his declaration, Mr. Hemovich does not state that the herd has been reduced
 5 to its “core herd,” but rather states that the Bar X, LLC is “at 32% of [its] carrying
 6 capacity of cattle and . . . sold all [its] calves in the Fall.” Hemovich Decl. ¶ 4. This “32%
 7 of carrying capacity” figure refers to the 195 cow/calf pairs and 19 bulls authorized in the
 8 2021 AOI—the number and type of cattle allowed to graze on the Bar X this year and
 9 that are set to graze the Colcord/Turkey Pasture this summer.⁴ FD PI Resp. at 6; Sturla
 10 Decl. ¶ 7. That is *more cattle* than the permittee grazed on the Bar X in each of the last
 11 three years. *See* Ex. K (ECF No. 47-1) at 1 (133 cow/calf pairs, 16 bulls, and 82 yearlings
 12 in 2020 for a total of 2,538 AUMs); FS000049Sup (113 cow/calf pairs and 17 bulls in
 13 2019); FS000041Sup (120 cow/calf pairs and 10 bulls in 2018). In other words, the
 14 permittee did not *reduce* its herd to its core before this grazing season, but rather made
 15 the herd *bigger*. Inexplicably, the Forest Service authorized that expansion despite the
 16 high likelihood of continued drought this year. *Compare* Ex. L at 1 (2021 AOI dated
 17 January 11, 2021), *with* Ex. U (drought forecast from December 2020).

18 Recent history makes clear that the permittee is entirely capable of reducing its
 19 herd below its current size.⁵ When Plaintiff first sued the Forest Service in 2018, that
 20 year’s original AOI authorized the permittee to graze 240 cow/calf pairs and 18 bulls
 21 year-long and 120 yearlings for five months. FS000036Sup. Just two months after suit
 22 was filed, the Forest Service issued an amended AOI authorizing only 120 cow/calf pairs
 23 and 10 bulls for the remainder of the year, FS000041Sup—half as many as had been

24 ⁴ Whether the Forest Service accurately and reasonably determined the “carrying
 25 capacity” of the Bar X is one of the merits issues in this case, so it is somewhat
 26 misleading for Federal Defendants and Mr. Hemovich to use that figure as a reference.

27 ⁵ Further proof that the permittee’s herd of 195 cow/calf pairs and 19 bulls is above its
 28 core size is the fact that, according to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,
 “small-scale cow-calf operations . . . with fewer than 100 beef cows . . . account[] for
 90.4 percent of all farms with beef cows” in the United States. Ex. V at 1.

1 originally authorized and far less than the 195 cow/calf pairs and 19 bulls that currently
 2 make up the herd. Thus, Federal Defendants’ suggestion that the permittee *must* use the
 3 Colcord/Turkey Pasture this summer—that there is no other option such as further
 4 reducing herd size—is not supported by the facts.⁶

5 Federal Defendants also overstate the likely harm to the permittee by ignoring the
 6 government programs that can cushion the blow of any economic damage flowing from
 7 the combination of drought and Plaintiff’s requested relief.⁷ The U.S. Department of
 8 Agriculture’s Livestock Forage Disaster Program (“LFP”), for instance, provides up to
 9 \$125,000 a year to ranchers to compensate for losses caused by drought. *See* Ex. W
 10 (describing program); *see also* 7 U.S.C. § 9081(c). The LFP pays ranchers based on
 11 drought conditions in their county as measured by the U.S. Drought Monitor. 7 U.S.C.
 12 § 9081(c)(3)(D)(ii); Ex. W at 1. For this year, the Drought Monitor has already rated Gila
 13 County as being in an “exceptional drought” for four weeks, Ex. X, so ranchers may
 14 receive the maximum possible LFP assistance to which they are entitled. *See* 7 U.S.C.
 15 § 9081(c)(D)(ii)(II)(cc). The Bar X permittee applied for and received benefits under the
 16 LFP in 2018, Ex. Y, and there is no reason to think he will not receive assistance again.

17 **III. AN INJUNCTION WOULD SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST.**

18 Federal Defendants point to several reasons (in addition to the supposed harm to
 19 the permittee) why a preliminary injunction would not serve the public interest. FD PI
 20 Resp. at 15–17. None of those reasons holds up under scrutiny. First, Federal Defendants’
 21 argument that an injunction would “usurp the discretion that Congress delegated to the
 22 Forest Service,” *id.* at 15–16, again misunderstands the preliminary injunction analysis.

23
 24 ⁶ In his declaration, Mr. Hemovich states that the Bar X, LLC would “*probably* have to
 25 destock [its] entire herd” if not allowed to use the Colcord/Turkey Pasture this summer.
 26 Hemovich Decl. ¶ 4 (emphasis added). But there is no explanation as to *why* this would
 27 be a likely course of action, nor is there any explanation as to why a less drastic action—a
 28 further reduction of the herd size—would not be more appropriate. And there is no
 acknowledgment that the Bar X herd size is *larger* this year than in the last three years.

⁷ The Acting Forest Supervisor for the Tonto National Forest referred grazing permittees
 to these programs in his January 21, 2021 letter. ECF No. 49-3 at 2.

1 When assessing the public interest, the Court should assume that Plaintiff is right about
2 the merits—that is, that the Forest Service violated the law in authorizing grazing on the
3 Colcord/Turkey Pasture and thus misused its delegated authority. *See CuvIELLO v. City of*
4 *Vallejo*, 944 F.3d 816, 834 (9th Cir. 2019) (preliminary injunction to halt enforcement of
5 an ordinance on First Amendment grounds was in the public interest because there is a
6 “significant public interest in upholding free speech principles” (cleaned up)).

7 Second, Federal Defendants’ suggestion that many members of the community
8 (and others) actually *support* ranching is largely irrelevant. *See* FD PI Resp. at 16. There
9 is no evidence that these people would be *irreparably* harmed in any way by the relief
10 that Plaintiff seeks; indeed, aside from Mr. Hemovich, who obviously has a particular
11 interest in the outcome of this case, Federal Defendants have not attempted to secure any
12 declarations from such members of the public, instead relying on hearsay statements
13 drawn from the administrative record. Unlike Plaintiff’s members, who will suffer
14 irreparable harm in the absence of an injunction, these members of the public may *at*
15 *worst* be slightly chagrined at seeing a delay in grazing on *part of* the Bar X.

16 The concern that an injunction would stop the permittee from engaging in
17 activities that benefit wildlife is overblown. *See* FD PI Resp. at 17. Plaintiff’s requested
18 injunction would not stop all grazing on the Bar X, but would merely delay grazing on
19 the Colcord/Turkey Pasture until final judgment is entered. The permittee would be free
20 to continue his laudable habitat improvement projects on the rest of the Bar X.

21 Finally, Federal Defendants’ argument that grazing on the Colcord/Turkey Pasture
22 might help reduce the threat of wildfires is speculative. *See* FD PI Resp. at 15 n.7. Again,
23 the question is whether a *preliminary* injunction will serve the public interest. Whether or
24 not grazing is generally an effective tool to create fuel breaks and prevent future wildfires
25 from spreading out of hand, Federal Defendants offer no reason to think that a one-year
26 delay in grazing one pasture will meaningfully serve that purpose.

27 CONCLUSION

28 This Court should grant Plaintiff’s motion for a preliminary injunction.

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Dated: May 24, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

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**FINAL LIST OF EXHIBITS IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF’S MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

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- EXHIBIT A (ECF No. 46-1): Second Declaration of Jim Olsson
- EXHIBIT B (ECF No. 46-2): Declaration of Michael Lemon
- EXHIBIT C (ECF No. 46-3): Declaration of Joe Branco
- EXHIBIT D (ECF No. 46-4): Declaration of Paul Allen
- EXHIBIT E (ECF No. 46-5): Declaration of Steve Poulin
- EXHIBIT F (ECF No. 46-6): Declaration of Joanie Price
- EXHIBIT G (ECF No. 46-7): Declaration of Roger Briggs
- EXHIBIT H (ECF No. 46-8): Declaration of Eric Bjornsen
- EXHIBIT I (ECF No. 46-9): Second Declaration of Paula Adams
- EXHIBIT J (ECF No. 46-10): Second Declaration of Kathy Doolittle
- EXHIBIT K (ECF No. 47-1): 2020 AOI for the Bar X Allotments
- EXHIBIT L (ECF No. 47-2): 2021 AOI for the Bar X Allotments
- EXHIBIT M (ECF No. 47-3): Email from Counsel
- EXHIBIT N (ECF No. 47-4): Septic Systems Pamphlet
- EXHIBIT O (ECF No. 47-5): Thurston County, WA Septic System FAQ Page
- EXHIBIT P (ECF No. 47-6): Polk County, OR Septic System FAQ Page
- EXHIBIT Q (ECF No. 47-7): Excerpt from “Septic Systems 101” Manual
- EXHIBIT R (ECF No. 50-1): Data Concerning Animal Weights
- EXHIBIT S (ECF No. 50-2): 2014 and 2015 Drought Data for Gila County
- EXHIBIT T (ECF No. 50-3): Third Declaration of Jim Olsson
- EXHIBIT U (ECF No. 50-4): Drought Outlook for First Quarter of 2021
- EXHIBIT V (ECF No. 50-5): APHIS Report on Cow-calf Operations
- EXHIBIT W (ECF No. 50-6): Livestock Forage Disaster Program Pamphlet
- EXHIBIT X (ECF No. 50-7): 2021 Drought Data for Gila County
- EXHIBIT Y (ECF No. 50-8): LFP Beneficiary Data for 2018