Chairman Thomas and members of the House Ag Committee,

I am Frank Tomac, rancher in Sioux County and President of the Cedar River Grazing Association, (CRGA).

The CRGA works in conjunction with the US Forest Service in managing the Cedar River National Grasslands. The Cedar River National Grasslands encompasses just over 6500 acres mostly in Sioux County with 480 acres in Grant County.

Part of the CRGA grazing fees goes towards Conservation Practices (CP's). We have such a small organization we cannot generate enough CP funds in one year to do any projects. With the help of the 2021 Legislature, we were able to initiate a lot of past due projects. However due to the speed of the Forest Service and the US Dept of Agriculture, we are unable to complete those projects and need an extension.

In addition, with more projects on the table, CRGA is asking for more money to impliment more projects for permit holders that missed out on the first moneys. These money's and projects are not wasted and benefit not only the permit holders, but also the wildlife and the public visitors for hunting and recreation.

I ask for a do-pass recommendation for SB 2290.

Thank You,

Frank Tomac
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