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## Animal Grazing is the Way

Animal grazing is the way forward...

Animal grazing is clearly better for the economy...

As an honorable member of this community, I strongly insist that the proposed piece of land is used for sheep grazing. Sheep can provide many valuable resources.

Sheep are a profitable animal to breed and feed for many reasons, for one, sheep do not need an expensive diet to be healthy and happy. The most suitable diet is a mix of grains, clover, and grass, none of which are expensive to supply ("Sheep"). Milk produced by ewes also sells for a high price because of its high contents of calcium compared to other types of milk available to most people. Another point is the fact that sheep wool has been selling for more than coffee beans; wool has been selling for \$1,189.28 per kg in the latest. Lamb has also been selling remarkably well at \$12.99 per lb. of lamb chops or boneless leg study ("IMF Primary Commodity Prices"). After a considerable amount of research, I have concluded that the most profitable flock would contain a mix of Belgian milk sheep and Texel sheep to make a hybrid Beltex sheep that produces quality meat, wool, and milk ("Beltex Sheep").

Tourism is a very important part of our community with 16.1 million tourists a year (Bernstein, p.9); therefore, I propose that we also open the area to the public to teach them about the importance of agriculture and how to prevent agricultural methods from causing an environmental problem. Also, young children love seeing animals, and a set feeding time would provide much public enjoyment.

The only real problem with using the piece of land for animal grazing is that it may affect the local watershed. Examples of these problems include poisoned seafood and dirty or toxic lakes, streams, rivers, swamps, etc. Additionally, the natural migration cycle for fish may be altered. It is possible that the manure that comes from the animals may get washed into watersheds because of heavy rainfall, floods, or other precipitation-based events (Ribaudo and Johansson). This said, sheep can also help the environment because the natural resources they produce, like wool and milk, save people from using and/or consuming chemicals that are even worse for the environment when industries try to recreate the natural resources that are similar to or supposedly better than the wool and milk of the sheep.

The opposition of animal grazing may argue the chemicals and manure will inject or pollute our watershed and sea life as well as our paddling spots (Ribaudo and Johansson). In my research, I have found an excellent resolution. Biogas has become very popular in some areas in recent years. Biogas is helping solve a fuel crisis predicted for the near future. It is made by refining animal manure into pure energy or gas ("Why Biogas?"). I would like us to team up with a biogas company that we can sell the waste to, not only to just make a bigger income but to also help the community to be clean, eco-friendly, and to have a wonderfully clean watershed. Chemicals are also a concern of my opposition, but I have found and a solution for that too. If you do not feed the livestock chemicals or medicines and alternate the grazing pens (to allow the mixed grass/herbs grow back), no chemicals need to be used in this area.

In conclusion, animal grazing is the best use of the proposed piece of land, so long as the food and rearing of the sheep is natural and the manure is sold to a biogas company. I know you will do what is right.

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