



The NAPgA Bleat!

The Official Newsletter of the North American Packgoat Association

May 2015

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From President Charlie

Please see appeal information below and consider making your contribution to the continuation of packgoating in the US.

The Annual NAPgA Rendezvous is only two months away! The 2015 is located in a gorgeous area, just a few miles from West Yellowstone. Easy access but plenty of room for camping and hiking. A real BONUS this year! We have invited the Father of Goatpacking, John Mionczynski! You DO NOT want to miss this! John started goat packing in June of 1972, and has over 40 years of packing with goats. He has probably forgotten more than what most of us know! (Ed. Note: *Joe Hutto, another wildlife biologist who worked with John in the past, described John's knowledge level as encyclopedic. Quite a statement from a peer.*)

NAPgA continues to represent all of you throughout North America, doing our best to keep public lands open to recreational goat packing. This comes at a financial cost, and we have been required to pay legal fees to address potential Forest Closures. PLEASE continue to donate whenever you can to support NAPgA!

Charlie Jennings

The Restrictions Continue to Multiply

As I have stated from the beginning, this policy of restricting goatpackers from Federal lands continues to grow and spread like a slow-developing cancer. The latest is the Owyhee Wilderness south of Boise, ID. This one kind of came from left field as we were once told that the feds were going to have to go back to the drawing board due to the number of objections to the plan. Seems that the 'return to the drawing board' was greatly overstated.

Now the final plan is published, and we are left with the appeal process.

Plan Published Here: http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/nepa_register/Owyhee-wilderness-WSR_plan.html

KBOI's article on this issue is here (excerpts below): <http://www.kboi2.com/news/local/Feds-publish-final-plan-for-south-west-Idaho-wilderness-areas-300720611.html>

We need your input as we lack sufficient funds to involve our legal representative! The appeal process is included at the bottom of this article.

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...Feds publish final plan for southwest Idaho wilderness areas

...BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Federal authorities have made public the final management plan for six wilderness areas and 16 wild and scenic river segments in southwest-ern Idaho, starting a 30-day appeals process.

...The process allows for appeals to be made during the next 30 days concerning the state's newest wilderness areas that include about 518,000 acres and 325 miles of wild and scenic river in Owyhee County. The six rugged areas became federally protected preserves in 2009 after U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, cobbled together a coalition of ranchers, wilderness advocates, outdoor enthusiasts and others in an effort called the Owyhee Initiative.

..."The purpose is not to have improvements," said MJ Byrne, spokeswoman for the Bureau of Land Management's Boise District, who emphasized visitors need to be self-sufficient (*One is left to assume that they don't consider the introduction of an animal that has never inhabited this area, an improvement.* Ed.).

...The sweeping land-use package added six wilderness areas and opened other previously off-limits areas to motorized recreation, livestock grazing and other activities.

...Grazing remains on portions of the wilderness, and there are both private and state land inholdings.

... The final plan also prohibits goats as stock animals and domestic sheep grazing to protect California big-horns in the wilderness from potential diseases.

...If an appeal is filed, the group filing the appeal has 30 days to supply a reason. Byrne said an appeal starts a review process.

...The six wilderness areas are the 50,929-acre Little Jacks Creek Wilderness, the 12,533-acre Pole Creek Wilderness, the 42,413-acre North Fork Owyhee Wilderness, the 267,328-acre Owyhee River Wilderness, the 52,826-acre Big Jacks Creek Wilderness, and the 89,996-acre Bruneau-Jarbidge Rivers Wilderness.



Here's the appeal process:

Parties interested in this planning process will have 30 days from the date the Management Plan Notice of Availability is published in the Federal Register to appeal the decision. The plan will be posted on the following website:

http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/nepa_register/Owyhee-wilderness-WSR_plan.html

Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. A notice of appeal must be filed in the

office of the authorized officer at the *Bureau of Land Management, Boise District Office, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho, 83705*. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the *Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203* within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the authorized officer.

To file a petition for stay pursuant to 43 CFR Part 4.21(b), it must accompany your notice of appeal and must show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied.
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits.
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the *Office of the Solicitor, Field Solicitor – U. S. Department of the Interior, University Plaza, 960 Broadway Avenue, Suite 400, Boise, Idaho, 83706*, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the authorized officer and/or IBLA.

There are 30 to file an appeal (until May 20th). Once an appeal is filed, there are 30 more days (until June 19th), to file a statement of reasons, which is akin to a court brief. If a "stay" in the decision is desired (i.e., to stop them from prohibiting goats in the meantime), a petition for stay must be filed with the notice of appeal. That petition is also akin to a court brief.

LR

The Cancer Continues to Grow... and Metastacize

As I predicted a long time ago, shortly after we experienced the second attempt to restrict us out of the forest, the list of restrictions or potential restrictions continues to inexorably grow.

As you know I'm sure, we were locked out of the Wind River Range/Shoshone NF back in late 2011, discovered that the Inyo NF had instituted a re-closure of a previously closed section of its forest in 2012, we will potentially be restricted completely out of the Eagle Cap Wilderness in Oregon by the currently progressing DEIS, and now the Owyhee NF in Idaho has closed us out.

Now, one of NAPgA's members, Ken Harrison of Pleasant View, Utah has discovered that the Grand Teton NP has a complete closure to goats. To llamas? No. To horses? No. As always, just GOATS!

The explanatory document is here: <http://www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/upload/stock.pdf>

Since the document for this one is dated 3/12, it is safe to assume that this one was closed some time ago, and the window of opportunity for comments/questions is long past. One of our problems in having input to some of these closures is that we are not aware of them until the opportunity to affect the decision has past us by.

Which brings up another point that I have made on many occasions, and that is that we can't be in all places at all times. And therefore we are absolutely dependent on goat-interested folks to keep their collective ears to the ground, and let us know these things are happening as they occur, and as the time is nigh to comment and potentially affect the outcome.

In reality, the ultimate problem here is that we seem to be fighting a ghost, in that we are fighting an attitude, i.e., that our goats present a clear and present danger to Bighorn Sheep. Is it true? You know it isn't. But somehow, the wildlife biologist of today has been inculcated with the 'truth' that if they don't keep our goats far away from their vaunted Bighorns, the world of Bighorn sheep will end with a mighty crash.

Ultimately the issue becomes similar to attempting to nail jello to a wall, in that you can't argue with a position that has no foundation, and so far this one does not.

Remember this as well. There was a low point in Bighorn numbers, more or less in 1960, when the total number was around 9000. That number now is around 70-80,000. That means that this, folks, is *NOT* a crisis.

One for some contemplation, and maybe action.



NEW STUDY
GOATS FED MONSANTO ROUNDUP READY SOY PRODUCE ABNORMAL MILK
milk had significantly lower antibody, fat and protein content and contained transgenic DNA

OHIO FREE U.S.A. CANADA

Offspring from GM-fed mothers weighed significantly less 30 days after birth

Inadequate antibodies in early milk are linked to immunodeficiency in ruminants

NO HUMAN HEALTH TRIALS.
WHAT ABOUT OUR KIDS?

www.facebook.com/gmofreeusa www.gmofreeusa.org www.facebook.com/gmofreecanadagroup

The Cascade Packgoat annual Harness Goat Clinic March 15th

This event is held at a covered horse arena in Oregon City, OR. The photo shows Michael and Stephanie Powell harnessing up on of their big Saanen boys while the newbies watch.



The second photo is the Annual SOLVE Spring Beach Clean-up which was held on March 28th. Our whole group is in the photo with the beautiful Pacific Ocean in the background. The photo shows Stephanie Powell and Hawk-eye (Sam is hidden behind) Janet Lamberson holding my Little Joe, Michael Powell, Phil Lamberson, Me, Taylor Kline with boyfriend and Toggenberg Quinn, R.C. and Lori Kline and their 3 dogs. It poured rain on my 2-hour drive to the coast but the sun shown on us for the whole time we were on the beach, lucky!



I am learning how to be a farmer for real. Have 5 chicks just about old enough for my chicken tractor Perry built me and my doe is starting to plump up, due in April. Couple months we will have fresh eggs and milk to go with our peas, lettuce and radishes! Ha ha. I am still busy with 4-H and just finished the master gardener program through OSU extension so will be volunteering back 66 hours this year to pay it back. I plan to start getting out and hiking more, on my list! My Sis and I hiked March 27th at Chip Ross park in Corvallis. Just happened to be National Joe Day, isn't that funny!? It was Little Joe's first time wearing a "real" saddle as he has outgorn his day pack. He turned 1 today and we weighed him yesterday on our platform scale. He is 131#. His 1/2-Sis Sundae in 143# at 1 year but she is over 3 months pg, hopefully with twins. I will attach a pic of Joe and I at the park.

Take care,

Jan Privratsky



Jan 'n Joe at the park!

Oregon State Veterinary Pet Day

The Cascade Packgoat Club has participated in the Oregon State Veterinary Pet Day for many years. The 2015 OSU Pet Day will be held on Saturday May 2nd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Here's the website with more information.

<http://vetmed.oregonstate.edu/pet-day>

Our club area is at the corner of 30th St. and SW Washington. Same location we have had for the last several years. This is a very fun family event and I encourage everyone to attend!

Jan Privratsky

Sec/treas Cascade Packgoat Club

Life's an adventure.....especially with goats!



Quintuplets born to one of Dwite Sharp's ladies about a month ago.

Childbirth is bad enough with just one. Can you imagine it with 5?