



The NAPGA Bleat!

The Official Newsletter of the North American Packgoat Association

February 2018

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Shoshone NF recently came out with their Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Risk Analysis of Disease Transmission (RADT). If you commented on the original Supplementary Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) then you have the opportunity to object now to the FEIS and RADT.

The RADT still contains language implicating packgoats as disease carriers responsible for Bighorn die-offs. The RADT cites the debunked Dr. Besser studies and also treats opinion as scientific fact. NAPGA's lawyer, Andy Irvine, is preparing an objection letter, but we need individuals to also speak up and let the FS know that they can't get away with using faulty "science" and opinion as reasons to keep packgoats out of the wilderness. What happens in Shoshone may affect how other wilderness area plans are drafted in the future, so it's important to refute this misinformation now. The objection deadline is February, 13th.

The FEIS and RADT can be found here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/shoshone/landmanagement/planning/?cid=FSEPRD540949>

If you're not sure whether you are allowed to comment, look for your name on this list. If your name is there, you have the right to object to the latest FEIS and RADT: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/shoshone/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd566176&width=full>

eMail Comments should be sent to: objections-chief@fs.fed.us

All email submissions should contain **Notice of Objection: Use of Sheep, Goats and Pack Goats**

Mailing address:

USDA Forest Service
Attn: Objection Reviewing Officer
Use of Domestic Sheep, Goats and Pack Goats
Shoshone National Forest
EMC, Mailstop 1104
1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington,
D.C. 20250

Packsaddle Fitting Class in Greeley, CO,

Does your saddle fit your packgoat? Nan and Phil Hassey will be teaching a packsaddle fitting class at the Weld County Goat Extravaganza in Greeley, CO on Saturday, **April 28th at 11:00 a.m.**

They will go over the overarching principles of saddle fitting and placement, then dive into a hands-on demonstration of various packsaddles and how they fit on different types of goats.

Auditing is free. If you wish to bring your own goat and equipment to the class, the charge is \$5/goat.

Goats brought to the WCGE must abide by the show health rules. Information about the WCGE can be found here:

https://www.weldgov.com/departments/csu_extension/weld_county_goat_extravaganza/

If you have questions or would like to attend, please email Nan Hassey at nanhassey@yahoo.com or call 719-489-2732 (**no texts!**)

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'All Things Goat'

will be taught in an all day conference in Moscow, Idaho, Saturday, May 19th 2018 8AM-5PM.

Karen Kopf, NAPGA board member and chair of the Palouse Goat Guild, is coordinating the event for up to 200 participants.

30 classes are being offered on a variety of goat topics. There will be a pack goat track with NAPGA Board President Curtis King teaching Pack Goat 101 and Pack Goat Equipment; Carolyn Eddy, NAPGA Board Member, teaching Goat Nutrition; Howie Halcomb presenting on hunting with Pack Goats; and Dr. Maggie Highland teaching a class in Mycoplasmas. The full schedule is available at www.palousegoatguild.com

Jan Privratsky, NAPGA, generously donated a kit of Pack Saddle Equipment - which includes the book Diet For Wethers -- a sawbuck and pad -- to be loaned to a selected 4H group to borrow and document their adventure over the next year. They will bring it back to Goat Academy 2019 to present their experience, and pass it to a new group. Matt Lyon, NAPGA and owner of Bantam Saddle Tack donated a trainer pack to the kit for goats not ready for a sawbuck.

The schedule of classes is available if needed.

Please let me know if I can help further!

Dale & Karen Kopf, kcanyonranch@gmail.com
Kopf Canyon Ranch, <http://www.kikogoats.org>