

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/10/2019 7:32:58 PM

First name: Wendy

Last name: Francisco

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Re: Pack goat ban

I will just quickly add that our alpine areas are grazed on by huge flocks of sheep... a friend of mine who was hiking reminded me of this because he was charged by an unsupervised guard dog while hiking.

If disease is at the core of the issue, a ban on pack goats won't go over well unless there is also a ban on domestic sheep grazed in wilderness areas. Actually --to me that is far more damaging, especially with loose dogs doing whatever they want to to native species!

I own 8 guardian dogs with my goats but am careful to pen them all along with the goats to keep them away from wildlife in my area.

It seems odd that a ban on pack goats is even an imagined possibility given the massive intrusion in our wildlife areas by domestic sheep and loose guard dogs. That math doesn't seem to add up.

On Mon, Jul 8, 2019 at 9:00 AM FS-gmugforestplan &lt;SM.FS.gmugplanning@usda.gov> wrote:

Good morning Wendy,

Thank you for your interest in plan revision! Your thoughtful feedback is much appreciated, and will be taken into consideration by the team as we work to improve the draft plan and develop alternatives. I've uploaded your letter to the public reading room (there's a slight delay, but it should be visible within 1-2 hours), where you can also review feedback sent in by other interested community members like yourself.

As I'm sure you know, there will be additional opportunities to participate in plan revision, including open houses beginning this week, which will be held from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- \* July 9 - Hotchkiss, Heritage Hall, 403 East Bridge Street
- \* July 10 - Palisade, Community Center, 120 West 8th Street
- \* July 11 - Montrose, Montrose County Event Center, 1036 North 7th Street
- \* July 16 - Norwood, Lone Cone Library, 1455 Pinion Street
- \* July 17 - Ridgway, 4H Center & Fairgrounds, 22739 US-550
- \* July 18 - Gunnison, Fred Field Center, Van Tuyl Room, 275 South Spruce Street

Please let me know if you have any other input, questions, or concerns, and I hope you're having an awesome morning!

Thank you,

Brittany

Brittany Duffy

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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Wendy Francisco [mailto:[wendyjfrancisco@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjfrancisco@gmail.com)]

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 10:19 AM

To: FS-gmugforestplan &lt;SM.FS.gmugplanning@usda.gov>;gt;

Subject: Pack goat ban

Most of my male goats sell as pack goats and this ban would pretty much kill that. But what about just requiring vaccinations, and the carrying of proof of vaccinations for goat packers on the trail?

Goat packing is a wonderful family hobby, not just for the hiking itself but even for the year round maintenance of goats by families. Goats are so good for people, and packing is the best way to relate to goats... it gets people out, gives them a tiny taste of farm culture which is becoming lost. Goats are so good for kids. They become as tame as dogs, bonding to their people.

I don't pretend to know the risks to wildlife, so I will just offer this side of it and hope that a solution can be found other than a complete ban on this wonderful activity.

Thank you for your time.

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