

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/2/2020 2:43:00 AM

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Comments: As a member of the Wild Sheep Foundation and the North American Packgoat Association, an Idaho hunter and a packgoat owner, I think it is very important to separate the domestic goats from the domestic sheep in the forest plan. According to a study performed by Dr. Besser at WSU in 2017, exposure to infected domestic goats did not lead to any deaths among the bighorn sheep in the study. On the other hand, there is plenty of evidence supporting the claim that domestic sheep are very deadly to the wild sheep population. Apples and oranges.

The North American Packgoat Association has developed Best Management Practices for packgoat owners to help us avoid exposure or co-mingling with any wildlife and prevent disease transmission either to or from our goats. Our goats are constantly under direct supervision. The chances of wild animals approaching are extremely small and we want to keep it that way.

We are a very small group but we are quickly growing as more people look into acquiring pack animals but don't have the space, money, or know how to manage horses and mules.