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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I live quite near the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest It is the location of many of my outdoor activities at least weekly and sometimes daily. These activities include hiking, camping, cross country skiing, and packing with goats.

Sited by many in the goat packing community, my first purpose here is to reiterate what has already been stated by those concerned with the wording of the DEIS (FW-GDL-WL-05, 1.1.2.4.1 Wildlife Species, and FW-STD-WL-02)) regarding the restrictions proposed and the alleged impact packgoats have on bighorn sheep. I would also like to state that I am a wildlife lover. If the science really did link packgoats with bighorn sheep decline, I would be more than happy to comply, but it does not. I know this fact has been evaluated by many other commenters, so I will move on. The other point to make is that packgoats are closely bonded to their humans. Spend an hour with these guys and you will see that they keep a very close eye on their people, not wanting to let them out of site for more than a few minutes. If separated, they move quite quickly to reconnect. This behavior makes them ideal for packing and makes it unlikely that they would be in any circumstance in which they would be in contact with BHS.

Please pay extra attention to the wording being used to protect the bighorn sheep from any domesticated animals as restricting access to packgoats would be an unnecessary precaution.

My second concern is to the proposed "treatments" (e.g. MA1-OBJ-ELK-01), which I assume to be harmful herbicide and pesticide application. I have been all but sprayed by such an application while heading out for a run on a local trail. There was no warning as to what was being done - no sign, no blockage. However, the glyphosate was in the air. This substance and other similar chemicals have been proven to be harmful to our health and to much of the wildlife. These studies should be sought and consulted by the forest service and the precautionary principle acted upon.

Finally, it is my special request that no modern telecommunications technology such as cell towers (FW-GDL-WL-02) be allowed to exist in this national forest. It is unnecessary, harmful, and would take away from the experience. More and more studies are showing the harm of cell towers and other wireless technology to a multitude of wildlife species but especially insects, bird, and bats. The World Health Organization classifies radiofrequency radiation (RFR, the radiation used by all our wireless technology) as a possible 2B carcinogen. There have been hundreds of studies that show this classification is not good enough - RFR is toxic to humans and other animals. There is also the matter that at least 5% of us are Electromagnetic Sensitive and therefore cannot be around the RFR without feeling a range of debilitating symptoms.

Thank you for your consideration in these matters and for keeping the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest available and accessible to all who wish to respectfully experience its magnificence.