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Comments: I encourage USFS to use precise language regarding domestic sheep and goats. Specifically, I hope that packgoats will be subject to the same laws and rules as other pack stock and are not looped in with grazing herds. Using goats for pack stock is fundamentally different from grazing herds because packgoat owners follow The North American Packgoat Association's "Best Management Practices". 1. Packgoats are individually identified in line with USDA regulations as well as a collar with their owners contact information. 2. Packgoats are under direct control and supervision at all times. They are tethered at night. 3. Avoid all packgoat contact with wildlife. 4. Every effort will be made to locate and recover lost packgoats, including contacting local law enforcement and ODFW. 5. Follow general leave no trace principles.

Using packgoats in the Blue Mountains allows my young family and I to go out more often and stay out for longer. They're essential in recovering game meat from the field quickly as well. If we lost the ability to use our packgoats in the Blue Mountains it would change where and how we hunt, play, and connect with nature. I hope you'll consider the importance of using precise language that protects our family's outdoor legacy.