

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/27/2026 7:17:26 AM

First name: AJ

Last name: White

Organization:

Title:

Comments: AJ is a toddler who loves hiking and camping in the Blue Mountains and Eagle Caps with his string of 8 packgoats. At 2.5 years old he has logged an impressive amount of backcountry miles because the packgoats make it possible to go out for longer periods of time and remain comfortable. AJ can even ride his packgoats when his legs get tired (which mom and dad certainly appreciate). More importantly, AJ is learning responsibility, wilderness ethics, planning and preparation skills, and a whole lot more because he uses packgoats. He's also remaining connected to nature in a time when kids are rapidly losing touch. You can protect AJ's ability to access the wilderness for the rest of his life by adopting precise language differentiating packgoats from grazing herds of domestic sheep and goats. Packgoats are fundamentally different from grazing herds because packgoat owners follow the North American Packgoat Association's "Best Management Practices" to ensure that packgoats are individually identified in compliance with USDA regulations, closely controlled and supervised, tethered at night, not in contact with wildlife, not lost or left behind, and not damaging or polluting the environment.