

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/12/2018 11:00:00 AM

First name: Starck

Last name: Justin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Objection Reviewing Officer,

I object that pack goats are a threat to bighorn sheep.

Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae is already carried by bighorn sheep within the core habitat. Since they already have the pathogen present in the population the risk of transmission from pack goats is a non-issue.

Furthermore, pack goats cannot transmit a disease to wild sheep they do not carry. There is no risk of transmission from pack goats to wild sheep when the pack goats are tested to be free of the pathogen.

Science has also shown very little risk if the pathogen is transmitted from goats. As suggested in the FEIS, pg. 18, existing studies have not shown transmission of this pathogen from goat to sheep to be fatal. On pg. 6 of the Draft Record of Decision it is stated that only a small number of scientific studies have been done specific to the risk of disease transmission from pack goats. The low number of studies that suggest a low risk of fatal disease transmission is not the issue. The complete lack of any study that shows a concrete risk is the issue.

Justin Starck

121 Rustic Hills Rd. W.

Gillette, WY 82727

307.340.8183

starckjustin@yahoo.com