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Comments:

I object to the proposed Forest Plan Revision #49464. Specifically, the language used in Table 3, Criteria 6 is incorrect. The revision plan states that pneumonia is easily transmitted to wild sheep from domestic sheep and goats, and cites the 2010 Bighorn Sheep Management plan. This was misleading use of the source, as the 2010 Bighorn Management Plan was specifically addressing grazing allotments, not pack stock, when the claim was made, and this should be made clear in the current revision plan.

Also, the language used in Table 3, Criteria 8, is unfounded. The revision plan states that a "source of disease transmission is contact with pack goats on backcountry trails (IDFG, 2017)". However, neither of the 2017 IDFG sources that are listed within the document make such a claim. It's also important to note that the source cited for this claim is another revision plan, not a credible research study, anyway. This claim is also substantially different from conclusions taken from other research on this topic. The source cited for this comment says that domestic goat and sheep grazing allotments may affect bighorn sheep health, but the research does not mention packgoats on trails at all.

Therefore, the information about packgoats that was published in this proposal is a blatant lie. I request that this false information be removed from the proposal as there is no credible research to support it.

Also, as there are not currently any domestic goat grazing allotments in the Salmon-Challis National Forest, I request that the information in this proposal be updated to reflect that.

Also, it is important to note that there are not currently any studies pertaining to transmission of disease from packgoats to wild sheep, and there are also no studies that differentiate between the effects of domestic sheep and domestic goats on wild sheep habitat and health. Therefore, generalizing the findings of these studies to packgoats is entirely inappropriate and such language should be omitted from this proposal.

Thank you for your consideration and your commitment to science, not opinion, on these matters.