File Code: 2600; 2670

Date: October 20, 2020

Allison Jones Board of Directors Western Wildlife Conservancy 1021 E. Downington Ave. Salt Lake City, UT 84105-3401

Dear Ms. Jones:

The attached document contains the Forest Service Intermountain Region's response to the questions posed in your August 3, 2020, letter about the proposed introduction of Mountain Goats onto the Logan Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

The Forest Service policy recognizes the role of the States to manage wildlife and fish populations within their jurisdictions and the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to manage fish and wildlife resources within its authority (Forest Service Manual 2610). However, at this time, the Forest Service does not support the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources' proposed introduction of mountain goats on, or adjacent to, Forest Service administered lands. We are concerned about potential effects mountain goats may have on the Logan Canyon Botanical Special Interest Area and the Mount Naomi Wilderness Area.

If you have any question please contact Steve Beverlin, Director of Natural Resources, at steven.beverlin@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. BEUM Acting Regional Forester, Intermountain Region

Attachment

Cc:

Hilary Shughart, President, Bridgerland Audubon Society
John Carter, Yellowstone to Uintas Connection
Jack Green, Cache Valley Chapter, Citizens' Climate Lobby
Mary O'Brien, Utah Forests Program Director, Grand Canyon Trust
Marc Coles-Ritchie, Utah Forests Program Associate, Grand Canyon Trust
Bryce Johnston, Student Organization for Society & Nat Resources, Utah State University
Tony Frates, Utah Native Plant Society
Kirk Robinson, Executive Director, Western Wildlife Conservancy





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Steve Beverlin, Director of Natural Resources, Intermountain Region USFS
John Proctor, Regional Botanist/Invasive Species, Intermountain Region USFS
David Whittekiend, Forest Supervisor, Uinta Wasatch-Cache National Forest, USFS
Jennifer Parker, District Ranger, Logan Ranger District, Uinta Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Brian Steed, Director, Utah Department of Natural Resources
Mike Fowlks, Director, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Yvette Converse, Field Supervisor, Utah Ecological Services Field Office, US Fish & Wildlife Service