



The NAPgA Bleat!

The Official Newsletter of the North American Packgoat Association

January 2015

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From President Charlie

March is nearly upon us, the days are getting longer....

Time to get out with our goats and get them (and us) in shape! I know that my 8 goats have had it pretty easy over the winter, and need to get fit and trim, just like their owner!

Thanks to Herb and Irene, we now have beautiful NAPgA T-Shirts for sale! These are not your run-of-the-mill shirts... they are high-quality breathable cotton, with a beautifully creative NAPgA logo. Get them while they last! \$25 each.

While you are at it, tell your friends to come join NAPgA. We have had a surge in membership renewals, we want and need to keep growing so that we are a credible voice for recreational goatpacking in our National Forests.

A special thanks to all of you who have donated to the GoFundMe website! You have raised close to \$10,000 so far! We would not have been able to afford the legal representation that we have had if it weren't for your generous contributions! Our attorney has done a fabulous job in representing NAPgA, as numerous National Forests are revising their Forest Plans and we and our goats always seem to end up in the cross-hairs.

There are lots of things on the agenda for NAPgA for 2015. Testing with Bighorn Sheep with domestic goats that test negative for MOV (mycoplasma) has, so far, successfully commingled the two species together without any adverse effects. However, the testing is not over, and the eventual results are yet to be seen.

Thank you again for your support! Stay tuned and stay involved!

Charlie Jennings

The Bighorn Issues are Dead, Right?

Hardly. Would it be that it were so. But as I have been saying from the beginning of this debacle, it is spreading like cancer, and there is no indication that it will not continue to do so indefinitely.

Case in point, just in the last two weeks, we got the last-minute notice that Alaska was promulgating a packgoat ban in a number of their forest districts. If you are struggling like mad to find something positive in

all this, it might be that in Alaska, they have targeted llamas along with our goats.

Of course, as always, it is the same old, same old, that being a very large and far-reaching decision, based on a paucity of evidence that would indicate that this particular decision is actually required for BHS health.

But there *is* a positive note here, and that is, if you get rid of packgoats from your forests, you also get rid of a lot of old buggers (like me), and that's great 'cause we don't like them anyway.

Seriously, our legal guy scrambled to get together a response to this nonsense, and as usual produced a comprehensive and hard-hitting document that should at least give them pause as they plow ahead with this.

Will it make a difference? That would be anybody's guess. But it is academic that if we lie down and play dead, there unquestionably won't be any limitations at all on this continually spreading government overreach.

Cascade PG Club Events!

Hello Everyone, the Cascade Packgoat Club will be having our annual Harness Goat Clinic on Sunday, March 15th from 11 am to 3 pm. Again this year the clinic will be held at a covered horse arena in Beavercreek, OR. This arena has a kitchen so we are having a potluck. Coffee and tableware will be provided by the club. Bring food to share.

This clinic is free to members who have paid their dues for this year. Otherwise it's just \$5 for an individual or family to attend. We will have handouts, carts, harness, and goats available and you can also bring your own and we will have knowledgeable folks to help you figure it all out!

Directions to the clinic are: From I-205 take Exit 10 which is Hwy. 213 S. Continue on Hwy 213 for 3.2 miles to S. Beavercreek Rd., turn left at S. Beavercreek Rd. and go 3.7 miles. . At Beavercreek Store go straight and the road becomes S. Kamrath Rd. go 0.5 miles. Turn right at S. Beaver Glen Dr. and go 0.1 miles. Take the 1st left to stay on S. Beaver Glen Dr. and go 0.4 miles. The arena is at the end of a dead end road. If you want to use Mapquest or your GPS the address is 15630 S. Beaverglen Dr., Oregon City, OR 97045

If you have any questions about this email you can call me at 541-258-8304 or email me at pjbullygoat@centurytel.net.

(Cont Pg 2, Col 1)

Jan Privratsky, Lebanon, OR

Life's an adventure.....especially with goats!

Other Upcoming Cascade PG Club Events!

* **A Harness Goat Clinic** on March 15th near Molalla, more info about that when it gets closer.

* The **Spring SOLVE Beach Clean-up** will be Saturday March 28th <http://www.solve.org/what-we-do/solve-spring-oregon-beach-cleanup>

* Then **OSU Pet Day** will be held on Saturday May 2nd and here's a link to that event as well <http://vetmed.oregon-state.edu/pet-day>

* Finally, the **Skamania Saddle club** will hold their annual **pancake fundraiser** on June 28th. The saddle club runs Camp Howe where we hold our annual campout each fall.

Land Use Issues!

Bighorn Sheep Distribution

This isn't exactly a news flash, as I have posted this picture/drawing to the newsletter in the past, but it underscores the magnitude of the threat that we face.

To wit:

1) Our goats are such an exaggerated threat to their vaunted Bighorns (and therefore their cash flow by the insane amount of money brought in by the auction of tags

to kill one), that they need to keep our da-- goats waaaay away from anywhere any Bighorns might be.

&

2) Their core long-range plan is to bring Bighorns back into the territory that they once occupied (the 'pie' in that word 'occupied', is the pie-in-the-sky of *that* particular plan).

OK. Now take a look at that drawing again. Do you see very much area in the drawing on the far left where you would be able to take your goats should they be successful in bringing this plan to complete fruition?

This 'plan' of theirs is exactly why we have been fighting to defeat this nonsense at its source.

BTW: Where did this drawing come from? It was produced in the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation's release of data from their last meeting.

Bighorn Sheep Numbers:

1850: about 2 million

1960: about 9,000

2014: more or less 80,000

As you can easily see from the above numbers, this is NOT a crisis.

NORTH AMERICAN BIGHORN SHEEP DISTRIBUTION



CIRCA 1850



CIRCA 1960



CIRCA 2012

Recently I came across an article in a magazine, just one more article where the core assumption was that we are a clearly defined hazard to BHS, and the document below was my response to this newspaper...

Well, here we go again, just one more supposedly well-educated animal technician repeating verbatim and rote the old saw, 'its those sheep and goats causing all our trouble with the Bighorns'. Is it really? Sheep, quite possibly. Goats? Tell me, Ms. Technician, where would be the science justifying that statement? Don't spend too much of your hopefully valuable time researching that because I already have... THERE ISN'T ANY. However, the goats-are-trouble myth is being expounded all over the west to justify their expulsion from the woods anywhere where there is a remote chance that there might be a Bighorn.

What that means to me, a definite senior-citizen who uses these wonderful little animals to help me maintain my access to the forest, is that in the last few years I have the ability to actually hike the woods, I'm being told "take your animals and leave."

If it were established in actual fact that I and my animal friends represented a clear and present danger to Bighorns, it would be easier to swallow. But it is NOT. It is a myth, pure and simple, and not proven in actual fact.

In reality, at least two wildlife biologists I have talked to, one in this very area you are talking about, made the statement to me, "well, we didn't actually do a research of this issue."

But we're gonna run you out just in case. What nonsense!

[URL to the Article in Question:](#)

http://www.wallowa.com/local_news/20150210/tech-studies-local-bighorns-pneumonia

What is a Newsletter?

In short, it is a compendium of happenings in whatever 'kingdom' or 'territory' the newsletter is designed to cover.

However, is it possible for a newsletter to adequately report on news or activities of interest in every corner of the 'kingdom' from just one vantage point?

Hardly.

But that is precisely what is happening with the NAPgA newsletter. Sometime back, I had my ears pinned back by one individual that noted, correctly, that folks needed to be kept up to date via a newsletter if they were to be

interested and/or concerned about the goings-on of the organization.

And so I have tried to keep a newsletter going on a reliable interval. But as anyone can observe, with one notable exception, it originates with one person and one person only. Why? Because there is virtually no input from anywhere except what I personally manage to come up with.

Jan Privratsky is a delightful exception as she eMails me with the activities and events of the Cascade PG Club. But is that the only west coast PG club? No. But the last time I remember getting input from one of the other PG clubs was... oh, wait a minute, I don't remember *ever* getting anything from any of the other PG clubs.

And so 'the beat goes on', and I will continue to try and keep this going, but it certainly would be easier, and a ton more effective, if'n I was hearing from all the various 'corners' of NAPgA.

Larry

Idaho, Oregon agencies plan to capture, relocate remaining Brownlee bighorn sheep herd

By Statesman Staff, January 28, 2015

http://www.idahostatesman.com/2015/01/28/3616580_idaho-oregon-agencies-plan-to.html?rh=1

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife plan to capture bighorn sheep in both states near Brownlee Dam in February.

The bighorn sheep near Brownlee are the remnants of the Sheep Mountain herd, which once numbered more than 80 individuals following transplants in Oregon in the early 1990s. However, after a pneumonia outbreak in 1999, the herd has since dwindled to fewer than five sheep. No lambs have been observed since 2009, and repeated testing indicates that chronic infection with bacterial pneumonia is the cause of this group's failure.

The upper end of Hells Canyon represents important bighorn sheep habitat. However, the remaining ewes represent a tiny remnant population with almost no chance of recovery, Idaho Department of Fish and Game reports. Furthermore, the department says, they represent a threat to other adjacent populations, as wandering bighorns that encounter these sheep may be exposed to the same bacterial pneumonia.

ODFW has proposed to work closely with IDFG to capture and remove the remaining few sheep from the Brownlee area as a prelude to establishing a new self-sustaining population. A bighorn sheep disease research facility at South Dakota State University has agreed to accept the sheep following capture.

The agencies will work together to capture bighorn sheep using a helicopter.

Following removal, ODFW plans to re-establish the Sheep Mountain herd by transplanting bighorn sheep from the adjacent Lookout Mountain herd. Releases in Oregon could begin as early as next winter if conditions are suitable.

IDFG would need to complete a legislatively required process before considering releasing bighorns on the Idaho side of the river in the future, according to a department news release.

In Memoriam

George Bogdan -- Napsa & Goatpacking has not only lost a great supporter, but the man who introduced Idaho and the northwest to goatpacking as well. It is with great sadness to see him end his earthly residence!

Early in January a virulent version of the flu began to make its rounds in the soldiers home where George was a resident. As it frequently does, it began to 'harvest' some of our senior citizens that were somewhat fragile due to age. Sadly, George was one of them, and he succumbed on January 4.

For me, that was an incredible disappointment, as I had hoped, more or less in the face of reason, that he would eventually recover sufficiently that he could get back out in the woods that he loved so much.

That didn't happen as the Lord took this issue out of our hands. But if there are goats in heaven, I am certain that George is already putting together his herd, and planning a trip into the heavenly mountains.

Larry Robinson

George Bogdan, Jr. May 2, 1928 - January 4, 2015

George Bogdan, Jr., 86, passed away on January 4, 2015 while gently cared for in the Idaho State Veterans Home in Boise, ID from a stroke in 2012.

George was born May 2, 1928 in Akron, OH to George and Yelca Bogdan; growing up with older siblings William, Florica, John, Lucretia and younger sister, Maria.

In 1948, George joined the [United States Air Force](#) once he met the weight minimum entrance requirements. The story goes that upon first denial his dad got him a gallon of milk and a bunch of bananas to quickly consume in the car so he could make weight! Throughout George's young life he dreamed of living in the West and being a part of the great outdoors. While stationed in Germany, he became best friends with Bill 'Willy' Wallace who invited him to visit their family farm in Vale, OR. It's there that George met Willy's baby sister Dorothy; they married December 6, 1953.

George took advantage of the G.I. bill and earned a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Idaho. Upon graduation he landed a job with Boeing and thus began the greatest years of his life.

George was already an avid fisherman and now included his growing family on many hikes. He made their backpacks and would even be seen sporting a cast iron skillet hanging

from his hip in those early years. The family joined the Washington Kayak Club in the early '60s learning to canoe and kayak, to build fiberglass boats and most importantly to form friendships that lasted 50+ years!

George was always finding new ways to enjoy his environment; he climbed the summit of Mt. Rainier with his son David, became a marathoner at the age of 40 and created the grueling Mt. Si run event. Ascending the mountain, the runner with the time closest to their age won. The family learned to cross country ski, and would also dash off to the ocean on a weekend in the van George built into a camper to dig Razor clams. Fall would bring weekends for pheasant and Chukar hunting on the Chase's farm in eastern WA; and deer and elk hunts with Air Force buddy Ray Poppe. George and Dorothy enjoyed traveling and found their way to Romania (pre and post Ceausescu), Nepal, Germany, Costa Rica and Paraguay.

George was a mountain man that enjoyed remote adventures in the Northwest Territories and later years throughout the Idaho wilderness. After retirement he became enamored with pack goats which turned into a goat packing business that supported his love of exploring Idaho's back country. George is known as the father of Idaho Goat packing! He guided Fish & Game agents to Sawtooth National Recreational Area lakes to count fish; they were thrilled with George's cooking while sitting on folding chairs instead of rocks!

George enjoyed sharing his love of the outdoors with his grandchildren whether making them find their Easter basket via the use of GPS on his property or taking them on overnight trips up the canyon to sleep in a secret cave! The city boy became an enthusiastic gardener under the tutelage of Dorothy and would often reflect on how his father had loved to tend their flower garden.

George also enjoyed woodworking over the winter months and created many beautiful jewelry boxes and cutting boards as gifts for family and friends.

Playing Bridge as a couple spanned the decades and even after his stroke George would figure out the daily Bridge column challenge.

George is survived by his wonderful wife of 61 years, Dorothy I. Bogdan of Eagle, ID, daughter Patti Bogdan of Eagle, ID, son David Bogdan of Fresno, CA, grandchildren Alexandra BogdandeLugo of Boise, ID, Christian BogdandeLugo of Eagle, ID, Araceli Bogdan of Fresno, CA and sister Maria 'Mary' Copacia of Shelby Township, MI.

George is preceded in death by his father George Bogdan Sr., mother Yelca Bogdan, siblings William, Florica, John, and Lucretia.

A military service and celebration of George's life will be announced later. George would want everyone to take a walk or hike and delight in the experience of the great outdoors.

Run in Peace George!

In Memoriam
Some pictures -- The best of George!



One of the best pictures of George that I have seen



One of the first fish that George 'snagged' on our trip to 'Moon' lake. This was a lightly-traveled destination that he wanted to access after I regaled him with the stories of the size of 'Moon' lake's fish. Don't go looking for it on a map, 'Moon' is George's name for this lake. It's round.



This picture, and the one below, were taken on a trip into the Lynx Creek Lakes area in the Sawtooths. George had always wanted to access this area, but had never made it. We put this trip together late September and were blessed with stupendous weather. However, the actual climb into this area from the middle fork of the Boise river above Atlanta was brutal... no, beyond brutal. It was a climb of around 3000', mostly granite, and George struggled. Upon returning, it was discovered that George had a bad valve or two in his heart and every time he began exercising, his blood-oxygen level went into the toilet. For George to have actually made it all the way up to the top of this area was a testament to the trooper that he was. Incredible.

