

Far From Home: Transplanting Exotic Goats to Mount Peale Research Natural Area



Mountain Goat
Native Range



Mt. Peale Research
Natural Area

Mountain Goats, *Oreamnos americanus*, are native to southeast Alaska, Canada's western Rocky Mountains and parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. Contrary to the common name, Rocky Mountain Goats, are not native to a majority of the Rockies in the United States and have been introduced to parts of Oregon, Nevada, Colorado, Wyoming and Utah.

In 2013 and 2014, the state of Utah airlifted 35 mountain goats to the La Sal Mountains in southern Utah, a unique and vulnerable desert alpine region. Originally deposited, over the objection of the Forest Service, on state land surrounded by the Manti-La Sal National Forest, the goats spread to the Forest's alpine areas above 11,000'. With no barriers limiting access to Mount Peale Research Natural Area, goats are now living on and using the area, contrary to Forest Service regulations that non-native species, including the goats, are forbidden in all Research Natural Areas.



GRAND CANYON
TRUST

Map by Emily Aumann and Stephanie Smith

Sources: Festa-Bianchet, M. 2008. *Oreamnos americanus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2015.2. <www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 24 June 2015.