

RMRS-GTR-209: A review of disease related conflicts between domestic sheep and goats and bighorn sheep

This publication has been removed. On July 1, 2009, the United States District Court for the District of Idaho issued a decision and order in Idaho Wool Growers Assoc. v. Schafer which found that the Risk Assessment Disease Transmission Committee and the Payette Principles Committee were advisory committees subject to the procedural requirements of FACA. These Committees were established to review information regarding disease transmission between domestic and bighorn sheep for a Forest Planning effort. The order states that “the Committees’ finding and /or conclusions are not to be relied upon by the Forest Service with respect to any future agency decisions.”

A Review of Disease Related Conflicts Between Domestic Sheep and Goats and Bighorn Sheep (RMRS-GTR-209) was prepared to provide a summary of the published scientific literature concerning the issue of disease transmission between bighorn sheep and domestic sheep and goats. Since RMRS-GTR-209 incorporates the principles developed by the Payette Principles Committee, it would not be appropriate for the Forest Service to use this publication in future agency decisions or policy development in light of the July 1, 2009, decision. Given these circumstances, the agency has retracted RMRS-GTR-209.

The court order does not preclude the underlying scientific literature reviewed by the Payette Principles Committee.