From: Kevin Dana

To: Miller, Shannon D (DEC)
Cc: info@akwildsheep.org
Subject: Call to Action / MOVI

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2020 5:58:05 PM

To Whom it may concern,

My name is Kevin Dana, I am a lifelong Alaskan and the owner of Barney's Sports Chalet here in Anchorage. I have been hunting in Alaska my entire life, and of course I cater to other Alaska residents and non residents who enjoy chasing our wide variety of big game animals.

The Dall Sheep, Mountain Goat and Muskoxen are among some of the most prized animals in Alaska, and North America in general. Which is the main reason I am writing you today, to express my concern for their future. As you well know, "Movi" is a real threat that these animals are facing in the wild, and evidence has shown that it is directly correlated to domestic sheep and goats.

I fully support, and furthermore so should you, the testing of ALL domestic sheep and goats regardless of age prior to their import into Alaska. I find it specifically important that we use accredited diagnostic laboratories as the testing needs to be 100% accurate and unbiased to ensure we accomplish our mission to keep this disease out of our wild populations.

If you take the time to research the regions in which the Dall Sheep, Mountain Goat, and the Muskoxen inhabit, you'll quickly find that Alaska is the ONLY state within the United States that you will find the Dall Sheep and Muskoxen, and furthermore the largest population of Mountain Goats in the United States.

Movi is a terrible disease that has already infected vast populations of wild sheep and goats in many parts of the US. In those places, there is no return. At this point, the disease is simply being "managed'. We have an opportunity to take a significant step in the direction of keeping Movi from infecting our populations, and it's as simple as testing domestic sheep and goats BEFORE they enter Alaska.

To close I would also like to state that I support adding MOVI to the Reportable Disease List, which would require same-day reporting, furthermore helping our chances of keeping this disease from entering our state.

Thank you for your time, and I trust you will make the right decision to help keep our wild animals safe, and wild!

Kevin Dana

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Kevin Dana

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