

From: [Brian and Nikiesha Richards](#)
To: [Miller, Shannon D \(DEC\)](#)
Cc: info@wildsheep.org
Subject: proposed movi testing
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 2:40:00 PM

Hello,

My name is Brian Richards. I am an avid outdoorsman, small business owner, and I have been an Alaska resident for 15 years. I am fully in favor of requiring testing of all domestic sheep and goats through an accredited diagnostic laboratory before allowing those animals to enter the state. I also support adding Movi to the reportable disease list.

As I'm sure you are aware wild sheep have very little defense against Movi and if this disease spreads to our wild Alaska herds the result could be devastating. We have the opportunity to make a huge difference with comparatively little effort. There is no logical reason not to test domestics prior to entering the state. It is our duty as Alaskan's to protect the unique animals and ecosystems we have within this state. It would be a massive mistake to wait until there is a problem to search for a solution. We have an easy solution that can prevent this from ever becoming a real problem in the first place. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure....

Thanks for taking the time to consider my comments.

Brian Richards

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