



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Olympic National Park

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## Olympic National Park News Release

July 21, 2014

For Immediate Release

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### **Olympic National Park Invites Public Participation in Development of Mountain Goat Management Plan**

#### **New Plan to Consider Non-Native Goats' Effects on Natural Processes and Habitats, and Visitor Safety**

The National Park Service is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for Mountain Goat Management in Olympic National Park, announced Superintendent Sarah Creachbaum today. A Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a Mountain Goat Management Plan appears in today's Federal Register.

“We are pleased to ask the public to help us develop a long-term plan for managing the population of exotic mountain goats in Olympic National Park,” said Creachbaum. “We have drafted some preliminary alternative concepts that we'd like the public to reflect and comment on during this initial scoping period. And of course, we are also interested in additional alternative concepts people may have.”

The original need to manage the goat population was driving by ecological concerns related to the impact of goats on the park's natural resources, particularly sensitive vegetation communities. New concerns were raised in 2010 when a visitor was fatally gored by a mountain goat while hiking on a park trail. The current planning effort will result in a plan that provides for overall management of mountain goats and considers the non-native goats' effects on natural processes and habitats, as well as visitor safety.

More information, including the purpose and need for the plan, the plan's objectives and preliminary alternative concepts developed so far, can be found online at <http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/olyngoat>.

Comments may also be submitted electronically at <http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/olyngoat>, or in writing at one of the three open house workshops listed below. Comments may also be mailed to Superintendent, Olympic National Park, 600 East Park Avenue, Port Angeles, WA 98362. Comments should be submitted no later than September 19, 2014.

Public Scoping Open Houses are planned for mid-August as follows:

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#### **EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

**Monday, August 11**

**Seattle Open House 5pm – 7pm**

Seattle Public Library, Wright/Ketchum Room, Level 4, Room 2  
1000 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104  
206-386-4636

**Tuesday, August 12**

**Olympia Open House 5pm – 7pm**

Olympic National Forest Headquarters  
Willaby-Klahowya-Coho Rooms  
1835 Black Lake Blvd Southwest  
Olympia, WA 98512  
360-956-2303

**Wednesday, August 13**

**Port Angeles Open House 5pm – 7pm**

Port Angeles Public Library (North Olympic Library System)  
2210 S. Peabody Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362  
360-417-8500

For more information or to be added to the Olympic National Park Mountain Goat Management Plan mailing list, people should visit <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/olyngoat> or call the park at 360-565-3004.

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