**Volunteer duty description for participation in the Olympic mountain goat ground-based lethal removal**

**Summary of Volunteer Responsibilities**: The National Park Service (NPS) seeks teams of volunteers to assist in the eradication of mountain goats within Olympic National Park (OLYM). Mountain goats in OLYM inhabit very remote and steep terrain; this task will be extremely rigorous, and suitable for only the most experienced and physically fit volunteers.

Due to safety considerations, volunteers are required to apply in teams of 3 to 6 participants. Each selected team will be assigned to one of 15 goat ground removal management units. Volunteers will be asked to locate and shoot goats and process them in the field, following OLYM guidelines. Volunteers will be asked to shoot all goats in groups that are encountered, with preference for adult females and yearlings. This action is needed remove non-native mountain goats from the park.

The operation will run from September 9th through October 17th, 2020. Volunteers will be assigned to one of 3 11-day periods during that time frame. Volunteers will be asked to record data on all goats encountered and shot, and to collect biological samples from all goats that can be safely accessed (hair, tooth, tissue sample, skull cap including horns). Using their discretion, volunteers will be allowed to remove and retain meat and other materials. They will be asked to dispose of remaining materials following NPS guidelines.

The following criteria need to be met for volunteers participating in the mountain goat removal program.

* Submit a group application, consisting of information from 3 to 6 individuals. Only complete application packets will be evaluated.
* All members of the group will be required to:
  + Provide a pictured proof of identity (driver’s license or passport, hunting license)
  + Be a United States citizen.
  + Be at least 18 years of age.
  + Pass a NCIC criminal background check and sign a volunteer applicant affidavit of criminal history and background investigation release.
  + Sign up as an unpaid NPS Volunteer employee (NPS VIP Program) for 11 days.
  + Provide a physician’s note certifying physical fitness sufficient to support hiking up to 15 miles a day for 7 consecutive days, carrying a 50 lb. pack, in mountainous terrain.
  + Provide own equipment (tent, backpack, etc.) for use in the field
  + Provide own transportation.
  + Attend and actively participate in a daylong training session.
  + Follow Olympic National Park guidelines while participating in the field.
  + Follow guidelines for Code of Scientific and Scholarly conduct, and Personal Social Media Code of Conduct (NPS will provide).
* At least one member of each group must agree to take and pass a firearms proficiency test (place of minimum of 3 of 5 shots in an 8-inch circle at 200 yards) using the firearm and ammunition that they will be using in the field. The test will be administered during the training session.
* Only those group members that successfully pass the firearms test will be allowed to shoot goats.
* Only those group members that successfully pass the firearms test will be allowed to carry a rifle into Olympic National Park.
* Provide own firearm and ammunition (enough for both qualifications and goat removal; 40 rounds minimum suggested), which must be on the approved list. (Firearms must be at least .24 caliber with a bottlenecked cartridge. Non-lead ammunition. Detailed description in “Approved Ammunition” document.
* Follow NPS instructions for lethal removal and processing of mountain goats in the park.
* When not in use, volunteers must secure their weapon at all times.