



MOUNTAIN GOAT

Oreamnos americanus



During the summer, the coat of the Mountain Goat consists of short, white wool. During the winter the coat becomes yellowish, shaggy, and thick to protect the animal from cold temperatures. Both males and females have short, sharp horns. They have large, rounded hooves with specialized pads to help them navigate their rocky habitat. Mountain Goats are known for their agility and speed with respect to navigating steep terrain. Mountain Goats form large groups in the winter, but they are found in smaller groups or are solitary during the summer.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

Mountain Goats average about five feet in length, with a shoulder height of about three feet.

WEIGHT

An adult Mountain Goat will weigh between 100 and 150 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

The diet of the Mountain Goat consists of grasses, shrubs, mosses, lichens, and other vegetation.

HABITAT

Mountain Goats are found at high altitudes in steep, rocky areas with cliffs.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The Mountain Goat ranges from southeast Alaska southward to northeastern Washington, northern Idaho, and northwestern Montana.

FUN FACT

As in many other species that possess horns, it is possible to determine the age of a Mountain Goat by counting the number of rings on his horns. Horns continue to grow throughout the lifetime of an animal, with a new ring added every year.