

**Utah Wildlife News**  
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**Mountain Goat Watch**

*Free viewing event Aug. 9 on Tushar Mountain*

Beaver -- A chance to see as many as 100 mountain goats is waiting for you during a free wildlife viewing event on Aug. 9.

The Division of Wildlife Resources will host its annual Tushar Mountain Goat Watch that day on the Tushar Mountains east of Beaver.

The event is free. The DWR will provide all the equipment you'll need to view the goats. But you may not need the equipment—at some of the past events, the goats have gotten as close as 35 feet from those viewing them!

Lynn Chamberlain, regional conservation outreach manager for the DWR, conducts the event every year. He says the trip will begin at 8 a.m. at the convenience store at the bottom of Exit 109 off I-15. (Exit 109 is the exit on the south side of Beaver.)

"From there, we'll caravan to the top of the Tushar Mountains," Chamberlain says. "When we reach the top, we'll be about 11,500 feet above sea level. The view from there is amazing. You can see all of southern Utah, and we can almost always locate the goats."

Chamberlain encourages you to bring water, a hat, a jacket and a sack lunch. It's also a good idea to travel in a vehicle that has high ground clearance. "The road can be rocky towards the top," he says.

**A unique area**

In addition to seeing the mountain goats, Chamberlain says the trip will be a great opportunity to explore an alpine-tundra ecosystem. It's an ecosystem that's not common in southern Utah.

"The alpine-tundra ecosystem is found only at high altitudes above the timberline," Chamberlain says. "Unique animals live there. These animals include yellow-bellied marmots and pika. They've adapted some pretty interesting behavior to survive the extreme cold found in these high-elevation areas in the winter."

For more information about the goat watching event, call the DWR's Southern Region office at (435) 865-6100.

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