



## BRITISH COLUMBIA MOUNTAIN GOAT SOCIETY

SMITHERS BC CANADA

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### Newsletter

December 8, 2017

#### Greetings

A small number of mountain goats disperse from their home mountain to visit other mountains nearby. Most of these goats are young 2 or 3 year old males.

Dispersal is vital to the health of the herd. This small number of goats from each herd that disperse keep the gene pool diverse. Dispersing goats are also the pioneers of new populations of mountain goats.

There is very little information about dispersal in the science literature, especially about the path that dispersing goats take across valleys. Obviously our farm fences and roads create obstacles to the dispersing goats.

In order to assess how human society can block or frustrate a mountain goat walking from one mountain to another, I have designed an online form to calculate the effect of all obstacles to dispersal.

Take a look. It's explained at <http://bcmountaingoatsociety.ca/dispersal.asp>

Suggestions? Let me know if you have an idea on how to make the calculator better. It's a work in progress.

Cheers

Jim Easterday