



Moose often spar with no obvious reason other than to play with their buddies. But going head to head also has a more serious side: sorting out social rank. Sparring is one of the more important ways of determining hierarchy, especially for bulls in the few weeks before and during the rut. Bouts can also happen between males and females, and even just between females, but the Shiras moose of Colorado never seem to intend harm. Playful and purposeful sparring also occurs with moose of all ages, most charmingly between young calves like Billi's twins Sid and Shea. Moose engage each other in all sorts of ways...

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