

Officers Board Meeting 5/13/2021 7:00 pm

1. Attendees: Katie, Scott, Zach, Joni, Kurt, Pat, Ryan, Scott S., Mack, Daryl, Doug,

Absentees: Bruce, Jimmy, JW, Dean, Greg
2. Joni- Funds in accounts, and noted amounts still needed for GIA's, Total available cash for GIAs is \$112,947.96. Requested amounts are \$114,569.00. Banquet expenses are for the most part paid, so we will be bringing in more money from the banquet.
3. Joni- Discussed with Dirk possibly changing fiscal year so that it lines up better with banquet. Would require bylaws changing. Save for discussion in December.
4. GIAs-
 - NW WY Sheep Nutrition & Disease- Kevin Monteith (Whiskey, Jackson, Cody) studying dynamics of BHS herds in NW WY. Determine roles of summer range nutrition, pathogens, predation, and listed objectives: seasonal range/migrations, estimate nutritional carrying capacity, survival/mortality, factors affecting vital rates, assess differences in disease and nutrition, diet forage quality and abundance, affects of browsing and fire on forage. Have funded in the past. They did receive \$85,000 from WGBGLC, provide good updates and it is a huge study. Over \$1.5 million project. Requesting \$20,000. All of the money from the WGBGLC was from the sheep account. This study finishes up December 2021. Scott ranks high- promote to fully fund. Joni, Mack, Pat, Zach, Ryan, Kurt **Rank High- FULLY FUND**
 - Douglas Creek BHS Monitoring Post-Mullen Creek Fire- Lee Knox (Douglas Creek Herd) fire burned through Douglas Creek Sheep BHS herd unit. Purchase 20 GPS collars, cover capture costs for 20 sheep in 2021, secure data fees. Data will be used to determine habitat selection and movement to be compared pre-and post-fire. Sheep herd does not move very far. Information will be used to see if the sheep will utilize some of the Mullen Fire burned area as currently the sheep are in an old burn area from 20 years ago. Would like to recapture sheep with collars already so that the information from pre fire can be compared to post fire information. Possible that habitat has increased greatly since the fire and could provide an area to do transplants and increase hunter opportunity. Are we working with Forest Service to address future burns to increase habitat- if we sell it right, we could get more bang for a buck, use this fire as an example? Other parts of Snowy Range would be suitable without the conifer encroachment. **Rank High- FULLY FUND**
 - NBSC- Conservation, Education, & Research- Sara Bridge (Expansion to National Resource) expand center to become a national resource. Use funds to do listening tours, curriculum, and marketing development, share information on WY-WSF projects, education programming. Not sure if funding has been requested from other chapters or National. They need to request monies from other chapters, still missing in application. The whole idea was to make it a national umbrella. Had a meeting with Steve, Ian, Sarah. If they are to be National then other affiliates need to be utilized, not be stuck in city limits. Since 2017- WY-WSF has given the NBSC almost \$70,000.00. WY-WSF has funded them pretty well, they need a broader plan for funding. Once there are funds from other chapters, WY-WSF will help fund. **Rank Low- Don't Fund**
 - Seminole Mountain Conifer Encroachment- Chris Otto (Seminole Mountains) continue BHS habitat treatments in the Seminole Mountains. Conifer removal through mechanical methods to prepare area for prescribed burning. Treatment of Federal lands awaiting NEPA approval, most of WY-WSF would be used on private deeded lands, state leased lands, and BoR lands. Sheep habitat is sheep habitat no matter

who owns the land. Any improvements on our lands will keep them from eyeing the Pedros mountains. Habitat enhancement long-term work. **Rank High-FULLY FUND**

- Dynamic Messaging Signs- Sybille Canyon- Martin Hicks (Wheatland) 2 dynamic messaging signs to alert drivers of wildlife on the roads, issues with bighorn sheep concentrating on roadways due to hwy salting. Two mature BHS hit and killed and recently ewe was hit and they couldn't find her body. Borrowed signs past winter. Would be helpful for all wildlife. Would get a lot of use on Hwy 34. Is there data showing signs are working throughout the state, bandaied on the problem, first step for wildlife collisions. No data that to say they help or don't. Not sure people really pay attention to them. Visitation with WYDOT has happened about chemical, but not budging. Daryl has seen people slow down when they see the signs **Rank Med-Low-PARTIALLY FUND**
- Electromagnetic Drop Net- Joe Sandrini (Newcastle) electromagnetic drop net system for sheep (and potentially other wildlife) captures. Will be located in Newcastle but will be available to other G&F personnel in the state. Bruce worked hard to get commissioner tag with this project in mind. Borrowing capture system from SD currently. Gathering disease samples, and to estimate populations size. Acts now will save money **Rank High- FULLY FUND**
- Statewide Invasive Treatments in BHS Habitats- Sam Stephens (Statewide) invasive annual grass mitigation in BHS habitats. Aerial treatment with Indaziflam will be conducted in high priority BHS habitats from 2021-2023 throughout WY. These funds will be used to leverage funding from partners. Will use Endurance Funds \$150,000. Katie spoke with Ian Tater about funds being matched by G&F to leverage funds. Definitely a cheat grass problem in Devil's Canyon, haven't been able to treat due to NEPA not being completed by Forest Service. Several areas have had cheat grass issues, keeps showing up in BHS areas. To use our money has to be occupied BHS habitat. Will there be progressive updates? G&F has IAG Funds. \$150,000 will be used strictly for BHS habitat **Rank High- FULLY FUND**
- Northern Wild Sheep & Goat Symposium- Doug McWhirter (Jackson) sponsorship of the biennial Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council meeting to be held in Jackson 4-7, 2022. Meeting happens every 2 years. Gathering of biologists that focus solely on wild sheep. Results in some management actions. Potential for advertising. Offset some costs for hosting the meeting. Give home chapter some recognition for sponsorship. National WSF and Goat Alliance sponsored \$2000.00. Match National **Rank Medium- PARTIAL FUND \$2000.00**
- WY Grizzly Conflict Mitigation- Joseph Goergen (Statewide) bear conflict education and bear spray giveaway events. Future backcountry grizzly bear mitigation (bear boxes/meat poles). Could people that are going into the backcountry rent a can and return it rather than giving away cans that people may not even use. Out of our wheelhouse. Rather spend money on higher ranking items. **Rank Low- NO FUNDING**
- Joey's Conservation Program: Streamkeepers- Joey Puettnam (Sheridan) funding for the Stream Keepers conservation program. Focus on stream related activities and restoration. Non-profit works with kids to get into outdoors. Made donation to auction fishing on private water and two rods and reels. If asking for funds in return, not really donation. Other groups fit this better the WWSF. **Rank Low- NO FUNDING**
- Devil's Canyon BHS Movement Analysis- Sam Stephens (Greybull) request funded from existing WGBGLC project funds- no need to fund through GIA
- *Other GIA items were funded by WGBGLC and funds were not requested from WWSF*

Motion to adjourn

Pat Pace, Secretary