



November 15, 2021

Daryl Lutz
Wildlife Coordinator
Wyoming Game and Fish Dept.
260 Buena Vista Dr.
Lander, WY 8520

Dear Mr. Lutz,

Please accept this letter from the Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF), the Wyoming Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation (WY-WSF), and the Wyoming Wildlife Federation (WWF) in support of the reintroduction of bighorn sheep to the Sweetwater Rocks area of Wyoming. Collectively, our organizations represent thousands of sportspersons and wildlife conservation advocates.

Our local Wyoming and national members are eager to support the return of this iconic species to its former and native range within the Sweetwater Rocks, helping to maintain population viability of bighorn sheep both in Wyoming and west-wide, and to provide sustainable recreational opportunities that will bring economic benefit to the area.

We appreciate the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission's consideration of the Pathfinder Ranches' proposal to assess the feasibility of a bighorn reintroduction in the area. Commission direction to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in July 2021 was clear. The Department's subsequent diligence in following the process outlined in the Wyoming Plan to gauge public sentiment towards a reintroduction and involve stakeholders to cooperatively review a possible transplant has been very thorough and inclusive. Representatives from our organizations have been present and engaged in the entire process, and feel this collaborative approach will result in a proposal that considers the best available science as well as the interests and concerns from the agricultural community and wildlife conservationists. We intend to stay engaged in the Wyoming Bighorn/Domestic Sheep Working Group and hope to continue working toward a proposal for reintroduction that can be held up as an example of successful collaborative natural resource planning.

We ask the Department and Commission to please continue to move forward with their efforts in pursuing the reintroduction of bighorn sheep into the Sweetwater Rocks.

Sincerely,

Katie Cheesbrough
Executive Director
Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation

Kevin Hurley
Vice-President for Conservation
Wild Sheep Foundation

Joy Bannon
Policy Director
Wyoming Wildlife Federation