



◀ WYOMING ▶
**WILD SHEEP
FOUNDATION**

Board Of Directors Application

Name

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Please tell us which conservation based groups you have worked for in the past?

Field Technician for the University of Wyoming Fish and Wildlife Cooperative Extension, 1998-1999. Live-trapped swift fox throughout remote Central Wyoming. Radio collared and collected biological samples of all trapped foxes. Utilized radio telemetry and terrestrial visual encounter surveys to document and provide reliable, standardized data on status and changes in the distribution and relative frequency of swift fox in Central Wyoming (Shirley Basin).

Wildlife Education Technician, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Wildlife Center at Sybille (Thorne/Williams Unit), 1997-1998. Managed the Center's research education facility. Guided visiting

groups ranging from elementary through college age, special interest groups, state legislators, wildlife enthusiasts and the general public. Coordinated volunteers and donors for the annual youth and special needs fishing day. Resided full-time on the facility. Assisted wildlife veterinarians with feeding, doctoring, medicating, relocating, and general care of various native ungulates, predators, raptors, and endangered species. Participated in wildlife disease studies to include Chronic Wasting Disease (Elk, Moose, Deer), Brucellosis (Elk), and pneumonia (Bighorn sheep). Completed Wildlife Chemical Immobilization certification course.

Describe your experience with Fundraising

Wyoming Air National Guard, Special Events coordination, 2014-2023. Combined nine years of soliciting funds and coordinating sponsorship of annual Wyoming Air National Guard airshows and annual STEM days to include designing and tailoring event scope, establishing annual event budgets, seeking national-level funding and other non-local donors, collaborating with legal teams to enable the addition of event sponsors, marketing strategies, invoicing, and execution of funds which included annual post-event after action analysis and reporting.

What plans do you have to improve WY-WSF

Having over two decades of experience collaborating with Air National Guard bases across the nation, an area in which I would focus efforts to improve the WY-WSF is enhancing intra-state collaboration of information and initiatives among Wild Sheep Foundation chapters and affiliates. As an example, I recently sat and conversed with the Director of the Nevada Bighorns Unlimited and his wife at a 2023 Sheep Show banquet in Reno. One community-based initiative of Nevada Bighorns Unlimited is gathering donations of lightly used hunting clothes and equipment and making these donations available to distribute to new hunters taking a hunter education course. This specific initiative may not directly put and keep sheep on the mountain, but it is an example of how an initiative may foster larger Wyoming community support, recruit youth to Wyoming conservation initiatives, and potentially garner additional financial support from reluctant Wyoming donors. Ideas like this often sprout from relationships and collaboration.

What strengths will you bring to WY-WSF?

As a Wyoming Native, avid outdoor enthusiast, and UW graduate with a minor in Wildlife Management I bring a palpable passion for Wyoming and its natural resources. Wyoming's wildlife and natural resources are a gift. Without dedicated advocates working tirelessly to preserve and advance these resources for future generations, we risk not being able to pass on what we were given. Wild sheep are sensitive to environmental change. As such, they must garner specialized attention, increased community awareness, proper funding, and the right kind of resources at the right time so they may thrive in the places they currently reside and be re-established in the places in which they should reside. If selected as a board member, my efforts would be to leverage my leadership, communication, collaboration, and planning skillsets to advance the WY-WSF mission of conserving and advancing Wyoming bighorn sheep populations, safeguarding against their decline, and funding professional management programs of these populations.

An organization's most precious resources are its people, and I come with a diverse range of followership and leadership experiences. I understand what motivates people to accomplish the things they would rather not and still show up to work the next day. I understand budget programming cycles and have worked at the state and national level to seek the support of professional groups, associations, and congressional delegates with regard to focusing their efforts or inputs toward my organization's interests. I have twelve years of experience at the executive level overseeing and directing finance, administration, and personnel programs as well as long-range and strategic planning, recruiting, and public relations for an organization with over 2300 members and \$21M in payroll.

How you do anything is how you do everything. My grit and determination to achieve excellence in any task will add value to the efforts of the Board of directors, enhance the initiatives of the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation, and further foster stewardship of the interests and contributions of its members.

I would be honored to dedicate my time and experiences ranging from field technician to executive leader in any effort towards the betterment of the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation and Wyoming wild sheep.

Thank you for your consideration of my application.

Please provide us with a letter of recommendation from an existing WY-WSF member.

Scot Withers (Life Member # 564) is submitting a Letter of Recommendation

Upload Recommendation letter