



The RAMPAGE

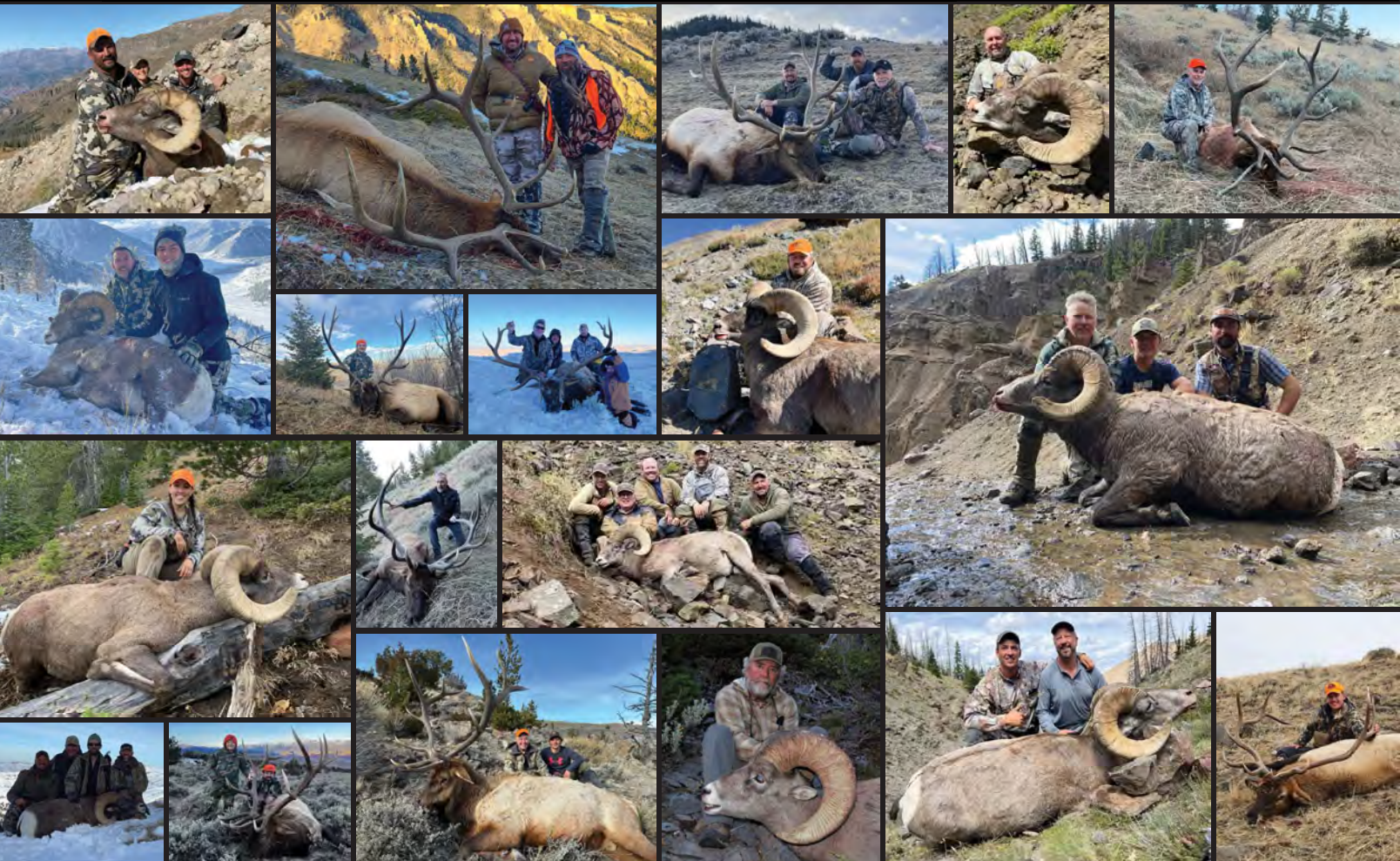
Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation
Fall 2025

7D RANCH OUTFITTING

"Specializing in quality custom hunts"



Meade & Andrea Dominick • Cody, WY | Outfitter: WY BG -122
307.899.1490 or 307.587.9885 • www.7dranchoutfitting.com • meadedominick@hotmail.com





OFFERING WORLD-CLASS HORSEBACK, BACKPACK AND FLOATS TRIPS FOR
FANNIN SHEEP, ALASKAN/YUKON MOOSE, BARREN GROUND CARIBOU,
MOUNTAIN CARIBOU, MOUNTAIN GRIZZLY, WOLF AND WOLVERINE.

LOGAN YOUNG | 406.595.6583 • JESSIE YOUNG | 403.813.8589 • MIDNIGHTSUNOUTFITTING@GMAIL.COM



Photo: Dan Quinn

2025-2026 CALENDAR

December 5-6, 2025
 WY WSF Board & Membership Winter Meeting
 Saratoga, Wyoming

January 22-24, 2026
 WSF Sheep Show
 Reno, Nevada

May 14-16, 2026
 WSF Chapters & Affiliates Meeting
 Grand Junction, Colorado

June 5-6, 2026
 WY WSF Annual Convention
 Casper, Wyoming

June 24-25, 2026
 Wyoming Bighorn Sheep Summit
 Burgess Junction, Wyoming

2024-25 Governor's License Sales Totals

2025 Sale Location	2024 LICENSE SALES	2025 LICENSE SALES
WSF	\$195,000	\$215,000
Eastern	\$185,000	\$221,000
Midwest	\$185,000	\$130,000
Iowa	\$185,000	\$150,000
Wyoming	\$190,000	\$300,000
Total	\$940,000	\$1,016,000

Wyoming WSF would like to thank and recognize Life Members who have signed up since the Spring 2025 RamPage was published. A complete listing of WY-WSF Life Members is available for viewing on the WY-WSF web page, under the "Life Members" tab. If you are interested in signing up, or upgrading to Life Member or Ramshorn Society Life Membership status with WY-WSF, please visit our store or membership pages on the website.

We thank all of our past, current, and future Life and Ramshorn Society Life Members!

New Life Members

- 732 Sandra Fields
- 733 Danny Middelstadt
- 734 Dean Roskowiak
- 735 Joel Tavera
- 736 Stormie Williams
- 737 Stephen Mensinger
- 738 Easton Hunt
- 739 Elijah Lane
- 740 Rebecca Stansell
- 741 Tanner Tuggle
- 742 Perry Livingston

The **RAM**PAGE

Features

Fall 2025

Board of Directors:

Bralli Clifford
President

John W. Harris
Vice President

Bruce Perryman
Secretary

Scott Butler
Treasurer

Zach McDermott
Past President

Jaden Bales

Kurt Eisenach

Matt Hoobler

Cathy Keene

James Owens

Greg Pope

Katie Cheesbrough
Executive Director

Dean Dijenno
Deputy Director

11 Brothers Bighorns

17 WSF: Lifetime Achievement Award, Daryl Lutz

21 Continuing the Fight Against Cheatgrass

25 Advanced Screening of Carrying Capacity Film

29 Restoring the Rim: A Burn for the Bighorns

35 Speaking Up For Wyoming's Wild Sheep

39 Honoring the Life and Legacy of Steve Kilpatrick

53 Born From Ashes: How Fire Helps Shape Bighorn Sheep Habitat

55 My 2024 Big Horn Sheep Hunt

59 With A Little Help From My Friends: A Wyoming Cow Moose Hunt

73 Almost!

77 A Hero's Pursuit: The Journey to Harvesting a Wyoming Bighorn Sheep

Magazine Editor - Kendra Young

Advertisement Information

For more information about including information or advertisements in the WY WSF RamPage, contact Kendra@wyomingwildsheep.org.

The RamPage is a biannual publication, with submission deadlines in February and September each year.

Mailing Information

Address Changes: Submit address changes to Info@wyomingwildsheep.org or (307) 213-0998.

Each membership address will receive one mailed copy of the RamPage. If you would like to receive more copies contact RamPage@wyomingwildsheep.org

Front Cover Photograph: Cody Porter During His 2025 Ewe Hunt.

Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation



Bralli Clifford
President



John Harris
Vice President



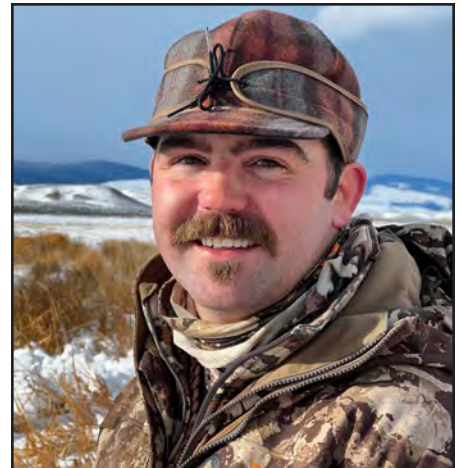
Bruce Perryman
Secretary



Scott Butler
Treasurer



Zach McDermott
Past President



Jaden Bales
Board of Directors



Kurt Eisenach
Board of Directors



Matt Hoobler
Board of Directors



Cathy Keene
Board of Directors

Board of Directors and Staff



James Owens
Board of Directors



Greg Pope
Board of Directors



Katie Cheesbrough
Executive Director



Dean Dijenno
Deputy Director



Kendra Young
RamPage Editor



Lauren Creagan
Social Media Manager



◀ WYOMING ▶
**WILD SHEEP
FOUNDATION**

Built to Last: Expanding our Convention on a Legacy of Success

By Katie Cheesbrough, Executive Director

In this issue, you'll meet the folks serving on your Board of Directors and hear straight from our new President about where we're headed. Flip through these pages and you'll see how this team keeps adapting and growing, always with the same goal in mind: putting and keeping wild sheep on Wyoming's mountains.

I've been in the Executive Director's seat for five years now, but I know for a lot of members, what I do day-to-day is still kind of a mystery. Truth is, no two weeks ever look the same. One day I'm buried in federal land management plans, the next I'm across the table from ranchers and agencies talking reintroductions, or working shoulder-to-shoulder with biologists and our board to get critical projects funded. It's a constant mix of boots-on-the-ground conservation, behind-the-scenes coordination, and making sure WY-WSF has a strong voice when things get wily with wildlife and natural resource policy.

That variety is exactly what keeps me going. What ties it all together is one big priority: building trust and partnerships. If WY-WSF is at the table, whether it's with agencies, fellow conservation groups, or our neighboring states, we want people to know we bring solutions, not problems.

Here are just a few of the irons I've had in the fire recently.

- Sweetwater Rocks bighorn reintroduction
- Bridger-Teton Forest Plan revision

- Grand Targhee Ski Area Expansion comments and coordination
- Seminoe-Ferris Bighorn Sheep Herd Seasonal Range Updates
- Standing firm against the Seminoe Pumped Storage Project
- Tackling feral horse issues at both the state and federal levels
- Supporting the use and public understanding novel bighorn sheep management tools, like Omniscape movement analyses, Test & Remove effort, and different harvest strategies
- Serving on the Governor's Big Game License Coalition, the Bighorn/Domestic

Sheep Interaction Working Group, and the Governor's Sportsmen's Conservation Forum Steering Committee

- Logging plenty of miles to be at Commission and Legislative meetings across Wyoming

Every one of these efforts, whether it's meeting with partners in the field or hashing things out in a conference room, feeds into the same mission: conserving and enhancing Wyoming's wild sheep.

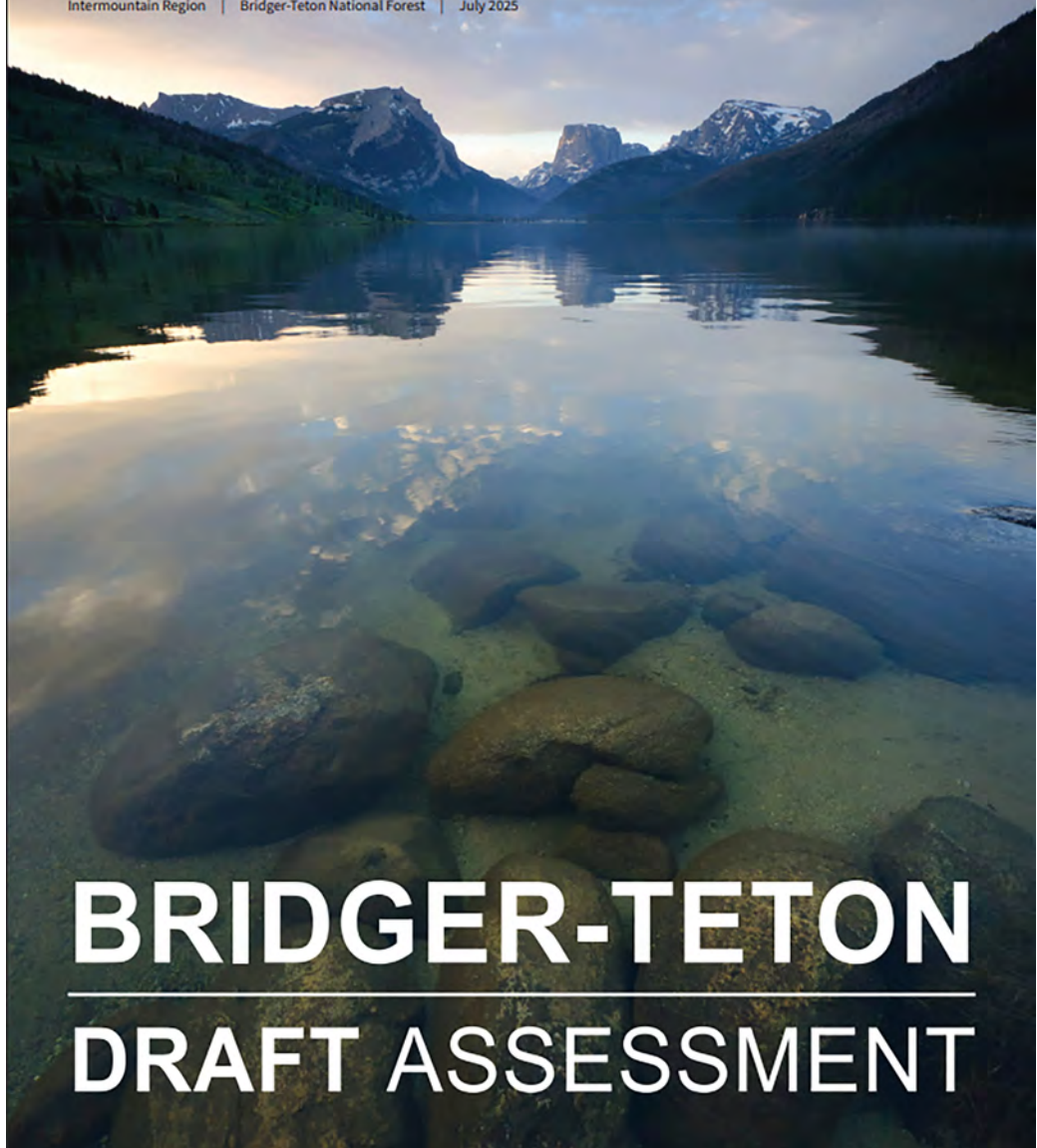
On a personal note, the moments that recharge my batteries aren't usually the policy wins or the paperwork. They're the days I get out from behind the computer and bump down to the Seminoes



when I get to spot a group of bighorns against the skyline. Those moments are a gut check, reminders of why the work matters. If we don't grind through the comment letters and the meetings, those ridgelines could go quiet. And I'm not willing to let that happen.

Looking ahead, we've got plenty on the horizon. Sweetwater Rocks is a big focus, the Bridger-Teton Forest Plan will demand our attention, and we'll keep fighting to make sure federal and state policies don't undercut conservation gains. Add in the Winter Meeting and the projects waiting in the wings, and 2025 is shaping up to be a busy, meaningful year.

So as you dig into this issue, I hope you see the same thing I do: that our members, our partners, and this Board make WY-WSF a force for wild sheep. Together, we're keeping that herd on the mountain; wild, strong, and here for the next generation.



BRIDGER-TETON

DRAFT ASSESSMENT



Photo: Visit Carbon County

PROTECT THE MIRACLE MILE

September 4th, 2025



Every River
Needs A Champion



President's Message

By: Bralli Clifford

Happy Fall to you! I am grateful for the change in seasons and the opportunities that it brings. I wish you all luck in the field and I cannot wait to hear about your adventures. I would also like to offer a very humble thank you for the support of membership and the Board of Directors for their faith in my abilities to step into the President's role with some historically large shoes to fill. Please welcome our newest board members; Cathy Keene and Jaden Bales, they are already proving to be a tremendous asset to our board with huge fundraising and marketing efforts and a strong passion for big horn sheep.

Since 1983, this Chapter has had, fulfilled, and continued to focus on the mission of conserving and enhancing the populations of bighorn sheep throughout Wyoming and to fund programs for professional management of these populations. As with any shift in leadership, new ideas are considered while former ideas continue to be implemented. The following are some areas that I hope to focus on as we continue to move forward.

Strategic Planning:

By utilizing our Conservation Vision as a guide, we have formed a new Strategic Planning Committee. This committee includes Scott Smith, Zach McDermott, Cathy Keene, John Harris, and myself. The intent is to create some short and long term goals for the Chapter to ensure that we continue

to grow and improve.

NGO Training and New Board Member Onboarding:

The old adage that you can't teach an old dog new tricks does not apply to our Board of Directors. And as such, we have begun the process of offering both our current, as well as our new, board members opportunities for education and training through the Wyoming NonProfit Network.

This network will give us all an opportunity to strengthen our knowledge and add new tools to our toolbox when working on fundraising, leadership, and outreach goals. Additionally, we have initiated work on a formal new board member binder that will include key information ensuring a smooth transition for our newly elected leaders.

Annual Calendar: Our former President, Zach McDermott, initiated the term and commitment to board succession planning. This includes direct and continued support and guidance from past presidents to new presidents, as well as recognizing executive positions that our current board members would be best implemented in and offering



Bralli

them real time training and knowledge prior to any formal changes in title. We have also created an Annual Calendar to ensure that successive boards have a monthly and yearly list of tasks, to prevent overlooking any key needs of the Chapter. This calendar is a living document that can be accessed and adapted by every board member and has both due dates and the responsible person listed. We review the prior and current month's tasks at each board meeting to ensure timely completion of all items.

Membership Involvement:

We recognize that this Chapter is stronger because of the tremendous membership we have. We also know that our members have significant talent and a passion for bighorn sheep conservation. We would like to invite each of you to review our current list of committees and consider which interest you. Your time and talent would prove a true asset to our organization as committee members and we encourage you to reach out with your preferences so we can add you to the email and meeting list. This is also a great way to test the waters for your potential interest as future board members.

Marketing and Communications:

We are ramping up our current marketing and communications strategies. We plan to freshen up our website and utilize one of our newest board members, Jaden Bales, to infuse some young and fresh perspectives and insight into our flyers, advertisements, and raffles. He started off with a bang and hosted a podcast at our June Convention, available at the link below.

<https://huntwestplanning.com/podcast>

In order to offer more communication with our valued members, we plan to start a monthly "snapshot" to share the prior month's work, any up and coming events, relevant news, etcetera. Watch for the start of this email in October.

Access and Accountability:

An addition to our monthly meetings has been the implementation of a review of action items. This gives us all a task oriented list of "to-do's" each month and then offers accountability to the board as a whole at the next month's meeting, ensuring completion of all assigned tasks. I would like to take that a step further and ask that you as members begin to utilize both my email and my phone to offer your ideas, accolades (I love hearing good things!), but most importantly constructive criticism on my performance and ways I can improve the work I am doing. This organization, its board, and its membership deserve the ability to directly offer me input and guidance and I look forward to becoming better with your thoughts and offerings.

Committees:

- Endowment Fund: Oversee the Endowment Fund.
- RamPage: Oversee the content and editorial direction of the RamPage.
- Habitat Projects: Solicit and coordinate field projects with our partners.
- Winter Meeting: Plan and execute the Winter Meeting.

- Membership/ Raffle: Ensure year-round raffles and membership drives with new ideas.
- GIA: Solicit and review grant applications.
- WSF Sheep Week: Oversee planning and staffing for the booth and silent auction.
- Legislative: Participate and advocate for the Chapter at events and during the Legislative Session.
- Auction Solicitation: Solicit auction items for our biannual events and raffles.
- Bylaws: Review and update the Bylaws.
- Strategic Planning: Utilize the Conservation Vision to set short and long term Chapter goals.
- Director Solicitation: Solicit new and qualified board members.
- Marketing and Communications: Oversee the marketing and communications of the Chapter.
- Youth Programs: Oversee and plan youth experiences at our biannual events and beyond.
- Expo: Oversee and plan our annual expo.

Upcoming Events

- New Membership Incentive Contest.
- National Bighorn Sheep Center Bighorn Bash - November 1, 2025 in Dubois, Wyoming.
- WY WSF Winter Meeting - December 5-6, 2025 in Saratoga, Wyoming.
- WSF Sheep Week - January 22-24, 2026 in Reno, Nevada. WY-WSF Booth 145 (Gold Sponsors for the Silent Auction and the <1 Club).

Brothers Bighorns

By: Travis Koltiska

From our vantage point just off the road, we could see nearly a mile of the beautiful river bottom below. The river cut deep into the earth, bordered by thick vegetation and timber on both sides, a perfect habitat for what we sought. The aspens and willows were just beginning to show the first signs of fall, their leaves tinged with gold, while the high mountain peaks behind them bore a dusting of white, signaling an early winter in the high country. The crisp morning air had just enough bite to warrant an extra layer as we glassed the valley for our quarry.

It was late September 2021, and my brother Jason had drawn a coveted moose license in south-central Wyoming. The four of us, Jason, our other brother Justin, our cousin Scott, and myself, were on the hunt for a bull that would fill his freezer and maybe earn a spot on his wall. This area had once been famous for giant bulls migrating from regions near the park, but with the resurgence of wolves, their numbers had dwindled. Finding one was proving to be a challenge. Still, a friend had hunted this spot successfully the year before, and we held onto hope.

The river bottom we surveyed was a gateway for hunters heading into the wilderness. Below us, a parking area was dotted with trucks and trailers belonging to those who had already packed in their gear and livestock. As I scanned the scene, my eyes locked onto something unexpected, a massive black bear emerging from the living quarters of a

horse trailer. My first thought was pity for the owner of that trailer. But a moment later, the “bear” was followed by a man, and I realized my mistake. It wasn’t a bear at all, it was the biggest Rottweiler I’d ever seen. The saddled horses tied on the far side of the trailer should have been a clue.

We decided to drive down to the parking area, hoping to chat with the trailer’s occupant and gather intel on recent moose sightings. If you’ve spent any time in Wyoming, what happened next won’t surprise you. As we approached, the owner of the trailer, Travis Carlson, greeted us warmly. Within minutes of introductions, we discovered a connection, his son and Justin’s oldest daughter had competed at the same time in high school rodeo. That’s just how Wyoming works.

Travis’ wife soon had coffee in our hands, and as we stood there sipping and tossing a stick for his oversized Rottweiler, we talked hunting. Though Travis was after bighorn sheep, not moose, he had spent time in the area earlier in the season. He hadn’t connected on a ram yet but mentioned a friend, Carter Downing, who owned Wild Man Adventures, L.L.C. out of Thayne, Wyoming, had guided four successful sheep hunters on opening day. When Travis showed us the pictures, that was all the convincing I needed. After accumulating preference points for nearly 25 years, I knew where I’d be putting them to use. And I wouldn’t be alone.

Fast forward to May 2024. After nearly two years of

talking to Carter and planning, I opened the Wyoming Game and Fish website to check the draw results. Finally, the word I had been waiting to see: “Successful.” My next call was to Jason, and his excitement matched mine as he had drawn the same tag. We had done our homework and expected to draw, but nothing is guaranteed until it’s official. For many hunters, a bighorn tag is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, even before Wyoming made it so. The chance to share the experience with my brother made it even more special.

Months of preparation followed. Shooting, backpacking, and conditioning for the long hikes and potential long-range shots. When the time finally came, we loaded up and made the overnight six-hour drive to sheep country. At the trailhead, we met Tye and Garrett, two of our guides, and started packing the horses and mules for the long ride in. When it came time to choose a saddle horse, I picked a big bay named “Koltiska,” after the rearing stallion on the bottle produced by Koltiska Distillery, of which Jason is co-owner. He was a gentle giant, though a bit slower than the rest. Jason’s horse, Cody, was just as reliable. Though we’d grown up horseback, we appreciated the good stock beneath us.

The five-and-a-half-hour ride into camp was nothing short of breathtaking with lush meadows, dense pine forests, deep canyons, and towering peaks. Jason and I weren’t just after a harvest; we wanted the full experience of a true wilderness hunt. And this did



Brothers Jason And Travis After A Successful Sheep Season.

not disappoint.

At camp, Carter and his guides had already spent time scouting, locating rams, and studying their patterns. The next morning, we set off well before sunrise, heading for a massive plateau that overlooked the basins below. At daylight, we spotted our first ram, a lone animal bedded against a far cliff. We devised a plan to get to him, but by the time we got into position, he had vanished into the timber. Little did I know, I would see that ram again.

Later that morning, we found a band of nine rams in another basin. Two were definite shooters. Jason worked into position for a steep, downward shot at 435 yards. At the crack of his rifle, the rams bolted. A review of the footage later confirmed his shot went wide. Disappointed but undeterred, we hiked back to the horses, ate lunch at almost 11,000 feet, and pressed on. The rest of the afternoon was quiet, and we rode back to camp in reflective silence.

The next morning, our strategy split. Jason, Garrett, and Carter hunted the lower basins while



On The Way To Camp.



Mountaintop Glassing.



Cal, Stoker, Tye, and I climbed back up top. At sunrise, we spotted the lone ram from the day before. After watching him bed down in the open, we made our move, an almost two (2) hour stalk, slipping into position on a narrow mountain trail. The wind was in our favor, and we crept into range. At one point, at just 95 yards, we saw the tops of his horns moving through the alpine timber. He was slowly feeding toward us, but before stepping into the clearing, he turned and disappeared.

We repositioned, waiting, knowing he'd eventually move again. From this position, the basin was open to the right and we knew he didn't travel across it undetected. We had come from the left and he didn't cross above us so we surmised he was bedded or milling where the cliff wall met the sloping basin.



Jason And His Guide Carter.

378 bullet straight and true, dropping his ram where it stood. I was completely overwhelmed at this point. Sitting with my trophy, knowing my brother had connected on one as well, created such a sense of accomplishment for such a challenging hunt. It was an opportunity that few hunters ever had, and we both made these dreams come true.

The magic of the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep and the majesty of their home is indescribable. No amount of storytelling can truly capture the experience. We made lifelong friends with our guides and hope to hunt with them again.

My once-in-a-lifetime Wyoming Bighorn tag may be gone, but the memories I made, hunting alongside my brother in one of the most incredible places on earth, will last forever.

We sat down in a place where regardless of what direction he moved, we would have a shot. After only about 10 minutes, the ram stepped onto a small rock outcropping above us, broadside at 160 yards. I centered the crosshairs and squeezed the trigger. The 6.5 PRC hit home. He collapsed instantly, rolled a few feet off the ledge, and slid to a stop.

mountainside with my ram, we all looked at each other as Carter confirmed Jason had connected as well.

We later learned Jason and his crew had spotted a band of five rams. This time, at 565 yards, he sent his .30-

Shaking with adrenaline, I approached the ram, my once-in-a-lifetime trophy. It had taken 25 years to get here, and I was overwhelmed with gratitude. I was shaking as I pulled him upright and simply sat in appreciation for several minutes.

After the photographs, as we started caping and quartering my ram, the radio cracked. Carter's voice came through, talking to camp: "Grab a pack mule and saddle horses." On the



Travis And His Ram.

WY-WSF Focuses of the Future

By: John Harris, Vice President
Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation

Over the years, the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation(WY-WSF) has been successful and continues to improve thanks to hard work from our past Boards, our donors, and the faithful membership. However, we cannot just rely on the status quo as the environment we work in is continuously changing.

In the past, we have had five executive positions - President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past President. While examining these positions and the responsibilities assigned to each, it became readily apparent that the Past President position has been under-utilized. With all of our ongoing, long-term, programs and projects, it was obvious that we now needed to better utilize the Past President's experience and expertise.

As an example, our current Past President, Zach McDermott, has been a driving force in creating our Endowment Fund. In addition, among a number of other things, Zach and Matt Hoobler, were the ones who pushed *The Sweetwater Rocks Transplant* to where it is today. In discussions with Zach, we found that having to be responsible for major projects, the day-to-day operation, and our banquet fundraising; was very difficult to stay on track while in the President position.

Looking forward, we have assigned the Past President to be responsible for and spearhead the important and major projects and programs. This allows the President to keep up with the important operational side of the Foundation. This shift in responsibilities gives our

Foundation five fully functioning executive officers. This will allow us to keep our focus on Chapter programs and projects, both current and in the future.

Finally, the Board of Directors wants to get our membership more involved in the projects and committees. The more people involved, the more effective the Foundation can be. So, if you are interested, please get in contact with any Board Member, our Executive Director, or the Assistant Executive Director.

While this is just a snapshot of where we are going, we are always looking for ways to improve, and ways of getting input and ideas from the membership. We are looking forward to working with and for you, so we can "put and keep sheep on the mountain".



CUT OUNCES NOT CORNERS



MARK V[®] **BACKCOUNTRY[™]** **GUIDE**



LEARN MORE



Go even lighter - upgrade to a titanium action in
the **Backcountry[™] Guide Ti**

WSF: Lifetime Achievement Award, Daryl Lutz

Article Reprinted from the WSF's News and Blog Section

June 12, 2025

Provo, Utah - Daryl Lutz, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Wild Sheep Initiative Coordinator, received the prestigious Phillip W. Schneider Lifetime Achievement Award at the WAFWA 2025 Summer Meeting.

"This award is presented to an individual who has made outstanding achievements on behalf of the resource, and Daryl has done that exceedingly well for our wild sheep resources," said Kevin Hurley, Vice President of Conservation Emeritus of the Wild Sheep Foundation. "He has served all WAFWA members and far beyond with

his leadership addressing needs and opportunities under the Wild Sheep Initiative."

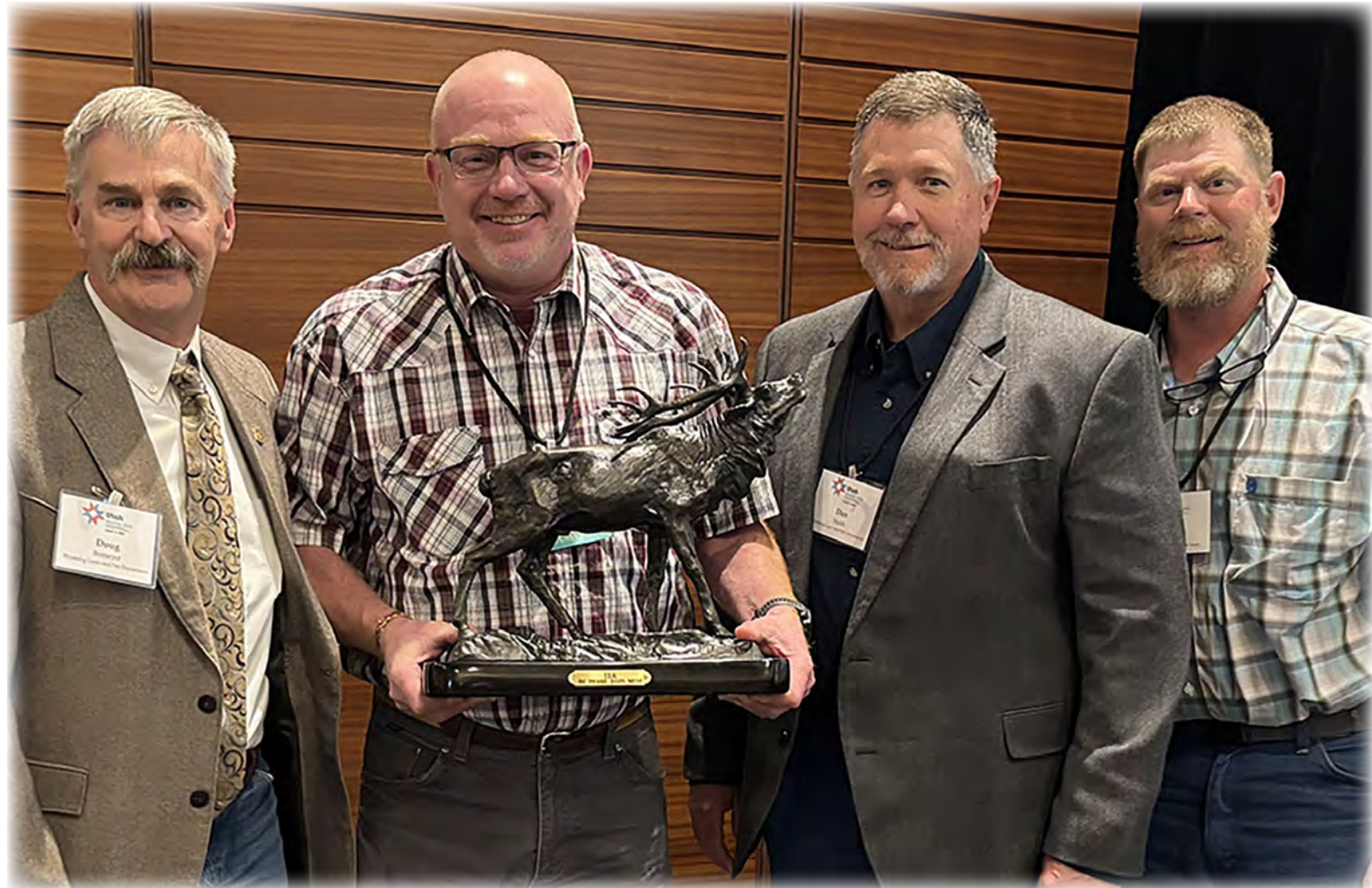
Daryl started with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in 1990 as a habitat biologist in southwest Wyoming. From there, Daryl worked as a wildlife biologist and Wildlife Management Coordinator around the state and currently serves as co-chair of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's Bighorn Sheep Working Group.

"In his role as Wild Sheep Initiative Coordinator, Daryl organizes and communicates wild sheep management needs across all the WAFWA jurisdictions," added Hurley.

"This includes providing leadership on test-and-remove actions, annual population status reports, harvest strategies and results, and much more."

Daryl has worked closely with the Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF) for many years and serves as an Ex-Officio member of WSF's Professional Resource Advisory Board.

"We are thrilled to see Daryl's decades of work recognized with this award," offered Gray N. Thorton, President and CEO of the Wild Sheep Foundation. "Daryl has been and remains a great advocate for wild sheep, and we greatly appreciate all his efforts."





Wind River Backcountry Outfitters

Hunt Wyoming's wilderness with outfitter Cody Brown, who has over 22 years of experience in the industry. WRBO specializes in hunting Bighorn sheep, but also offers Elk, Moose, Deer, Antelope, Mountain Lion and Wolf hunts. Located in Dubois, Wyoming, we hunt both the Wind River Mountain range and the Absaroka Mountain range with our base camp in the heart of the Fitzpatrick Wilderness. Our guides have over 30 years experience hunting in the backcountry. Their efforts will make your hunt a once in a lifetime experience.

Explore the beautiful days of summer in the heart of Wyoming with McCall Brown on one of our pack/fishing summer trips or daily summer trail rides. Whether you desire a once in a lifetime hunt or summer memories to last a lifetime we, at Wind River Backcountry Outfitters, have got you covered!
Give us a call anytime about your future trip!



2024 Trophies!



Call: (307) 851-8741
www.windriverbco.com

Beach Daze Always...



Casuarina Sea Breeze



*Visit with us about
your tropical
get away!!*

Janice Cronin & Bob Sundeen
CASUARINA SEA BREEZE

307.620.1946 / 307.217.1110
~~~

[www.casuarinaseabreeze.com](http://www.casuarinaseabreeze.com)  
[Info.casuarinaseabreeze@vcn.com](mailto:Info.casuarinaseabreeze@vcn.com)

**PROUD SUPPORTERS OF WYOMING WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION**







Wildlife Artistry In Leather  
(307) 331-4717  
[ramundwyo@gmail.com](mailto:ramundwyo@gmail.com)



## River's Edge RV in Casper, WY

*Bring your camper & fishing pole*

*10% Discount for WY-WSF Members*

For Reservations - Call 307-234-0042

Visit us online at: [www.riversedgervresort.net](http://www.riversedgervresort.net)

Located at - 6820 Santa Fe Circle, Evansville, WY 82636

Owners - Michael Porter RHS Life member #323

Stacie Porter Life Member #381





# Continuing the Fight Against Cheatgrass

By: Ryan Amundson

Terrestrial Habitat Biologist, Wyoming Game and Fish Department



Williams Wildlife Research Facility, was treated with Rejuvra herbicide on 1,526 acres. This herbicide, when applied at the correct time and at a recommended rate of 5 oz/acre, can inhibit germination of cheatgrass seed for several years. Due to the ruggedness of the terrain, the herbicide was applied via helicopter. Herbicide application allows preferred native, perennial forages to re-establish more easily when not competing head to head with this invasive annual. Competition for moisture and nutrients is a real issue in our arid environment, so tilting the scales in favor of our native species is important, particularly in the years following a major landscape disturbance. The management of the timing, duration, and intensity

The Summer of 2024 proved to be a historic year for wildfires in Wyoming. In the southeast corner of the state, over 40,000 acres were burned in the summer months in 8 separate wildfire events, affecting habitats for Wyoming's wildlife, including bighorn sheep. Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) is an annual invasive grass that has found a niche in our arid western landscapes, and has overtaken millions of acres of rangeland. Often without some form of intervention by land managers, cheatgrass can outcompete many of our native, perennial grasses and forbs, especially following wildfires. When this occurs, we see decreased nutritional value of forage available, potential for increased fire frequencies going forward, and ultimately a reduction in carrying

capacities of our rangelands for wildlife and livestock.

In late August of this year, the 2024 Bear Creek Wildfire scar in Sybille Canyon, located southwest of the Department's Thorne /





of livestock grazing is also important in areas recovering from wildfires. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department works with the agricultural producers cooperating with us on large scale treatments to accomplish these common rangeland restoration goals.

The Bear Creek Wildfire occurred in steep canyon country that is utilized by bighorn sheep that are part of the Sybille Canyon sub-herd in the Laramie Range. Some parts of the area burned were being overtaken by junipers, negatively impacting some bighorn sheep habitats. The fire did remove many of these trees, opening up access to more escape terrain / steep cliffs required by bighorns. Elk and mule deer are also found in this area year round. If cheatgrass can be controlled, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department is confident that the wildfire can be considered a



“positive event” for wildlife habitats going forward.

Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation was an early sponsor and contributor to this project, dedicating \$20,000 to this rangeland wildfire restoration effort. Those funds were then matched at over 5:1 with dollars from RMEF, WGFD, WGBGLC, affected private

landowners, and WWNRT. We are blessed to have many organizations, agencies, and landowners all pulling together to accomplish common goals.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department will continue to monitor the treated area over the next several years to determine control of cheatgrass, re-establishment of native plants, and the potential need for re-treatment. We anticipate some spot spraying or complete area re-treatment may need to occur 4 – 5 years from now, as cheatgrass seed may remain viable in the soil for several years.

Many thanks to WY WSF for your continued cooperation and financial support for wildlife habitat work in Wyoming!







SILENCER  
CENTRAL

TO LEARN MORE CALL 888.781.8778  
OR VISIT [SILENCERCENTRAL.COM](https://www.silencercentral.com)

# STAMP SEASON

**WE DO THE PAPERWORK.  
WE PAY YOUR TAX STAMP.  
WE DELIVER TO YOUR DOOR.**



**YOU'VE GOT YOUR TAGS.  
WE'VE GOT YOUR STAMPS.**

DISCLAIMER: \*Offer valid on qualifying suppressors as noted on [www.silencercentral.com/tax-stamp-promo/](https://www.silencercentral.com/tax-stamp-promo/). Promotion starts on 10.01.2025 at 12:01 AM CST. Cannot be combined with other offers, exchanged, refunded, transferred, returned, or redeemed for cash. Valid on new purchases only. Must be age 21+ and a resident of a silencer-legal state.

OFF GRID TRIDENT Ti 30



NOSLER SR-30 Ti



SILENCERCO SCYTHER STM





# SMART ENOUGH TO BE SIMPLE



**The BR10 is the world's smartest bino.**

Designed to keep the hunt simple, it overdelivers on performance when conditions are at their toughest.



[RevicOptics.com/BR10](https://RevicOptics.com/BR10)



**REVIC**

*SEND IT SMARTER.*





Bighorn Sheep on Summer Range. Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. Fall 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



Hunter Jamie Hansen and her father David Hansen on a bighorn ewe hunt in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. Fall 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



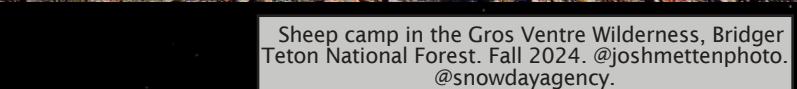
Pack Trail Fire visible from bighorn sheep summer range in Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. Fall 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



UW Monteith Shop Biologist Jack Gavin monitoring Bighorn Sheep on Summer Range in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



Hunter Jamie Hansen and her father David Hansen on a bighorn ewe hunt in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. Fall 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



Sheep camp in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. Fall 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



University of Wyoming Monteith Shop, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and Bridger Teton National Forest Biologists Perform Bighorn Sheep Captures around Jackson, Wyoming. March 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



# Coming Soon to the 2025 Winter Meeting - Advance Screening of the WY-WSF Supported CARRYING CAPACITY Film!

Josh Metten, Film Producer

WY-WSF Dollars at Work - Join us at the 2025 Winter Meeting for an Advance Screening of CARRYING CAPACITY Film.

- Josh Metten, Producer.

A year ago in October, Director Zach Montes and myself joined Wyoming sportswoman Jamie Hansen and her dad, David, on an epic bighorn sheep hunting adventure. With an Area 7 ewe tag in her pocket, Jamie led our pack string up Flat Creek into the Gros Ventre Wilderness. Thanks to the generous support of the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation, Wyoming Game and Fish, and other partners, we were in the middle of production for the film CARRYING CAPACITY.

Bighorn ewe hunting can be a tough subject. The approach is scientifically sound, yet it has drawn criticism from both hunting and non-hunting communities because it is contrary to the historic management philosophy that more sheep is always better. To articulate this nuance, we joined winter bighorn sheep collaring operations with the University of Wyoming's Monteith Shop and Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD), learning about declining fat reserves and the increasing threat of disease. We backpacked up into summer range with Biologist Jack Gavin to observe bighorn sheep and their habitat. We took a deep dive into policy and management with Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) biologists Aly Courtemanch and Daryl Lutz. We heard from life long bighorn sheep hunter Jim Collins, and we shared a powerful hunt with Jamie and her father.

Wyoming's dedicated biologists and wildlife managers are among the best in the world. We are proud to support their continued efforts to better understand bighorn sheep and other wildlife so we can thoughtfully manage them for future generations. This is the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation in action. It is our hope that Carrying Capacity helps not only achieve this goal, but also reinforces support for the people who have dedicated their lives in service of our wildlife and our way of life.

We look forward to sharing CARRYING CAPACITY with you in December.

With Gratitude,

Zach Montes  
Director  
zmontes@  
snowdaymedia.  
com

Josh Metten  
Producer  
joshua.metten@  
gmail.com



Hunter Jamie Hansen and her father David Hansen on a bighorn ewe hunt in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. Fall 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



University of Wyoming Monteith Shop, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and Bridger Teton National Forest Biologists Perform Bighorn Sheep Captures around Jackson, Wyoming. March 2024. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.



UW Monteith Shop Biologist Jack Gavin monitoring Bighorn Sheep on Summer Range in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, Bridger Teton National Forest. @joshmettenphoto. @snowdayagency.





**B.6 Binocular**  
10x50 / 12x50



Award winning optics exclusively sold direct with no middle man and no retail markup.  
[mavenbuilt.com](http://mavenbuilt.com) / Lander, Wyoming / 800.307.1109



# WHY DID THE RAM CROSS THE RIVER? COME TO THE **SHEEP SHOW®** AND FIND OUT!



© SAVANNA VAN DIEST



**YOU CAN'T SEE IT ALL IN THREE DAYS, BUT YOU CAN TRY.**



**REGISTER OR GET YOUR  
DAY PASSES TODAY!**

- Expo Hall, over 70,000 sq. ft. of wall-to-wall exhibitors featuring the finest guides and outfitters from North America and wherever mountain game hunting is found, plus the best in gear for all outdoor adventures, artwork, gift items, and more.
- \$15,000 in Floor Credit drawings for all attendees
- Sheep Show® Mega Raffle
- Entertaining and inspiring nightly receptions, socials, banquets & auctions
- <1 Club & <1iClub hunt giveaways and beer reception
- RAM Awards and Ladies Luncheons
- Life Member Breakfast and sheep hunt giveaway
- Horse Packing Competition & Backpack Races
- Free Seminars from industry experts and the latest films
- Sheep Show Sporting Clays shoot
- TOUGHSHEEP workout and sheep hunt drawing
- Youth Wildlife Conservation Experience
- More ways to win a sheep hunt than anywhere on the planet!

*It's why we say, Come for the Sheep. Stay for the Party®*



# Restoring the Rim: A Burn for the Bighorns

## By: Katie Cheesbrough, Executive Director Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation

In the mountains above Dubois, Wyoming, a long-awaited fire lit up the landscape, and a renewed sense of hope for the Whiskey Mountain bighorn sheep herd.

After years of planning, coordination, and perseverance, the Torrey Rim prescribed burn was successfully implemented in June 2025. Over the course of a carefully executed operation, approximately 400 acres of conifer-choked terrain were burned, reconnecting fragmented summer and winter ranges and unlocking a healthier future for one of Wyoming's most iconic species.

"I don't think this burn could have gone any better than it did," said Amy Anderson, Habitat Biologist with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD). For those who have championed this

fire suppression, allowing juniper and other conifers to slowly encroach upon vital habitat. Dense canopy and reduced visibility left sheep vulnerable to predators and unable to move freely between their summer

was a matter of survival.

That plan led to the development of the Torrey Rim Project within the Glacier Edition of



project from the beginning, that sentiment says it all.

### Fire With a Purpose

Prescribed fire might not be the first thing most people associate with wildlife conservation, but in the world of bighorn sheep, fire can be a life-saver. For decades, the Torrey Rim area suffered from

and winter ranges.

The 2019 Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep Plan—a product of broad public collaboration and scientific insight—identified habitat restoration, including the use of prescribed fire, as essential to reversing herd decline. It wasn't just good science; it

the Fitzpatrick Wilderness, supported by the Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF), Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation (WY-WSF), and the National Bighorn Sheep Center (NBSC), in coordination with the U.S. Forest Service and



WGFD. Legal authority for the burn within this specific area was established in the 1984 Wyoming Wilderness Act, which included explicit language allowing mechanized and motorized activity for bighorn sheep habitat improvement—a rare and forward-thinking inclusion. However, despite that authority, the bureaucracies of

The success of this burn was no accident. It was the result of years of groundwork, literal and figurative. Chainsaw crews prepped key acreages, and partners monitored conditions for months, waiting for the perfect burn window.

When it came, a dedicated team of professionals made it count.



Our hats go off to our partners at the WGFD and USFS. These folks faced logistical, environmental, and bureaucratic hurdles, made even more challenging by the current pressures facing federal agencies, and still delivered flawless execution. Their

place. At the recent WY-WSF board meeting, sharing the news of the burn's success was a moment of celebration and pride.

The area burned will significantly increase forage and functional habitat for the herd, directly addressing the challenges identified in the bighorn population's declining trends. It also provides a critical corridor between summer range on Whiskey Peak and winter range on Torrey Rim—an ecological bridge rebuilt by fire.

Successful prescribed burns in wilderness areas are rare. They require legal justification, careful planning, and extraordinary patience. This project is a shining example of what's possible when science, community, and agency dedication align.

### Looking Ahead

As the smoke has settled and ash has given way to green shoots, the real magic begins. Monitoring efforts will document the return of native grasses, shifts in forage



passion for Wyoming's natural resources burned as bright as the flames they managed.

As the fire moved across the landscape, restoring visibility and clearing the way for native grasses, a group of bighorn sheep stood on a nearby hillside watching the smoke rise. What an excellent day for bighorn sheep!

quality, and the herd's response to their renewed habitat. Photos taken during and after the burn already show promising results, and curious sheep. In time, the benefits of the project will grow even more obvious.

To agencies, organizations, funders, and supporters who trusted the process and stayed patient: it paid off. The Whiskey Mountain herd has a brighter future, thanks to the fire and the people who helped light the way.

getting approval to implement this project has taken a lot of coordination and patience.

### A Flawless Execution

### A Community Win

The Torrey Rim burn didn't just improve habitat; it reconnected the ecological and human communities invested in this





Bralli Clifford. NWT Dall Sheep.



RHS LM Eric Johnson. Archery Elk. The Hobacks, Wyoming.



Jack Cail. Stone Sheep.



Kali Keene Middelstadt. Wind River Indian Reservation.



Jason and Travis Koltiska.





Kali and Danny Middelstadt. Seahunter. Homer, Alaska.



Gary Keene. Wrangell Mountains, Alaska.



Bralli Clifford and John Harris.

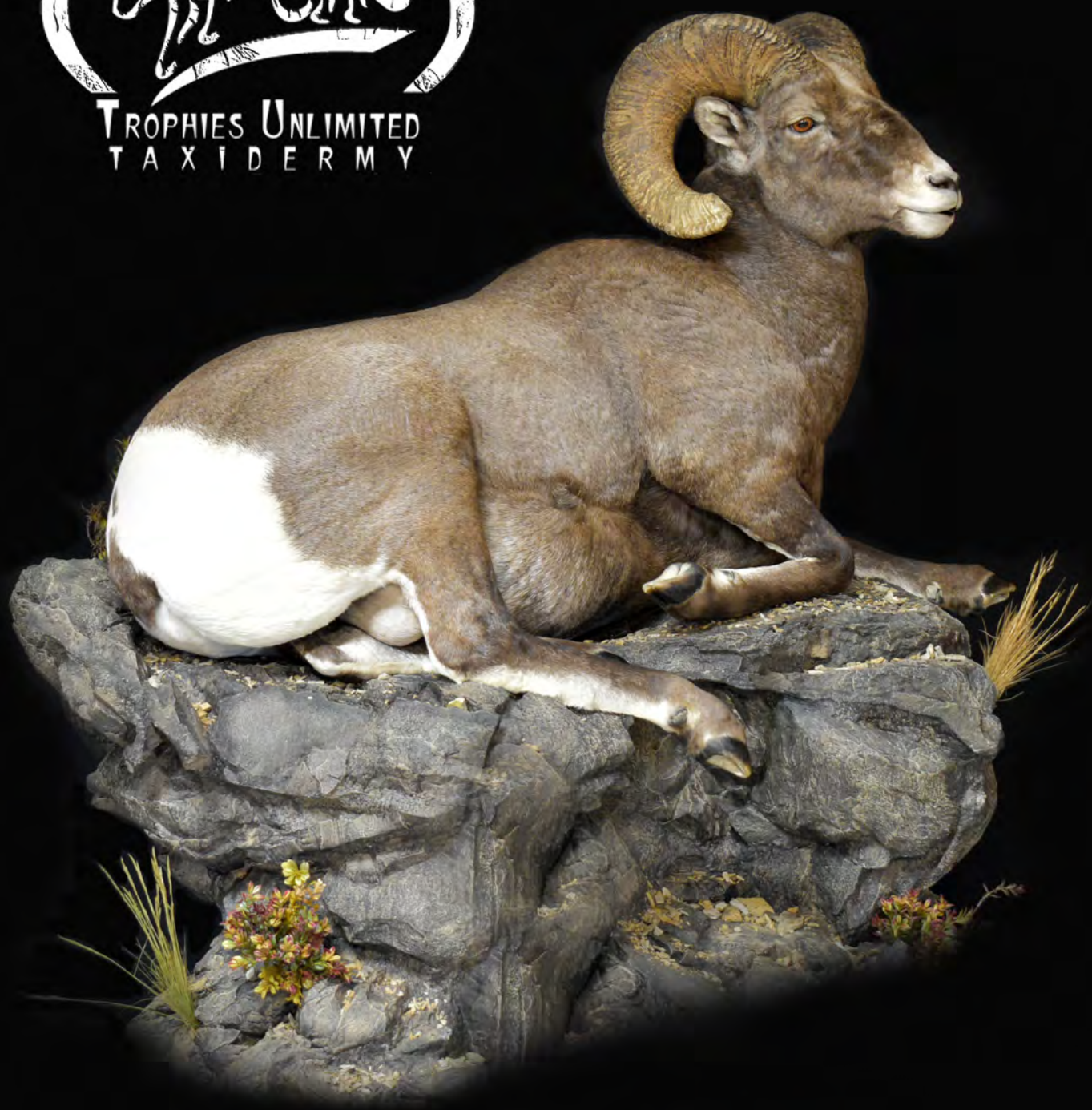


Cathy Keene. Wind River Indian Reservation.



John Harris.





Father & Son - John & Dave Long  
Master Taxidermists  
Buffalo, Wyoming  
307-684-9018  
[www.trophiesunlimitedtaxidermy.com](http://www.trophiesunlimitedtaxidermy.com)





# HUNT LIKE REMI

**RAZOR® HD LHT™**  
3-15x42 RIFLESCOPE

**RAZOR® HD**  
13-39x56 SPOTTING SCOPE

**SUMMIT™ CARBON II**  
CARBON FIBER TRIPOD + PAN HEAD



**SHOP REMI'S  
TOP PICKS**

## REMI WARREN'S BACKCOUNTRY KIT

Remi Warren lives to hunt the world's wildest places.  
Here's the gear he trusts:

- **RAZOR® HD LHT™** 3-15x42 RIFLESCOPE
- **RAZOR® HD** 13-39x56 SPOTTING SCOPE
- **SUMMIT™ CARBON II** CARBON FIBER TRIPOD + PAN HEAD



# Speaking Up For Wyoming's Wild Sheep

By: Katie Cheesbrough

## Basics on the 2012 Planning Rule

The 2012 Planning Rule is a federal regulation that defines what a Forest Plan is and how a Forest Plan is developed. This planning rule is the first update to the Forest Service planning process in 30 years. In particular, the planning rule intends to update planning in 3 major areas: **public participation**, **adaptive management**, and **plan components**.

### Public Participation

The 2012 Planning Rule requires public participation at all phases of the planning process. Now, the public can participate in the development of the plan and not just the review of it.

### Phase I.

**Assessment** determines existing ecological, social, and economic conditions of the Forest

### Adaptive Management

Planning is meant to be a cycle that is adaptive and flexible to changing conditions or circumstances. The cycle includes three phases: Assessment, Plan Development, and Monitoring.

### Phase III.

**Monitoring** determines whether the plan is achieving its desired conditions and objectives. Determines if the plan needs amended or revised

### Phase II.

**Plan Development** uses assessment and input from public and other entities to draft and approve a Forest Plan

### Plan Components

Plan components are the actual content of the plan. Together they set the vision for the forest and how to achieve it. Components include: desired conditions, objectives, standards, guidelines, goals, and suitability of lands.

If there's one thing that defines the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation, it's our willingness to speak up for bighorn sheep when their future is on the line. Over the past year, we've been busy doing exactly that; weighing in on everything from National Forest Plan revisions to ski resort expansions and major energy projects. Here's a look at what we've been saying on behalf of Wyoming's wild sheep, and why it matters.

### Bridger-Teton National Forest: Planning for the Future

The Bridger-Teton National Forest (BTNF) is in the midst of a long-overdue Forest Plan revision. The Forest Plan is the guiding document that shapes every resource decision on the Forest for the next decade or more. The last plan stood for over 25 years, so the stakes couldn't

be higher. For the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation, this process is especially critical as the BTNF is home to Wyoming's four Core Native bighorn sheep herds; the last truly wild, never-augmented herds in our state.

When the Draft Assessment was released in July 2025, we spoke up. Our comments urged the Forest Service to formally recognize bighorn sheep as a Species of Conservation Concern, giving these Core Native herds the best shot at long-term survival. We also pressed the Forest to work closely with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) to apply the latest GPS collar data, modern disease research, and new technological tools to conservation decisions.

Equally important, we recommended setting clear and enforceable habitat standards and treating wildlife as a resource

on par with grazing, timber, recreation, and other uses under the federal Multiple Use mandate. Without strong safeguards, these irreplaceable herds could too easily be lost to disease, disturbance, and development.

### Saying "No" to Ski Expansion in the Tetons

Speaking of Core Native herds, the Teton Range bighorn sheep herd is one of those herds that have never been wiped out or reintroduced; a rarity in today's West. Unfortunately, the Grand Targhee Resort proposed expanding the ski area into the South Bowl area of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. This expansion includes the construction of ski lifts and other infrastructure within critical lambing and wintering areas and would impact an important bighorn sheep mineral lick site. Alongside conservation partners, we called for the Forest Service to reject the expansion and protect decades of hard-won conservation progress. The bottom line? Expanded recreation opportunities and corporations have alternatives.

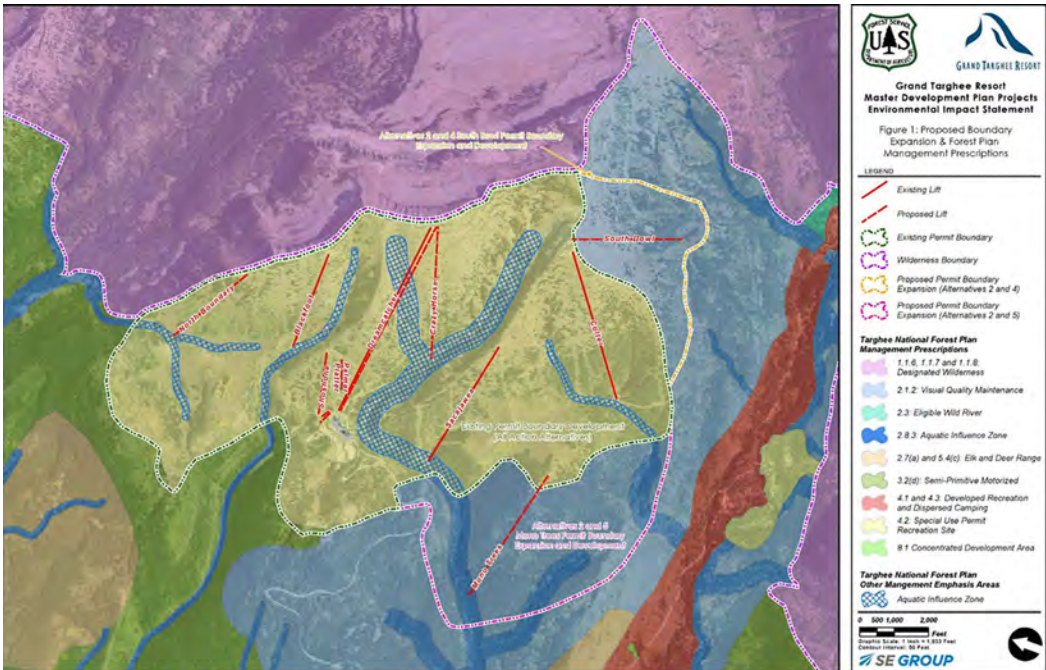


United States Department of Agriculture

## Grand Targhee Master Development Plan Projects Draft Environmental Impact Statement







across the country. We have been working closely with Trout Unlimited to inform the public of this project and keep them engaged in opposing it.

In our comments to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, we urged regulators to apply strict conditions if licensing moves forward. These include limiting construction activities during winter months within bighorn sheep crucial winter range, controlling dust and noise that can worsen disease risk in bighorn sheep, and protecting hunting opportunities in this prized area.

This herd and this landscape are far too valuable to jeopardize for an energy project with uncertain benefits to Wyoming.

### Updating Outdated Maps

Not all the news is a fight. When the WGFD proposed long-overdue updates to seasonal range maps for the Ferris-Seminole herd, we cheered them on. Thanks to more than a decade of GPS data, managers now have an accurate picture of when and where sheep actually live year-round and how they are utilizing available habitats. Science-based management like this keeps conservation on solid footing, and WY-WSF is proud to have helped fund the collaring that made it possible. By keeping these maps updated with the most current and accurate information, we have data to stand on when commenting on projects like those above that can have major impacts.

### Why It Matters

Whether it's a federal agency revising a Land Use Plan, a ski resort looking to expand, or an energy project breaking ground, bighorn sheep don't get a seat at the table. That's where we come in. By lending our voice, and yours, we make sure Wyoming's wild sheep and their habitats are considered and protected.

Wild sheep don't.

### Seminole Pumped Storage Project: Energy vs. Wildlife

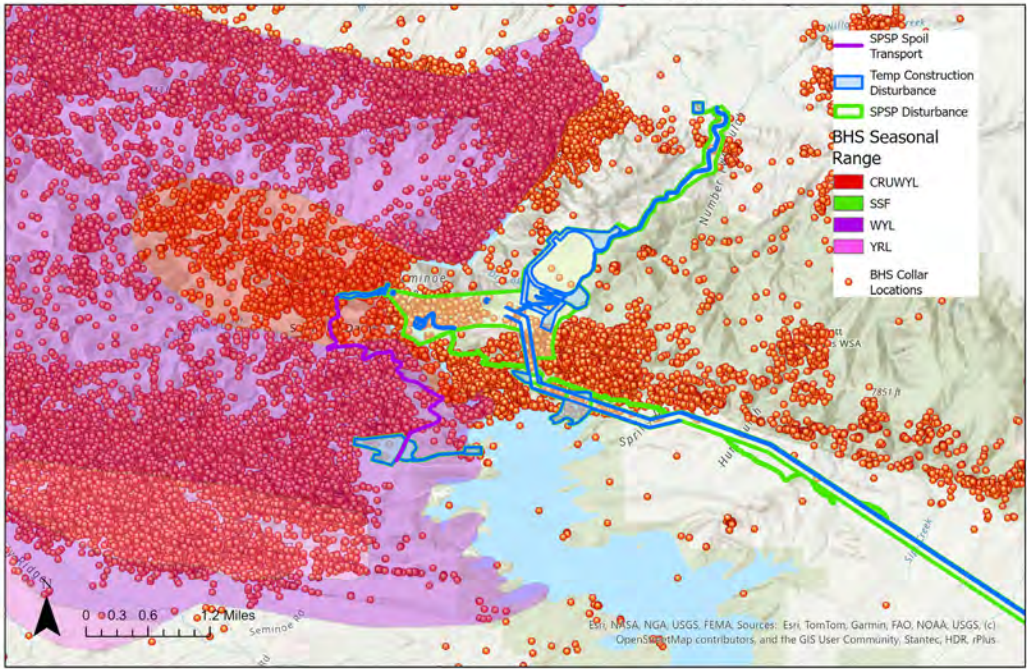
In central Wyoming, the proposed Seminole Pumped Storage Project could spell trouble for one of the state's healthiest bighorn sheep herds. The Ferris-Seminole herd is a true conservation success, and currently the only viable source herd for future reintroductions across Wyoming.

This billion-dollar project involves several key components: excavating an upper reservoir above Seminole Dam, blasting

pump-and-release tunnels between the reservoir and the dam, constructing a bridge across the North Platte River, and sending a constant flow of heavy trucks hauling excavation spoils down Seminole Road to a storage site west of the reservoir. Construction could last up to five years, with nonstop traffic cutting directly through bighorn sheep and mule deer crucial winter range.

The risks don't stop with terrestrial wildlife. The project also threatens the famed Miracle Mile Blue Ribbon Fishery, a world-class stretch of trout water that draws anglers from

### SPSP - BHS Collar Data 2009-2023







## GRIZZLY OUTFITTERS, LLC

1921 Passaic Road · Clearmont, WY 82835 · Telephone: (307) 736-2277 · E-mail: [grizout@vcn.com](mailto:grizout@vcn.com)

Welcome to Grizzly Outfitters, LLC. Our specialty is Wyoming and Montana trophy mule deer, antelope, and elk hunts. Grizzly Outfitters has been in business for over 25 years. We offer excellent quality animals as our repeat clients can testify. Our

hunt area is exclusive on 245,000 acres in one block covering both Wyoming and Montana. We have a complete record keeping program and acquire yearly records on each animal taken. The teeth are analyzed to determine age, weights are taken, location of harvest, and the condition of the animal are all recorded. We at Grizzly Outfitters, LLC pride ourselves in having some of the best guides. Pepper, Tyler, Pat, Jess, Colby, Adrian, Ed, and Brad have all been involved in our operation for many years. They know and understand the game patterns and the terrain.



Our success rate runs close to 100% due to these qualified guides. They are the foundation of Grizzly Outfitters, LLC.

Our hunts are four days hunted on private, BLM, and State lands. You will be guided 2x1 or 1x1 which ever you choose with four wheel drive pickups and on foot. These are spot and stalk hunts. We offer both rifle and archery hunts. We can handle any type of hunt regardless of your age or physical condition.

Our main lodging is the Cabin Creek Lodge, which is our personal residence, and the Squaw Creek Camp is used for the Wyoming season. We offer excellent accommodations with all the comforts of home. We

employ two full time cooks, so be ready to gain some weight with our home style meals.



Wyoming Trophy Mule Deer,  
Antelope and Elk Hunts

Montana Trophy Mule Deer,  
Antelope and Elk Hunts

Cole D. Benton

Wyoming Outfitter #BG068

Montana Outfitter #7296



**Cathy Keene with her bighorn  
sheep harvested on the Wind River  
Indian Reservation in Wyoming.**

ON  HUNT

# KNOW WHERE YOU STAND



## TRUSTED BY SHEEP HUNTERS

For more information on the most comprehensive hunting maps available visit:

[ONXMAPS.COM/HUNT](http://ONXMAPS.COM/HUNT)



CANADIAN MOOSE ELK STONE SHEEP MOUNTAIN GOAT WOLF BLACK BEAR

# TERMINUS MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS

Some of the best *Big Game* hunting in North America



*Hunt Remote Northern BC*

WWW.TERMINUSMOUNTAIN.COM

CALL NOW 1-250-442-7103



# Honoring the Life and Legacy of Steve Kilpatrick

By: Katie Cheesbrough

On August 23, 2025, the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation family joined family, friends, colleagues, and the Dubois community to honor the life and legacy of Steve Kilpatrick. The Dubois Town Park and the National Bighorn Sheep Center were perfect gathering places for the event. It reflected not only Steve's deep ties to this small Wyoming town, but also his lifelong devotion to the wild landscapes and wildlife he worked so hard to protect.

The afternoon began with a welcome reception where people gathered in easy conversation, greeting one another with hugs, handshakes, and warm stories. From the start, it was clear the day would be less about mourning and more about celebrating the life and legacy of a friend, father, partner, colleague, and mentor.

Steve's children opened by sharing who Steve was as a father and grandfather. They spoke of his passion for the outdoors, which he shared in spades not only with loved ones, but anyone who was up for adventure and learning. We were introduced to his mules and shared in a chuckle over Steve's propensity for "Type 2 Fun," and his deep commitment to youth and community.

Remarks from Gary Butler, representatives from the National Bighorn Sheep Center, and Zach McDermott with WY-WSF shared Steve's immense contributions to conservation in Wyoming, from advancing habitat work to helping guide difficult conversations about wildlife management. Each speaker added layers to the story, painting a picture of a man who was equal parts biologist, mentor,

advocate, and friend. They spoke to his steady leadership, his ability to bring people together, his love for kids, and his unwavering belief that Wyoming's wild sheep and wild places are precious and should be protected for generations to come.

As the program drew to a close, the message was clear: Steve's life's work was as much about

and filled with connection.

This celebration also reminded us that Steve's family, the WY-WSF, and the NBSC will continue to honor Steve through the Steve Kilpatrick Legacy Habitat Project. This forward-looking effort ensures his vision for conservation will continue to make an impact in bighorn sheep habitat in Northwest Wyoming for years to come. Thanks to the generosity of those closest to Steve, our members, anonymous donors, and proceeds from a Commissioner Tag, we've already raised over \$70,000 for this effort. If you would like to contribute to Steve's Legacy Habitat Project, please go to [www.wyomingwildsheep.org](http://www.wyomingwildsheep.org) and hit the donate button; Steve's smiling face'll greet you with an opportunity to donate at the top of the page.

Though Steve's passing leaves a void, his legacy remains firmly in place. It can be seen in Wyoming's iconic bighorn herds, in the landscapes where habitat work continues, and in the strength of the different communities he helped build. On August 23, those who gathered in Dubois made it clear that Steve's legacy is alive and will

carry forward through all who knew him, worked with him, and were inspired by his dedication.



people as it was about wildlife.

After the formal program, guests lingered into the evening over a light barbecue. Circles of friends formed under a smoky late-summer sky, trading stories and laughter as kids played on the playground nearby and Steve's mules grazed on the park grass. The scene captured the essence of Steve's spirit, rooted in community, surrounded by the land he loved,





Celebration of Life  
**STEVE  
KILPATRICK**

23 August 2025 | Dubois Town Park  
National Bighorn Sheep Center

**Schedule**

2:00 - 3:00 | Welcome Reception  
3:00 - 3:10 | Welcome & Opening  
Remarks  
3:10 - 3:45 | Guest Speakers  
3:45 - 4:00 | Family Closing Words  
4:00 - 6:00 | Light Barbecue &  
Mingling



Scan code to donate to Steve's  
Legacy Habitat Project



PLEASE JOIN US IN  
HONORING THE LIFE AND  
LEGACY OF

**Steve  
Kilpatrick**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025**

**DUBOIS TOWN PARK & NATIONAL  
BIGHORN SHEEP CENTER**

**2:00-3:00 PM: WELCOME & RECEPTION  
3:00 PM: REMEMBRANCES  
FOLLOWED BY VISITING AND A LIGHT BBQ**





**Photograph By Mark Gocke**



As part of the Bighorn Sheep Nutrition and Disease Project (a collaboration research project between the Monteith Shop at the University of Wyoming and Wyoming Game and Fish Department) a GPS-collared ram is released back into the Jackson Herd after being captured and having data collected. From left to right are Aly Courtemanch (Wyoming Game and Fish Department), Ben Regan (Monteith Shop, University of Wyoming), and Jackie Arnal (Bridger-Teton National Forest).







# ◀ WYOMING ▶ WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION

## Winter Meeting

**SARATOGA, WY  
DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

**Saratoga Hot Springs Resort  
Platte Valley Community Center**



### ***Friday, Dec. 5th***

**1:00 pm** | Board Meeting - SHSR

**6:30 pm** | Cash Bar and Fiesta  
Buffet - SHSR



### ***Saturday, Dec. 6th***

**11:30-12:00** | Field Tour Meetup,  
Info, Box Lunches - SHSR

**12:00-3:00** | Field tour: Mullen Fire  
scar in the Douglas Creek Bighorn  
Sheep Herd



**4:00-5:00 pm** | Member's Meeting @  
Platte Valley Community Center



**5:30 pm** | Cash Bar, Silent Auction,  
Games, & Gun Raffles - PVCC



**6:30pm** | Dinner and presentations -  
PVCC

All-inclusive cost for the weekend is \$100 per person. Children 12 and under are free. Individual tickets available for both nights.

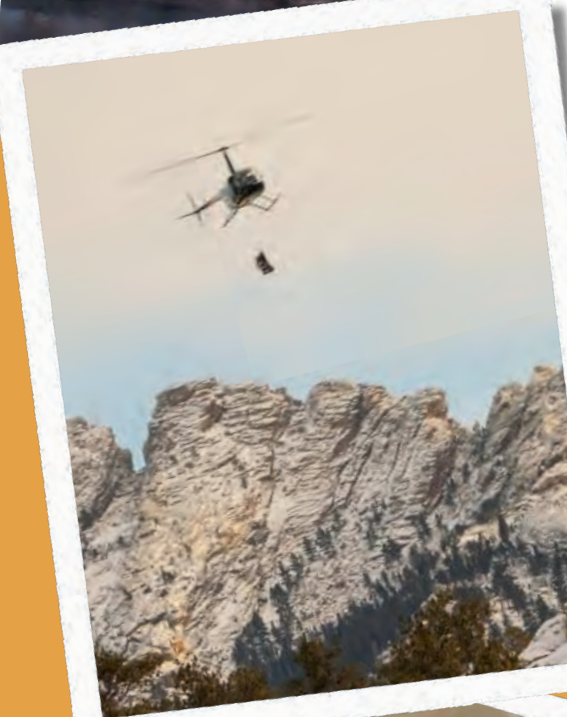
Rooms can be reserved for a discount from the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort by calling 307-326-5261 with registration code WWSF until November 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Register by November 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Online:** <https://wywsfwinter.givesmart.com>

**Text:** wywsfwinter to 76278

**Mail:** registration form with a check to WY-WSF,  
P.O. Box 666, Cody, WY 82414.







# 2026 WY-WSF / Snowy Mountain Rifle Raffle

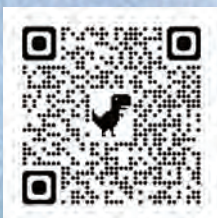
## Win a Custom Long-Range Rifle for Just \$5

Enter for a chance to win a fully custom-built rifle from Snowy Mountain Rifles, valued at over \$10,000—featuring a ½ MOA accuracy guarantee, industry-leading craftsmanship, and exceptional customer service.

### Rifle Build Details

The winner can choose either the Long Range Hunter Pro or Long Range Hunter 4.0 configuration with the following options:

- Stock/Chassis: Manners LRH Stock or XLR Element 4.0 (Chassis)
- Barrel: SMR Carbon Sendero – 20", 22", or 24"
- Bottom Metal: BDL or detachable magazine for Manners LRH. (XLR Element 4.0 is magazine only)
- Caliber Options: 6.5 PRC, 7 PRC, or .300 PRC
- Build Includes:
  - SMR F-22R stainless action with integrated 20 MOA rail
  - TriggerTech Special trigger
  - SMR Titanium 3-port muzzle brake
  - Load development included
  - \$250 Cerakote allowance
- Nightforce C624 4-32x50mm scope (TMOA reticle, 30mm tube)
- ARC rings, FLO bubble level (mounted)
- SKB hard case with custom laser-cut foam



### Additional Info

- Visit Snowy Mountain Rifles to explore the rifle builds and specifications.
- Unlimited ticket purchases—buy as many as you'd like to support wild sheep conservation in Wyoming!
- Drawing Date: June 6, 2026 at the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation Banquet in Casper, WY
- Winner is responsible for shipping, FFL transfer, and any applicable taxes or fees.





# RED STAG HUNT RAFFLE

SUPPORTING THE WYOMING WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION

TWO (2) ARGENTINA FREE RANGE RED STAG HUNTS (\$13,900 VALUE)

TICKET PRICE

**\$100**

**\*ONLY 400 AVAILABLE**

**WINNERS DRAWN JAN 21, 2026  
AT WILD SHEEP SHOW IN RENO, NV**



## ABOUT HUNTING TERRA PAMPA, ARGENTINA

### INCLUDES

GUIDE • FOOD  
LODGING • 6 NIGHTS  
90,000 ACRES

### ADD-ONS

DOVE • BLACK BUCK  
WATER BUFFALO • WILD BOAR  
& OTHER SPECIES

### HOSTED

APRIL 17-24, 2026  
BY WY-WSF BOARD  
MEMBER, JADEN BALES

**WINNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR LICENSES, FLIGHTS, AND FIREARMS**

**FOR MORE INFO, VISIT [WYOMINGWILDSHEEP.ORG](http://WYOMINGWILDSHEEP.ORG) OR EMAIL [JADEN@WYOMINGWILDSHEEP.ORG](mailto:JADEN@WYOMINGWILDSHEEP.ORG)**



◀ WYOMING ▶  
**WILD SHEEP**  
FOUNDATION

TERRA PAMPA  
*by Caschne*  
La Pampa | Argentina



**HUNT WEST**  
— PLANNING CO. —





**Dear Fellow Wild Sheep Enthusiast,**

If you're reading this, chances are you're a proud member of the National Wild Sheep Foundation. Thank you. Your support plays a vital role in the mission to *Put and Keep Wild Sheep on the Mountain*.

But what if you could take your impact a step further — right here in Wyoming?

The **Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation** is dedicated specifically to conserving and growing bighorn sheep herds in the Cowboy State. While your national membership supports work across North America, **Wyoming membership funds real, local projects** like disease monitoring, habitat improvement, and transplants in the Sweetwater Rocks, and beyond.

**Purchase a Wyoming Membership and You're In the Running for \$8,500 worth of gear!**

**3-Year Member (\$100) = 1 Entry to Win**

**Life Member (\$750) = 5 Entries to Win**

*\*Senior Life Memberships (\$500)*

**Ramshorn Society Member (\$1,250) = 10 Entries**

**to Win** *\*Senior Ramhorn Memberships (\$1000)*

**Grand Prize – \$5,000 Gear Credit**

**Second Prize – \$2,500 Gear Credit**

**Third Prize – \$1,000 Gear Credit**

**Winners get to choose** what you need from our gear partners: Kifaru Intl, Maven Optics, Weatherby Rifles, & Stone Glacier

*\*Note, cash donations are accepted for current members and will result in equivalent entries to win*

Winners will be drawn in **June 2026** and contacted directly by one of our board members to get you geared up and ready for your next mountain hunt. (Yes — monthly payments are available on Life and Ramshorn Society memberships, as long as you're paid in full by June 2026.)

**You can sign up or upgrade online at [www.wyomingwildsheep.org/join](http://www.wyomingwildsheep.org/join)**

Support bighorn sheep conservation where it matters most – right here at home in Wyoming.

For the sheep,

  
Bralli Clifford  
Board President



## **Giving Options Include:**

**Will or trust - IRA/Required Minimum Distribution - Gift by Transfer on Death - Retirement accounts Charitable gift annuity - Gifting appreciated stock - Required Minimum Distribution - Direct gift of cash.**

**The fund is overseen by the Board of Trustees including: Peter Burchfield, Bralli Clifford, Greg Clifford, Dean DiJenno and Zach McDermott. All funds are invested with Ashton/Thomas and directed by Mike Porter.**

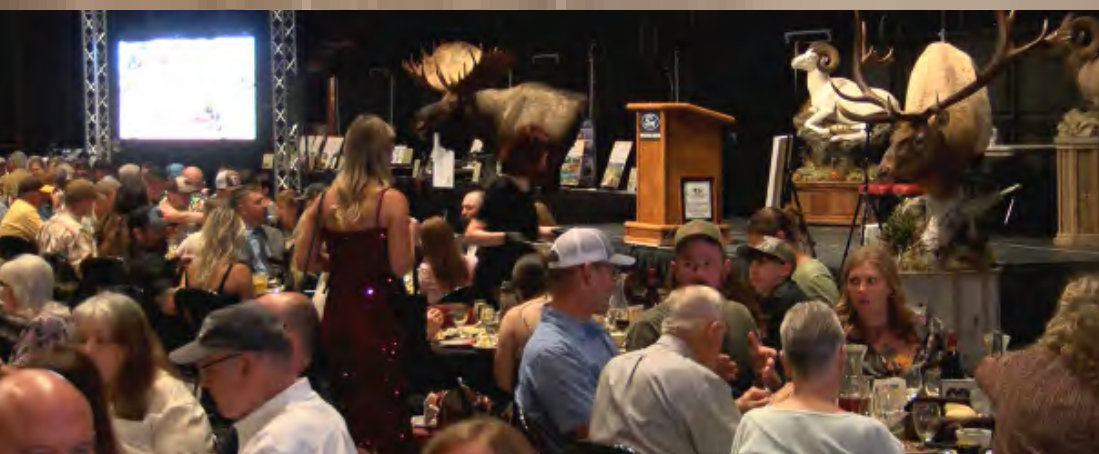


**WY-WSF Conservation Endowment Fund  
Ensure the Future of Wyoming's Wild Sheep!**

**Email: [info@wyomingwildsheep.org](mailto:info@wyomingwildsheep.org)  
Phone: Zach McDermott (307) 752-1212**



# 41<sup>ST</sup> Annual Convention Ford Center Casper, Wyoming June 6-7, 2025



With close to 500 in attendance, our Annual Convention was both a rollicking good time and a huge financial success. Attendees were impressed with the Ford Center and the awesome rib-eye steak dinner. Why not make attending on June 5 and 6, 2026 a part of next year's plans?



# “THE RON BALL MEMORIAL AWARD”

## THE WYOMING WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION’S HIGHEST HONOR



By Kevin Hurley, LM #20  
Vice President of Conservation  
and Operations  
Wild Sheep Foundation  
Bozeman, MT

**Each** year since 2003, the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation has presented what is known as the “Ron Ball Memorial Award”, in recognition of one of the Chapter’s original five founders.

Ron Ball was a rancher and outfitter from the Big Piney area who served as either President or Vice-President of Wyoming FNAWS (at that time) for 11 of our first 14 years of existence. Ron was a big man, whose presence and contributions were also huge. Ron and his family were dedicated volunteers who organized many early Chapter events, meetings, and live/silent auctions. Wording on the Ron Ball Award speaks highly of the type of individual Ron was, and what he did for wild sheep in Wyoming. This award reads:

**“Presented Annually, In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement Toward the Betterment of Wyoming’s Bighorn Sheep”**

I was fortunate enough to be the first recipient of this special recognition in 2003, and this award holds a special spot on my wall. As you can see, over the past (23) years, a virtual “Who’s Who” of dedicated individuals have been recognized by the Wyoming Chapter for their contributions to Wyoming’s bighorn sheep.

- 2003 Kevin Hurley
- 2004 Jim Collins
- 2005 Gov. Dave Freudenthal
- 2006 Melanie Woolever
- 2007 Steve Kilpatrick
- 2008 Terry Cleveland
- 2009 Gary Butler
- 2010 Fritz Meyer
- 2011 Cole Benton
- 2012 Dennis Claman
- 2013 Bob Sundeen
- 2014 Tom Easterly (D)
- 2015 Doug McWhirter
- 2016 Lynn Stewart
- 2017 Freddie Goetz
- 2018 Ryan Amundson
- 2019 Joni Miller
- 2020 Dean DiJenno
- 2021 Jerry Galles
- 2022 Jack Welch
- 2023 Hank Edwards
- 2024 Mike Porter
- 2025 Kurt Eisenach

The Ron Ball Memorial Award is presented during the annual June banquet. Nominations may be made by the WY-WSF Board of Directors and/or past award recipients; selection of the recipient is made by the past winners. So, if WY-WSF members know of someone they would like to see nominated for this award, please notify one of the current Board of Directors, or one of the past recipients.

None of us do what we do for wild sheep to receive credit or recognition. However, there are some individuals that do so much, and help lead the way, that taking a moment to look back, helps all of us move forward!





# RHS LM #410 Kurt Eisenach Honored With the Ron Ball Award



Kurt (rear) with his son  
Kalvin (LM #499)

*"Kurt, here are all the nice things compiled from your fellow Ron Ball Award nominators and myself. This is what I read during your award presentation. Thought you might like to see it. Well done and well-deserved, Kurt, you very much deserve this honor!"*

*Kurt has been and continues to be a dedicated member of the WY-WSF Board since his election in 2013. During his time, he has served as Vice President and two terms as President. Kurt has a heart for volunteering and brings passion to everything he does. His larger-than-life presence and salesmanship engage, captivate, and draw people to our fundraising games and the WY-WSF Booth in Reno, introducing new sportsmen to our Chapter. Kurt is also skilled in creating unique and engaging fundraising ideas and raffles for the Chapter. He has worked tirelessly to solicit firearms donations for our fundraising efforts year after year and works closely with the local FFL holders to ensure our Chapter is operating safely and legally when it comes to firearms.*

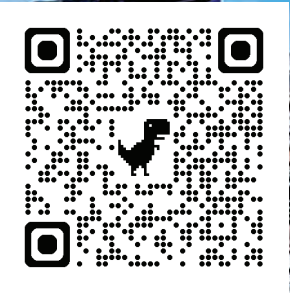
*Kurt has served not only as Chair of the Bighorn Sheep Committee for the Wyoming Governor's Big Game License Coalition, but also as Chair of the entire Coalition. Kurt's dedication to reviewing projects and ensuring that conservation dollars are allocated to worthy projects is admirable.*

*Kurt is an inspiration, leading by example. His willingness to jump on the phone with members, donors, and legislators for the benefit of the Chapter has kept our organization moving toward our goals."*

*From remarks by WY-WSF Executive Director, Katie Cheesbrough, at the 41st Annual Convention in Casper, Wyoming on June 7, 2025.*







Visit Sierra El Álamo



650 Tickets \$150 Each

**BUY NOW!** Drawing will be held during Midwest Chapter Banquet on March 21, 2026 or when all tickets sold. Question? Call Mike at (612) 940-1979

**Trophy Desert Sheep Hunt**  
Includes: 10 Day Free-Range Desert Sheep Guide services, Lodging, Meals, Trophy Care, Ground Transportation from/to Hermosillo Intl. Airport, Sierra El Álamo & Translator.  
Hunt Dates: 2026-27 Season (Dec. – Mar.)





109 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Casper, WY 82601  
(307) 224-2600  
casper@at-pw.com  
[www.ashtonthomaspw.com/casperteam](http://www.ashtonthomaspw.com/casperteam)

Michael J. Porter  
CTFA  
Managing Senior  
Wealth Advisor

Life Member #323 and  
Ramshorn Society Member

Kate Johnson  
MBA  
Wealth Advisor  
Senior Portfolio Manager

Shawn M. Porter  
CTFA, CFP® Professional  
Wealth Advisor

Ashton Thomas Private Wealth, LLC and WY Wild Sheep Foundation are not affiliated entities.  
Investment Advisory services provided by Ashton Thomas Private Wealth, LLC, an SEC registered investment adviser.



**SPECIALIZING IN CUSTOM SHEEP HORN  
CHANDELIERS, ART AND REPLICAS.**

Josh & Jenny Taylor • 307.899.4553 or 4645  
[wyobackcountrydecor@gmail.com](mailto:wyobackcountrydecor@gmail.com)  
[www.wyobackcountrydecor.com](http://www.wyobackcountrydecor.com)





Photo Credit: Mike Wengert, WY Type III Team

## **Born From Ashes: How Fire Helps Shape Bighorn Sheep Habitat**

**By: Troy Fieseler**

**Terrestrial Habitat Biologist, Wyoming Game and Fish Department**

Fire plays a crucial role as a natural disturbance agent that can create and maintain high-quality habitat for many big game species, including bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*), across western North America. Understanding these benefits is essential for effective wildlife management and habitat restoration efforts. To clarify, the intention of this article is not to advocate that all wildfires should burn freely as they can be devastating and leave irreversible impacts, especially those that pose risk to human communities. The hope is to highlight that rather than viewing all

wildfires as destructive, in some cases they can be used as ecologically sound approaches to improving wildlife habitats.

As of the writing of this article, the Dollar Lake Fire located in the Upper Green River north of Pinedale, Wyoming, is actively burning. The cause is still undetermined, the fire has moved across 19,408 acres of mixed-conifer forests, mountain shrubs, and alpine habitats – some of which support individuals of the Whiskey Bighorn Sheep Herd. What was once North America's largest wintering bighorn sheep herd, the population

has struggled since drastically declining during the early 1990's. Of particular interest for this article, are the sheep that reside in the herd unit's Hunt Area 8 around Big Sheep and Little Sheep Mountains.

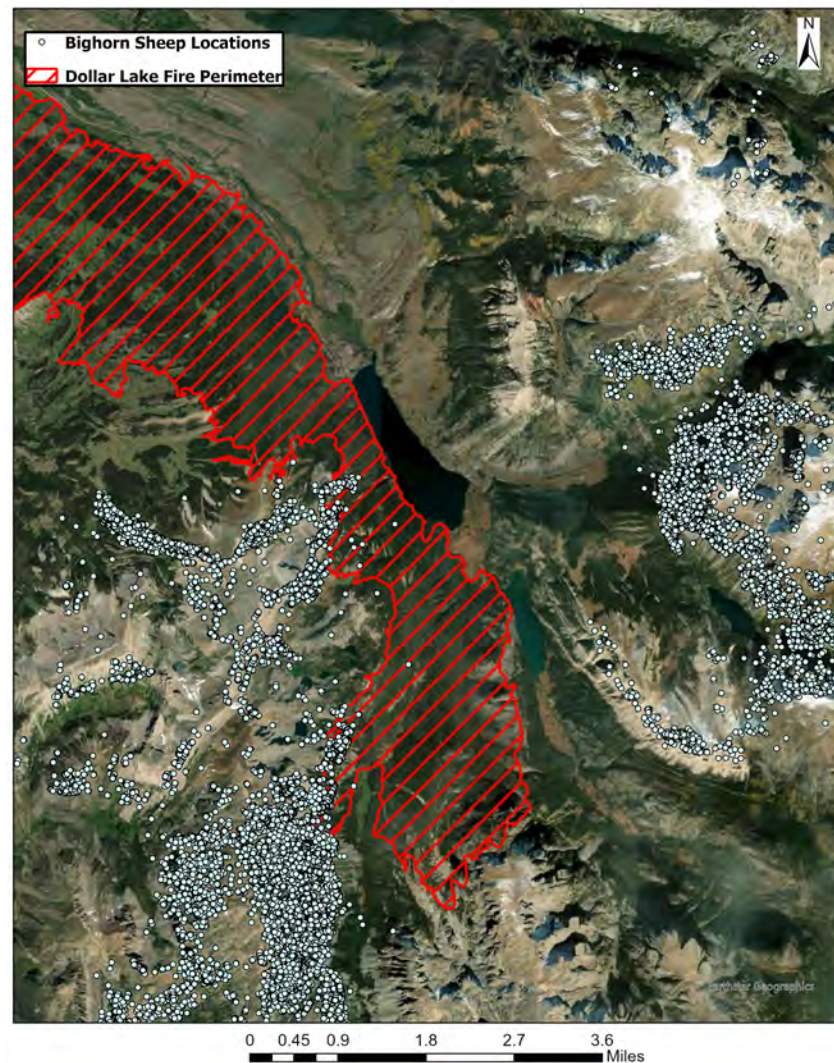
The benefits of fire to bighorn sheep is multifaceted. Forage conditions improve after fire through the removal of accumulated dead or decadent vegetation, promoting the establishment of preferred plant species such as forbs and grasses. The increase in this herbaceous plant productivity, especially forbs, provides a high carbohydrate diet essential for



improved body condition and nutrition during key periods such as lactation and raising young. A ewe under nutritional stress can predispose their offspring to increased mortality through lower birth weights, and poor nutrition can also impact a sheep's ability to cope with a host of disease and parasites. Beyond forage benefits, sheep prefer open habitats with excellent visibility to detect and evade predators and fire reduces conifer dominance and encroachment that obstruct these sight lines. Collar data within this segment of the herd highlights how individuals currently use the park-like openings or sparsely timbered areas with a tendency

to avoid the closed-canopy forests. With fire, more habitat will become open and available. Lastly, fire can create and maintain movement corridors between diverse seasonal ranges

Photo Credit: Mike Wengert, WY Type III Team



and isolated populations. Portions of the Dollar Lake Fire have the potential to create openings and reconnect fragmented habitats, reducing barriers to sheep movement that can help support long-term population viability of this herd.

As climate change increases fire frequency and intensity, embracing the beneficial role of large-scale fire becomes increasingly critical for long-term bighorn sheep conservation

success. Strategic wildfire management that prioritizes natural processes can be an effective tool to improve and conserve bighorn sheep habitat. For example, one large wildlife can accomplish in weeks what might take decades to achieve through prescribed burning programs, while simultaneously restoring the natural processes that sustain healthy sheep populations at a landscape level that small prescribed fires cannot match. This approach involves close collaboration between land management and wildlife agencies to identify fires that pose minimal risk to human communities while offering maximum habitat benefits, allowing these fires to burn under careful monitoring.



# My 2024 Big Horn Sheep Hunt

## By: John VanValin

It really got rolling on the morning of May 9th, 2024. I had finally drawn a sheep tag. I had been applying for years, even before Wyoming implemented its point system. With twenty-eight points, I applied again and finally drew a tag. At 70 years old, my time was kind of running out.

My nephew, Andy Althoff, always told me that if I drew one he was coming also. So when I called him to tell him, to say he was pumped, was an understatement. He said his friend, Dalton Martin, would want to come also. My stepson, Travis Dusenberry, was also wanting and ready to go. Travis is a 30-year veteran from the Marine Corps. So I had a lot of eyes going with me.

Andy came up from New Mexico to look around my area. Travis and other people also went in with me to check out different spots. We spotted some rams on the road and other places. We saw lots of ewes and lambs.

I got everything organized at home, so my wife had help at home. Amanda Conner, my stepdaughter, and my daughter-in-law, Leigh Dusenberry, were there to help her.

The big day arrived and the four of us headed in on the twenty-first of September to get a camp set up. We had some daylight left, so we went looking. We saw four rams at dusk. We got some photos to study later.

We headed out the next morning, September 22nd, to a high point planning to glass the area. We moved down the ridge a couple miles, and spotted a group of rams - five total. One ram looked really good, but we still had some big country to look at, so off we went. We spotted another group, but they slipped out on us. The second day, September 23rd, we went looking for the rams we saw the first day. We got to see everything from another angle, but no sheep.

We decided to look at the first rams we saw. Luckily they were still there. We checked them out a little better. I looked the big ram over closely. I decided that was the ram I wanted to look at in my home.

The big boy was bedded, so we got set up and waited. "Sampson", the name my stepdaughter gave the ram, finally got up and separated himself from the others.

One shot, one ram down. It was just after 3:00 pm. I managed to hobble down to him around 3:50 pm.

We had to set him up for photos, the young guys did all the heavy lifting. I'm still amazed that I had harvested a good ram. Dazed is more like it. After the photos, getting him caped, and taking care of the meat, we were finally headed to the vehicles at 7:00 pm.

We got to camp around 9:00 pm. We hung up the meat and started a fire to relax, B.S., and start reliving an epic trip in beautiful country with great help and a great family.

I was extremely lucky to draw a tag and extremely luckier to have family and friends with me.

Thanks to Andy Althoff, Travis Dusenberry, and Dalton Martin. These young men carried the load for me.

I found out I am in an exclusive club - "The Less Than One Club."

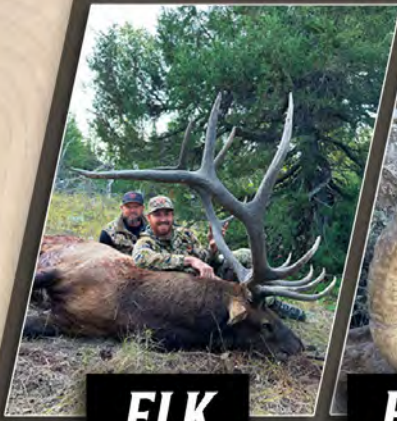
The ram, "Sampson", may not have made the record book, but he's a record in my book.





# WYOMING BIG GAME HUNTS

## IN CENTRAL WYOMING



**ELK**



**BIGHORN**



**DEER**



**ANTELOPE**

## YOUR HUNT OUR MISSION

- LUXURY LODGE PACKAGES & MORE!
- PREFERENCE-POINT & DRAW REMINDERS



**Reserve Your 2026 Hunt**

**307-259-1220**

**#SALUTETHEPURSUIT**





▶ **COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE** ◀



## Hunts Offered

River raft and heli-assisted back pack hunts for:

- ▶ Alaska/Yukon Moose,
- ▶ Dall Sheep,
- ▶ Mountain Caribou,
- ▶ Wolf,
- ▶ Wolverine

**GRIZ & GINGER TURNER** are excited to offer exceptional service, with personal, high quality hunts in over 6,000 sq. mi. of PRISTINE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES WILDERNESS.



**GREG 'GRIZ' & GINGER TURNER**

PO Box 58, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5X9

867-332-RAVN(7286) | [hunts@ravensthroat.com](mailto:hunts@ravensthroat.com)

**[www.ravensthroat.com](http://www.ravensthroat.com)**





Get way off the beaten path and explore the Teton Wilderness on a trail ride, pack trip, fly fishing pack trip or hunting trip!

Outfitter: Brandon Kunz (BG-085)

Phone: 800-447-4711

Email: [yellowstoneoutfitters@gmail.com](mailto:yellowstoneoutfitters@gmail.com)

Web: [yellowstoneoutfitters.com](http://yellowstoneoutfitters.com)



*Yellowstone  
Outfitters*  
“Dedicated to Quality”





# With A Little Help From My Friends:

## A Wyoming Cow Moose Hunt

### By: Jaden Bales

#### With a Little Help From My Friends: A Wyoming Cow Moose Hunt.

The first text came in before I even had a chance to process it myself: “Did you really draw a moose tag?” Then another. And another. Before long, my phone was buzzing nonstop with friends eager to scout, glass, or simply haul a heavy pack. That’s when it hit me. This hunt wasn’t going to be a solitary endeavor. Just like when someone draws a sheep tag, people came out of the woodwork, wanting to be part of something rare. A Wyoming cow moose tag may not carry horns for the wall, but it carried a similar weight of rarity and community. From the start, this adventure was destined to be about more than just me and a moose.

From the moment the tag hit my account, people wanted to be part of the adventure. Moose hunting isn’t something most people get the chance to do, so when word spread, my phone started lighting up. Friends offered scouting help, advice, or simply a willingness to carry a pack. By opening day, I had an entire camp of friends ready to share in the effort. It was already shaping up to be less of a solo archery mission and more of a community project, and I couldn’t have been more grateful.

#### Setting the Stage.

We set up camp the Sunday before season, a lively little tent city in prime moose country. That first evening on the glassing

knob, we turned up multiple moose, including a cow with a calf, and a couple of bulls. Spirits were high. The unit was alive not just with moose, but with elk and deer as well—enough action to keep everyone engaged as they had general elk and deer tags in their pockets. I had told my friends from the start: “Bring your bows and chase deer or elk if the opportunity comes. I don’t want six people just standing over my shoulder. Make your own hunts while we’re out here.”



That set the tone, on opening morning everyone had their own side quests—elk bugles to chase, grouse to hunt with bird dogs, even camp cooking to take pride in. But when it came to the moose, everyone was all in. This hunt quickly became something bigger than just one tag.

#### The First Encounter.

On the morning of opening day, a friend of mine glassed up a bachelor herd of bull moose with a cow in it. I slipped away alone into a burned drainage where we had seen them disappear. The

stalk brought me face to face with a bachelor herd of bulls. Antlers rose like satellite dishes above the willows as I crept within thirty yards. For nearly an hour, I sat in awe, surrounded by massive bulls, waiting for the lone cow to reveal herself. When she finally stood, I made a shot across the marsh, but it was high, catching only the top of her back.

It was a gut punch.

As hunters, we know these moments are possible, but that didn’t make it easier. I backed out and called in the crew for help. Together, we scoured the area before bumping her out of a bed two hours later. Then, we tracked her through the burn, and glassed until dark. That night around the fire, we traded optimism. The consensus was clear: she was still out there, and we’d keep after her. The

support from my friends in that low moment meant the world.

#### Persistence Pays Off.

Two days later, it all came together. From our glassing knob, we picked up a cow moose moving toward the same marshy bench where I’d loosed my first arrow. Heart racing, I bailed off the ridge in pursuit. For half a mile I dogged her through the burn, closing distance bit by bit. Finally, I found the window I needed. At fifty yards, then thirty, then twenty, I sent arrows into the boiler room. This time, there was no doubt.



When I radioed back—"I'm out of broadheads, and we'll need a pack crew"—the response was immediate. Within the hour, the whole gang was there. It turned into one of the most efficient pack-outs I've ever been part of. Six people, eight heavy game bags, and a mile of mostly flat trail back to the truck. By one o'clock that afternoon, we were celebrating with tenderloins wrapped in caul fat, sizzling over campfire coals.

### A Shared Triumph.

What stood out to me wasn't just the size of the animal—though the cow moose easily rivaled a bull elk in sheer mass—but the teamwork it took to bring her home was immense. Everybody pitched in. Some lifted quarters, some trimmed meat, some rotated in to give others a break. It wasn't a chore; it was teamwork in motion. When we cracked backpack Coronas in the late morning sun and took a group photo with smiles stretched wide, I realized this hunt had become something much bigger than me filling a novelty tag.

It reminded me of sheep hunting stories I've heard and read—where a rare tag turns into a magnet for friends. People rearrange schedules, drive hours, and volunteer to haul impossibly heavy loads just to be part of it. The rarity of the opportunity makes everyone want to chip in, and the camaraderie becomes as valuable as the animal itself.

### Reflections.

When I look back, what I'll remember most isn't the shot or even the moose lying in the willows. It's my friends: my buddy Trent glassing moose beside me, hunting partners Hayden and Maddie chasing elk trying to get her a first archery shot, local bird hunter friend Auna shouldering

quarters, and chef Matt proudly manning the camp kitchen. It's the laughter around the fire, the shared meals, and the way everyone said, without hesitation, "We got you."

Hunting can be deeply personal, but it also takes a village. These once-in-a-lifetime tags remind us that success is never really ours alone. It belongs to the crew who shows up with full packs, strong backs, and celebratory beers. Just like with sheep hunts, it's the friendships and the teamwork that elevate the experience from memorable to unforgettable.

I'll forever be grateful for that cow moose hunt—not just for the 400 pounds of meat we packed out or the uniqueness of the tag itself, but for the people who turned it into one of the greatest hunts of my life. And if you're putting in your applications each spring, remember—lightning can strike. One day you might just find yourself holding a tag you thought you'd never draw, with a crew of friends ready to make it the hunt of a lifetime.





# Fantastic Summer Season at the National Bighorn Sheep Center

By: Anna Miller, Interim Executive Director

The National Bighorn Sheep Center is gearing down from a fantastic summer season. Through the months of June, July, and August, we saw over 3,000 admissions into our Museum and Interpretive Center from guests from all around the world. That is 3,000 people exploring conservation and bighorn sheep ecology through our museum. We answered excellent questions from our guests about all things wild sheep from where and how to view them to their lifespan to how hunting is part of conservation.

Along with our wonderful visitors, we held our annual summer camp, Camp Bighorn, in July. Twenty-four campers from six different states joined us June 30-July 5 for a fun-filled week of educational activities. Camp Bighorn was well received by campers and parents alike; many campers are hoping to return next year. Our presenters dedicated their time to showing our campers a variety of place-based activities including the art of taxidermy, archery, atlatl, large carnivore safety, water ecology, and edible and medicinal plant identification. We want to extend our gratitude



to our Camp Bighorn Sponsors, whose generous contributions made it possible for campers in need to be able to attend Camp Bighorn. Your support has a meaningful impact, and we thank you for your commitment to youth in conservation.

This summer was full of upcoming projects at the National Bighorn Sheep Center; mainly the museum updates. If you have visited the Center before, you know that our exhibits have remained relatively

unchanged. Besides adding new mounts and temporary displays through the years, the exhibits are just as they were in 1993. We are making great progress with these upgrades behind the scenes. This plan includes changing the graphics, images, and color scheme as well as constructing new exhibits and updating the content. Not to worry, the taxidermy mounts are not going anywhere. Completion of this project will be in mid-winter 2026 and we look forward to having you visit the new and improved museum.



## NATIONAL BIGHORN SHEEP CENTER

While we prepare for school visits this fall and winter, we reflect on another impactful summer season. We know that the heart of our success is the unwavering support of our donors, partners, and volunteers. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey to provide wild sheep conservation education to individuals of all ages.







# National Bighorn Sheep Center

## An Educational Update

By: Beth Cable, Education Director

School is back in session! The National Bighorn Sheep Center is inviting all educators to experience, explore, and excite their students through a variety of educational opportunity choices: A visit to and tour of the Center, an Adventure Tour into the Torrey Valley, and checking out and borrowing an educational trunk. We look forward to sharing the biology, ecology, and conservation of wild sheep, wildlife, and wildlands with enthusiastic young minds!

Speaking of traveling education trunks: Thank you to the Wyoming Youth for Natural Resources (WYNR) of the Wyoming Wildlife Foundation for their grant, which allowed us to produce a second education trunk. The trunks can be loaned to educators or brought to events and classes. They include bighorn sheep materials and lesson plans about sheep biology and ecology. In conjunction with the trunk materials, we can also provide a virtual tour of the Center!

The Deidre Bainbridge Wildlife Fund provided monies for us

to purchase 15 pairs of Maven binoculars, a Maven spotting scope, a Nikon camera, and a new computer. This generosity encourages and enables students and adults to view wildlife in a safe and non-consumptive way. Thank you to Maven for providing a discount.

### Also Up and Coming:

We are accepting nominations for the **Outstanding Bighorn Teacher of the Year award**. These educators provide education surrounding wild sheep, wildlife, and wildlands while working with students and conservation organizations. Nominees can be either classroom or non-traditional teachers. Nominations are accepted until October 10 and the award is presented at our Annual Bighorn Bash fundraiser on November 1.

Through generous donations from supporters of the National Bighorn Sheep Center and the Butler Fund, the **Steve Kilpatrick Memorial Scholarship** has been created. We will offer one \$1,000 scholarship for undergraduate

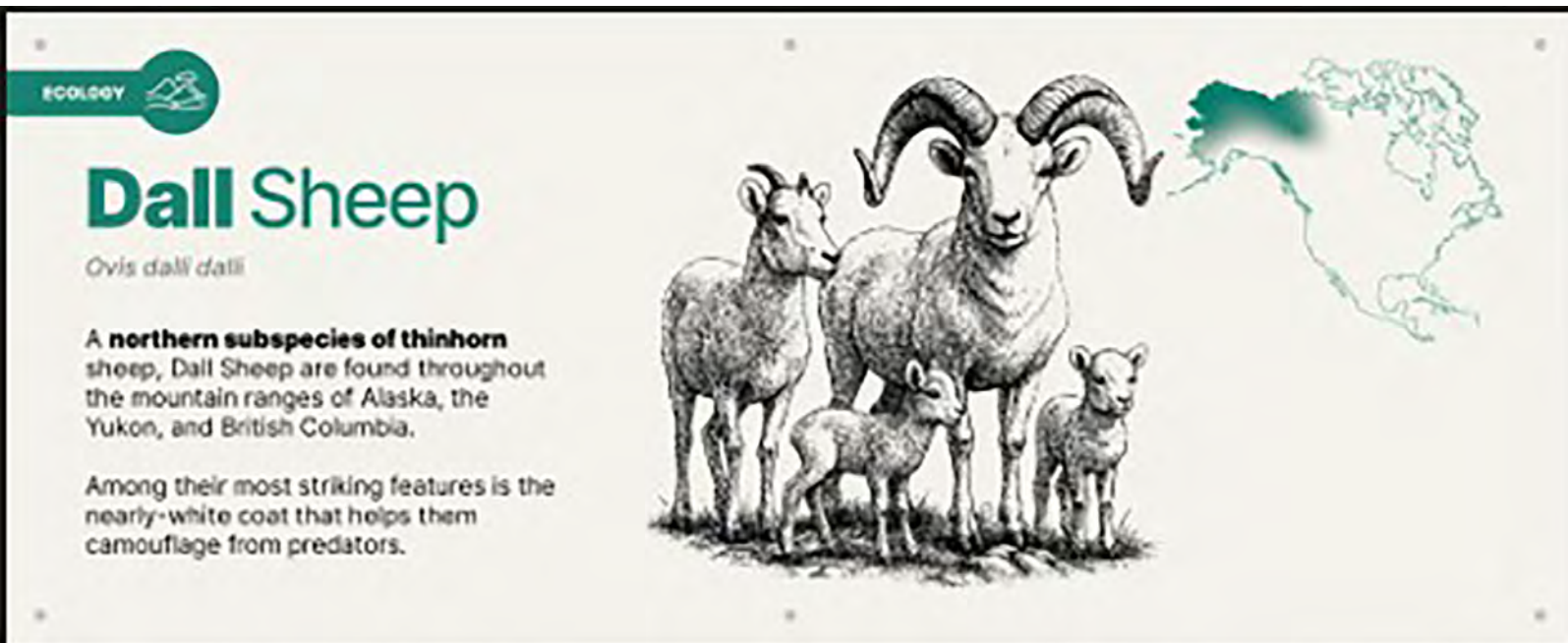
students attending a college in Wyoming and studying in the environmental and natural resources fields.

### Archaeologists Visits:

We are fortunate to have two archaeologists who will visit and share with us this fall. Spencer Pelton, the Wyoming State Archaeologist, and an adjunct professor of anthropology at the University of Wyoming, will lead a hike at 1:00 PM at the Torrey Valley petroglyphs and give a talk at 7:00 PM on October 3 at the Center. Todd Guenther, Professor Emeritus, Anthropology & History at Central Wyoming College, will present at 7:00 PM on November 12 at the Dennison Lodge. He will share about a 13,000 year old permanent village and bighorn sheep hunting site.

For more information on the above, please visit our website: [www.bighorn.org](http://www.bighorn.org).

Note: Below is a reader rail concept that is being drafted for the National Bighorn Sheep Center and Museum upgrades. Photo Credit: Warehouse 21.







(307) 455-3429  
10 Bighorn Lane  
[www.bighorn.org](http://www.bighorn.org)

# Its time for Bighorn Bash!

November 1, 2025 at 4:30pm  
Headwaters Art and Conference Center,  
Dubois, WY

## Tickets on sale now!



### Event Sponsors



## Don't Miss our BIG FOUR Raffle!

\$25 each or 5 for \$100

*Need not be present to win.*

*Winner is responsible for all shipping/handling or local pickup.*



Cast and Cabin  
Getaway



10/22 Rifle and  
Suppressor



Turkey Hunt for Two



Maven S.1A 25-50x80  
Spotting Scope





# PREMIUM HUNTING GEAR

PACK UP / HEAD OUT

[kifaru.net](http://kifaru.net)





## DRIVEN BY COMMUNITY

Proudly supporting local events, youth programs  
& volunteer efforts across all of Casper, WY

**WE WANT YOUR TRADE!**



**SCAN THE QR  
CODE TO SEE  
YOUR TRADE-  
IN VALUE!**



ONE YEAR OF  
**FREMONT CARE**  
INCLUDED WITH EVERY VEHICLE PURCHASE



UP TO 3 OIL  
CHANGES



TIRE  
ROTATION



ROADSIDE  
ASSISTANCE



**Fremont CDJR Casper**

307-200-0475

FremontChryslerDodgeJeepCasper.com

**Fremont Volkswagen Casper**

307-462-5509

FremontVWCasper.com

**Fremont Honda of Casper**

307-219-1796

FremontHondaofCasper.com





Dan Quinn



Kevin Schoepel  
Yukon. 2025.



Ross Gorman



Dylan Clifford.  
Wedding. May 16, 2025.



RHS LM Ray Lozier.  
B.C. Mountain Goat.



Danyelle Pace.

Pace, Danyelle  
H.A. 4, WYO-206-25  
9/14/25



LM Bob VanDeRostyne.  
2025 Harvest.



Gary Keene.  
Kodiak, Alaska.







Kali Middelstadt. Trophy Mule Deer.  
Wind River Indian Reservation.



Jeff Frost



Joel Tavera. 2019  
Wyoming Elk.



RHS LM Dale Sims.  
B.C. Mountain Goat.



Jack Cail.  
First Stone Sheep.



Kerry Lovelace.  
Hunt Area 10.



Gary & Cathy Keene and  
Friends Aboard the Seahunter.  
Homer, Alaska



Sean Lovelace. Lost  
Creek Outfitters. Archery.



John and Mary Harris.  
ADBSS Banquet.







# EVERY SEASON, EVERY HUNT *BUILD YOUR SYSTEM THE RIGHT WAY*



Start with a strong foundation and layer with intent. Kings' layering system is built to adapt as the seasons change from early-season heat to late-season frost. Gear that breathes, insulates, and protects, so you stay focused no matter the forecast.



## NEED A HEAD START?

Explore our prebuilt kits for every season and pursuit.





# LONG-RANGE ACADEMY

Our two-part  
Precision Rifle Hunter  
Series will instill you  
with the tools and  
confidence you need  
to ensure an effective  
shot on the animal of  
a lifetime, every time.

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW**

(406) 546-8732 | Classes run May-August | A \$500.00  
deposit is required to book your spot.







# Cody Porter's 2025 Ewe Hunt

Cody Porter was one of the lucky ones to draw a ewe tag. The day he drew the tag, his first words were yes, now let's make it a hunt! Well a hunt is what he got. Over 1500 feet of elevation gain, over miserable, steep, rocky terrain. He was able to make a split second 50-yard shot on his ewe. The ear tag showed the ewe was transplanted in 2017. That's when he got more excited, knowing he shot an older ewe and after checking the ewe into the Game & Fish, he can't wait to learn more of the history of this sheep and where it came from! Thank you to my cousin Mike Porter and my dad for helping out on this hunt!







## HAYDEN OUTDOORS. REAL ESTATE

THE BRAND THAT SELLS THE *Land*®



### Circle Double S Ranch

PARK COUNTY, WY | \$4,990,000 | 2,173 Ac.

**Phil Phillips 970.209.3006**



### Old Sundance Ranch

CROOK COUNTY, WY | \$64,900,000 | 33,934 Ac.

**Dax Hayden 303.619.6774**



### El Rancho Pequeno

ALBANY COUNTY, WY

\$3,500,000 | 98.32 Ac.

**Casey Stayman, ALC 970.219.4647**



### Bath Ranch

FREMONT COUNTY, WY

\$3,200,000 | 646.52 Ac.

**Cody Jacks 307.349.2215**



### Day Ranch Option #1

FREMONT COUNTY, WY

\$1,995,000 | 379.90 Ac.

**Cody Jacks 307.349.2215**



### HK Divide and Dev.

CROOK COUNTY, WY

\$1,935,000 | 494 Ac.

**Taylor Vinot 307.696.1309**



### The Jamerman Ranch

FREMONT COUNTY, WY

\$1,799,000 | 1,282 Ac.

**Steve Lucas 307.330.5207**



### Ball Sage Ranch

SUBLETTE COUNTY, WY

\$1,500,000 | 517.43 Ac.

**Steve Lucas 307.330.5207**

Whatever Land Is To You, **Find it Here**®  
*Over 850 Properties Available!*

866.741.8323 | [www.HaydenOutdoors.com](http://www.HaydenOutdoors.com)





# ALMOST!

## Jordan Seitz

### Encampment K12 Teacher

#### ALMOST!

##### Jordan Seitz

##### Encampment K12 Teacher

##### Sheep Update 16

After trying for years to document sheep crossing a creek, we almost did it! With cameras in two spots last September, we felt confident all winter long. Until the May card pull... when we learned a bear tore camera #3 off the tree within a week, and a different tree fell in front of camera #2 before we hit the two month mark! While it could have been worse - the bear could have eaten BOTH cameras - we got some awesome still-shots of critters crossing under, through, and then over the tree as it slowly settled to the ground. It was a throwback to a question students wondered years ago on A-Bar-A Ranch, "I wonder how much time these





animals sit here and stare at the fence, trying to decide if they're going to cross or not?" In this case it was, "How much time do animals spend pondering a tree that falls across their trail?" According to that location, deer and rams ponder for a long time! A lion pondered for a while as well, but then detoured. In addition to those species, we also documented a coyote, elk, bear, moose, ewes, lambs, pronghorn, and birds using that trail. While it wasn't the type of data we were looking for, we got confirmation that the creek crossing would be worth a second attempt. By the time you are reading



this, I hope we have placed several cameras from different angles on it!

Our number 4 camera covered a trail above the crossings, and the highlights were footage of a lion sitting down to survey the creek below and a bear cub chewing on our camera's lock box.

For the hike into our #1 "Old Faithful" camera location at the top of the canyon, my 6th graders were joined by the 5th grade and School/ Recreation Board member Paul Clark. In addition to the usual critters, we documented footage of our first lion kittens when two followed their mom down the trail, and a different lion sat down in front of the camera to lick his paw!



**Mission:** We, the Members of the Wyoming Outfitters & Guides Association, believe that outfitting is a business venture that depends upon access to wildland resources, including good hunting and fishing for success; and that, those engaged in such business are obligated not only to promote the conservation and restoration of wildlands, fish, and wildlife, but to provide the public with high quality facilities and professional services so they may enjoy these resources.



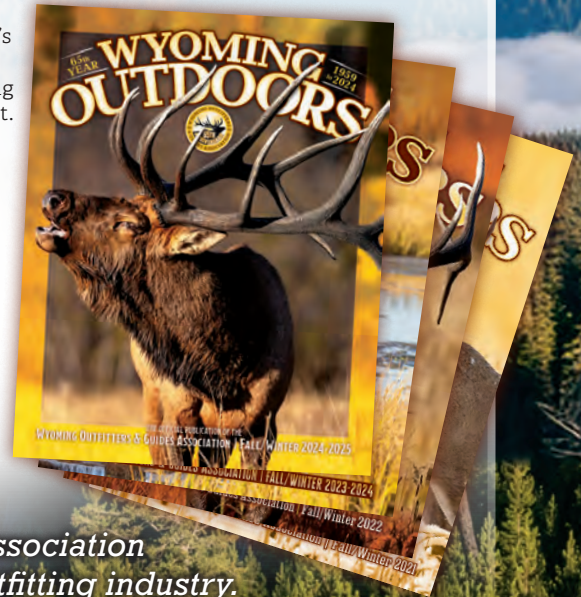
**WYOGA SUPPORTS** maintaining Wyoming's robust and treasured Elk herds. Join us by getting involved. Our world class elk hunting opportunities depend on public involvement.

Find out how you can help at [wyoga.org](http://wyoga.org)

**WYOMING OUTDOORS PUBLICATION:**

The Wyoming Outdoors is the official publication of the Wyoming Outfitters & Guides Association. Get your digital copy at [wyoga.org](http://wyoga.org)

**WYOGA IS ACTIVE** in all issues involving Wyoming hunting and conservation. Wyoming is home to diverse wildlife habitats and thousands of big game and trophy animals. Issues surrounding our wildlife are complicated and the answers can be complex. Go to [wyoga.org](http://wyoga.org) to learn more.



*The Wyoming Outfitters & Guides Association members are the Best of the Best in the outfitting industry. When planning your hunt of a lifetime, choose a qualified, reputable, WYOGA Member.*

## WYOMING OUTFITTERS & GUIDES ASSOCIATION

(307) 265-2376 • [wyoga@wyoga.org](mailto:wyoga@wyoga.org) • [www.wyoga.org](http://www.wyoga.org)

*Please Join Us:*

**WYOGA ANNUAL CONVENTION DATES IN CASPER, WY: April 3–5, 2025 • April 9–11, 2026**





## BIG HORN HUNTING IS OUR PASSION

**AT LOST CREEK OUTFITTERS**, we offer guided hunts for Big Horn Sheep, Mountain Goats, Elk, Mule Deer, and Mountain Lions. Our hunts are located near Cody on the Shoshone National Forest with accommodations about 20 miles toward the east entrance of Yellowstone National Park. We are permitted in prime areas for Governor Sheep, Governor Moose, and Commissioner Elk tags.

**OUR MISSION** is to maintain our commitment to being a high-quality hunting operation. We strive to be the best in the business. We truly value and cherish our clients and the great friendships we have made over the years. We want their experience with us to be prized for a lifetime.



- WE FREQUENTLY BOOK GOVERNOR — SHEEP AND GOVERNOR MOOSE TAGS
- PERMITTED IN MANY ELK AREAS — FOR COMMISSIONER ELK LICENSES
- EXCLUSIVE HUNTING ON — PRIVATE LAND LOCATED IN CENTRAL, WY FOR ELK & ANTELOPE
- PRIVATE LAND COW ELK HUNTS — WITH GUARANTEED LICENSES AVAILABLE
- SUMMER PACK TRIPS IN THE — GREATER YELLOWSTONE AREA



# LOST CREEK LLC

## O U T F I T T E R S

### WITH A 95% OVERALL SUCCESS RATE

— WE HAVE BUILT OUR BUSINESS ON THE SUCCESS AND SATISFACTION OF OUR CLIENTS!

**JAMES (JIMMY) OWENS**

Licensed / Insured Outfitter Lic. #BG281  
27 Jim Mtn. Dr., Cody, WY 82414  
lostcreekoutfitters307@gmail.com

Permitted to operate on the Medicine Bow, Shoshone and Bighorn National Forest.  
Equal Opportunity Employer.



**Jimmy 307.259.7072 Jozie 307.272.2045 • lostcreekoutfitters.com**





# A Hero's Pursuit: The Journey to Harvesting a Wyoming Bighorn Sheep

By: Patrick Ginder, Owner, At Ease Hunting



the hunt. But nature, as it often does, threw us a curveball. When we set out to get eyes on the rams, we discovered they had moved higher up into the rocks, making our task even more challenging.

Undeterred, we put our heads together and decided to put a stalk into a promising drainage. After a tense search, we finally spotted one of the rams—a stunning ram that made our hearts race. Josh was ready to close the distance, confidence radiating from him as we prepped for the shot.

But then, fate intervened. Despite his steady aim and calm demeanor, Josh missed the opportunity. It

In late August of 2025, a call came through that would set the stage for an unforgettable adventure in the rugged mountains of Wyoming. The Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation reached out to me with a unique and heartwarming request: to assist on a bighorn sheep hunt for a disabled veteran. As a veteran myself, this cause resonated deeply within me, and I knew we had to seize the opportunity to make this hunt a reality for a fellow veteran.

The stakes were high. A generous donor had gifted a Type 1 Sheep Tag to a deserving disabled veteran, and it was our mission to ensure this veteran's hunting dream came true. We had been meticulously watching a pair of rams for several years, developing a rich history with these mature sheep. Our dedication had paid off; we had

invested countless hours into understanding their movements and habits. However, finding them was often like searching for a needle in a haystack, as they skillfully navigated the rocky terrain.

As opening day approached, we finally located the rams. Excitement surged through our group as we formulated a game plan to bring Josh Wennberg, the veteran, to the field. We were eager to introduce him to the thrill of the chase and the beauty of





was a bitter disappointment, yet I reminded myself that sometimes things happen for a reason. We pushed forward, determined not to let this setback define our hunt.

Fast forward a few days, and luck was on our side. We located the rams again, and the biggest target ram was in sight. A quick phone call to Josh had him racing back to join us, and we hiked eagerly into the hills, adrenaline pumping through our veins.

However, the rams had moved again, slipping over a ridge while we strategized our next move. As we quietly advanced, the unexpected happened: the sheep doubled back, and we found ourselves just 25 yards away from them! The moment was electric. We quickly laid Josh down, got him set up behind the rifle, and zeroed in on the correct ram.

With a steady breath, Josh took the shot—crack! The sound echoed against the mountains, and we held our breath. The big

ram fell, and the excitement was palpable. When Josh approached his ram, it was a moment steeped in emotion. The gratitude was overwhelming—not just for the hunt itself, but for the generosity of Rusty Lym, who had donated his tag after a 28-year wait. His selfless act allowed a veteran to experience this incredible opportunity.

Words can hardly capture the joy and pride that washed over us as Josh laid hands on his ram for the first time. It was a culmination of hard work, teamwork, and a shared



mission. I couldn't have been prouder to be part of this journey alongside Josh, the AT EASE HUNTING team, the Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation, and Hunting with Heroes of Wyoming.

This hunt was more than just a pursuit of wild sheep; it was a heartfelt reminder of the bonds we share and the lengths we go to support one another. Congratulations to Josh and everyone involved in making this veteran's hunt a beautiful reality! Here's to many more adventures in the great outdoors!

#salutethepursuit

Patrick Ginder  
Owner/Operator,  
At Ease Hunting







## STEP INTO EXCITEMENT

YOUR ALL-INCLUSIVE CASINO DESTINATION AWAITS!

Experience the ultimate in comfort with cozy accommodations, mouthwatering dining choices, relaxing cocktails and endless gaming thrills, with over 400 slots and exhilarating table game action!



**SHOSHONE**  
**ROSE**  
CASINO & HOTEL

**CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR  
UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE!**

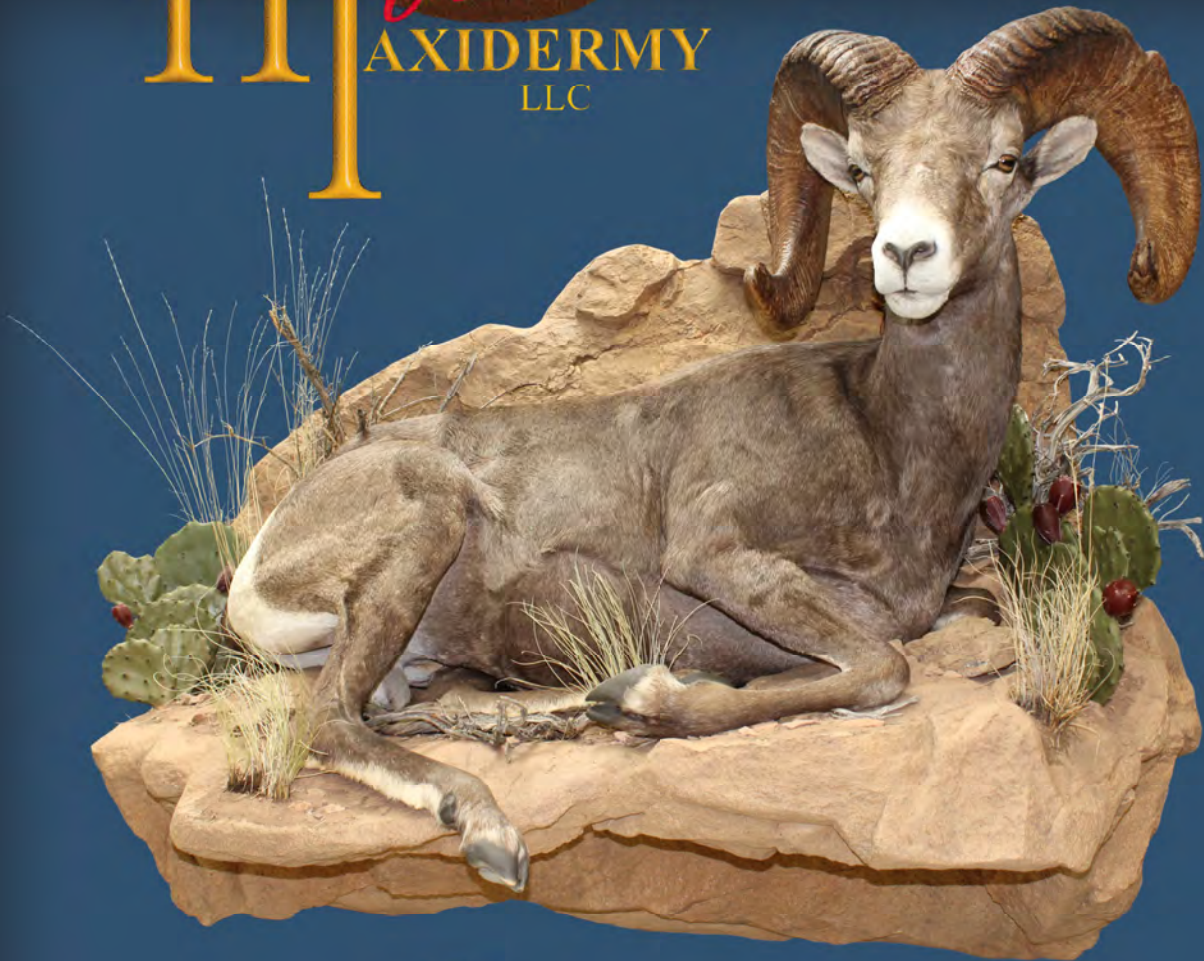
**(307) 206-7000**

LANDER, WY 82520 | (307) 206-7000 | [WWW.SHOSHONEROSE.COM](http://WWW.SHOSHONEROSE.COM)





HARTMAN  
*Custom*  
TAXIDERMY  
LLC



E-Mail: [hartmantaxidermy@bresnan.net](mailto:hartmantaxidermy@bresnan.net)  
604 Coffeen Ave., Sheridan, WY 82801  
(307) 672-0383

35 years in operation ~ FNAWS Life Member ~ Donor



WORLD  
RENOWNED  
CUSTOM REPLICAS  
AND LIGHTING



INDUSTRY LEADING  
QUALITY  
AND  
TURNAROUND



BY JASON HOUSE  
(307) 921-1440

[WWW.BIGHORNREPLICAS.COM](http://WWW.BIGHORNREPLICAS.COM)



# Wild Game Recipes

## Swedish Elk Meatballs with Mushrooms

**Annie Weisz, Peak to Plate Wild Game Recipes**

### Equipment

- 1 oz cookie scoop
- Large cast iron skillet

### Ingredients

#### Meatballs

- 1 lb ground elk
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup breadcrumbs
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 cup yellow onion, grated
- 1 tablespoon garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon table salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice

#### Sauce

- 1 lb cremini mushrooms, sliced
- 4 tablespoons salted butter
- 4 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 cups stock (wild game, beef, etcetera)
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon spicy brown mustard
- 3-4 thyme sprigs
- 1 cup sour cream
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Italian parsley, chopped (for garnish)

#### Meatballs

1. Preheat oven to 425F. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper.
2. To a medium bowl add egg, milk, bread crumbs, and olive oil. Mix together with a whisk. Let mixture sit while you prepare other ingredients (onion, garlic, spices, etcetera), about 5 minutes. The breadcrumbs will absorb the wet ingredients which helps the meatballs stick together.
3. Add meat, onion, garlic, and spices to the bowl. Gently mix together with your hands until well combined.
4. Use a cookie scoop to divide the meat into 24 equal portions, about 2 tablespoons each.
5. Gently form each portion into a ball. Place meatballs on a parchment paper-lined pan, evenly spaced. Bake for 12-15 minutes or until internal temperature reaches 165F and the outsides are golden brown.
6. If you'd like to brown your meatballs a little more, you can broil them on high for 3-5 minutes after the initial cooking time.

#### Sauce

1. While the meatballs are baking, prepare the sauce.
2. Heat a large cast iron skillet over medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms to the pan and cook for 8-10 minutes, or until the mushrooms have released their liquid and reabsorbed it, stirring occasionally. This process is called dry sauteing and results in super flavorful mushrooms.
3. Season the mushrooms with salt and pepper. Add butter to the pan and let melt.
4. Reduce the heat to medium. Add flour to the pan and stir to coat the mushrooms. Cook for 1-2 minutes.
5. Add stock, Worcestershire sauce, mustard, and thyme sprigs to the pan. Stir to combine. Bring to a simmer and simmer for 2-3 minutes.
6. Add sour cream to the pan and bring to a simmer. Simmer for 1-2 minutes. Taste the sauce and add salt and pepper, if needed.
7. Add the cooked meatballs to the pan and spoon sauce over the meatballs. Simmer for 3-4 minutes.
8. Serve over egg noodles, mashed potatoes, or rice. Top with chopped parsley. Enjoy!





*See you in  
Saratoga at  
the Winter  
Meeting  
December 5-6!*



*Register Today!*



*Photograph: Bryon Worthen*