

**FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** May 12, 2016

**Agenda Item:** Bighorn Sheep Augmentation

**Division:** Wildlife

**Action Needed:** Informational

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 20 Min

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**Background:**

This is an informational item only concerning the potential to augment the bighorn sheep herd reintroduced into Wolf Creek in the Madison Valley from the original source herd near Hebgen Lake. If the local biologist deems it necessary and conditions permit we have the flexibility in the Environmental Assessment (EA) and subsequent Decision Notice (DN) to do another augmentation.

Fifty-two bighorns were first moved from the Hebgen Lake area to Wolf Creek in the winter of 2014-15. This was followed by an augmentation of 22 sheep from the same source herd in 2015-16. The DN recognized that, “in future years, transplants/augmentations” may be necessary. If necessary, sheep would be taken from the same source herd and released to augment the reintroduced herd.