



Mark Hampton
Executive Director

July 3, 2018

Neal Whitney
License Bureau Business Analyst
Administration Division
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620.0701

Dear Mr. Whitney:

On behalf of its members and supporters, the Grand Slam Club Ovis (GSCO) greatly appreciates and respectfully accepts your invitation to submit a proposal for a competitive auction for the 2019 Montana Bighorn Sheep, Shiras Moose or Mountain Goat Permit.

As you may know, the GSCO is a non-profit organization of hunter/conservationists dedicated to improving and perpetuating wild sheep and goat populations worldwide, as well as all North American big game. It was created in 1956 and was considered by many to be "the most prestigious big game hunting club in the country". Today, it stands as one of the nation's leading conservation organizations.

GSCO does not routinely solicit state permits. We have, however, been called upon from time to time by state departments of wildlife to auction special permits. We have readily accepted those opportunities and done extremely well in selling these permits at a premium price. For example, we were once again asked to auction the Nebraska Bighorn Sheep Tag at the 2017 GSCO Convention. The success of that auction was borne in a record setting sale of \$135,000.

If we are successful in this application, it would be our recommendation that the permit be auctioned at the 15th Annual GSCO Convention which will be held January 30 - February 2, 2019 at the Westgate Resort in Las Vegas and specifically during the closing banquet on Saturday evening, February 2, 2019.

Certainly, the Montana Bighorn Sheep, Shiras Moose or Mountain Goat Permit would be one of those special opportunities which we would expect to generate considerable interest among our members. To fully support the sale of the permits, we would bring all of our marketing venues to bear in promoting the it to the fullest. This would include our quarterly magazine, *Slam Quest*; the Internet (www.wildsheep.org); email blasts to more than 35,000 hunter-conservationists and posting on our listing with Online Hunting Auctions (www.onlinehuntingauctions.com). By coupling together those in attendance at the Saturday Night Banquet with our proxy bidders and the online auction participants, we are confident that we will uphold the great tradition that has become synonymous with the successful sale of the Montana permits.

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We would also be pleased to provide the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks with a complimentary booth at the 2019 GSCO Convention.

Lastly, I have asked Dale Martin, a member of the GSCO Board of Directors, to attend the meeting of the Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission on August 9 as a further demonstration of our genuine interest in securing one of your tags for auction at the 2019 GSCO Convention.

As we look forward to a positive response, please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Hampton
Executive Director