Removal of Diseased Bighorn Sheep

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 7:57:59 AM Last Modified: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 8:02:16 AM

Time Spent: 00:04:17 **IP Address:** 209.165.136.39

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Rick French

City/Town: Whitehall

State/Province: MT

Email Address: sheephunterak@yahoo.com

Q2

Please comment on Removal of Diseased Bighorn Sheep

I support the FWP in removing diseased Bighorn Sheep in the Highland mountains. It's been thirty years since this herd suffered from a disease die-off in 1994. The sheep densities have not come close to recovering to their former densities. It's time to try something different. I think it was a good idea to do this in the Tendoy mountains and think it will be a good idea to try it in the Highlands. Thank you for your consideration.

Removal of Diseased Bighorn Sheep

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

 Started:
 Monday, July 15, 2024 12:21:24 PM

 Last Modified:
 Tuesday, July 23, 2024 10:25:43 AM

Time Spent: Over a day IP Address: 184.97.85.219

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Jeff Lukas

City/Town: Missoula

State/Province: MT

Email Address: jeff@mtwf.org

Q2

Please comment on Removal of Diseased Bighorn Sheep

As we have in the past, the Montana Wildlife Federation recommends the Fish and Wildlife Commission approve the department's request to remove up to 15 bighorn sheep, regardless of sex, if identified as a chronic carrier of Movi during 2024 through 2027 within the Highland Mountains. As an organization that backs sound scientific stewardship of wildlife and their habitat, we understand the difficult decision to remove confirmed diseased Big Horn Sheep from this herd for the greater good of Big Horn Sheep herd health in the Highland Mountains and beyond. Decisions like these are not taken lightly, but by following the emerging science behind Movi and sheep herd management, we feel this course of action gives the remaining herd the best chance at survival. We appreciate FWP's proposed management action, and support it fully. Thank you.

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:07:14 PM Last Modified: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:14:02 PM

Time Spent: 00:06:47 **IP Address:** 172.56.201.24

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Ty Stubblefield

City/Town: Bridger

State/Province: MT

Email Address: ty@montanawsf.org

Q2

Please comment on Removal of Diseased Bighorn Sheep

Deer Madam Chair and members of the Commission,

Montana Wild Sheep Foundation supports FWP's efforts to test and remove up to 15 bighorn sheep in the Highland Mountains. This method has proven effective in many other states and Canadian provinces where M.ovi has been the leading disease issue for bighorn sheep.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ty Stubblefield Executive Director

Montana Wild Sheep Foundation

Removal of Diseased Bighorn Sheep

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Thursday, July 25, 2024 7:57:38 AM Last Modified: Thursday, July 25, 2024 8:32:20 AM

Time Spent: 00:34:42 **IP Address:** 94.225.217.227

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Kurt Alt

City/Town: Bozeman

State/Province: MT

Email Address: kalt@wildsheepfoundation.org

Q2

Please comment on Removal of Diseased Bighorn Sheep

Dear FW Commissioners,

The Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF) fully supports the Departments proposal as presented in Alternative A..."The commission may approve the removal of up to 15 bighorn sheep identified as chronic carriers in the Highland Mountains over the next three years."

The removal of chronic carriers has been successful in surround states and British Columbia, Canada, where increased lamb survival has led to measured increases in population growth.

We thank Montana FWP and the Commission for supporting this effort and doing all they can to restore a struggling population that was, prior to the 1990s all-age die-offs was one of Montana's premier herds.

Sincerely,

Kurt Alt

Conservation Director, International and Montana Programs

Wild Sheep Foundation