

Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 (JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023)



## MISSION STATEMENT

#### VISION

#### MISSION

Our desired future state

What we do

To be the best managed, most respected, influential, and relevant conservation organization benefitting wild sheep worldwide.

We enhance wild sheep populations, promote scientific wildlife management, and educate the public and youth on sustainable use and the conservation benefits of hunting while promoting the interests of the hunter.

#### **PURPOSE**

#### **VALUES**

Why we exist To Put and Keep Wild Sheep on the Mountain®

The principles that guide usHonestyRespect for wildlifeIntegrityHunting EthicsRespect for othersAccountability

Teamwork Stewardship Positive Attitude Loyalty





#### Reflect and Recharge

As our 2022-23 FY ended, it was only prudent as your Chair of the Board of Directors for the Wild Sheep Foundation to reflect on the goals I set when elected to this position:

- Our Story—The Wild Sheep Foundation is deeply involved with such a wide-range of projects and issues related to our purpose and mission. We must do a better job telling our story, telling our members and our donors what we do each and every day to promulgate our purpose and mission. We can't do it without you, and we owe it to you to keep you informed on our progress.
- Be Better—I challenged our board and our staff at our April meeting so simply "Be Better." We need to communicate better, serve our membership better, serve our mission better, be better directors and to simply be better for wild sheep. Our Operational Excellence Committee is leading this process and I look forward to giving them the resources necessary to make it happen.
- Conservation Funding Model—Work closely with the Conservation committee, staff, and Board to modify and improve our funding process to be more responsive and relevant.

I am extremely proud of our amazing staff, Board of Directors, Professional Resources Advisory Board, and countless volunteers that have help us be successful in upping our game in my three aforementioned goals. That said, these three goals still need to be front of mind as we move through our next fiscal year. We need to celebrate our success today but tomorrow, it's time to get back to work!

In closing, I am very excited, motivated, and humbled to serve as your Chair of the Board for this next year so thank you to our board for the vote of confidence. We have a board of directors that is highly motivated, engaged, and committed to make sure our conservation and grant model is efficient, effective, and relevant to our mission. We are continuing to evaluate every aspect of our business model to make sure we are maximizing every dollar donated to ensure the future of wild sheep and your foundation. And, as I've said and written in the past: We must Do Epic Shlt! Our members deserve it, our exhibitors deserve it, our donors deserve it, and most importantly our wild sheep deserve it. I am recharged and looking forward to another epic year of conservation with the Wild Sheep Foundation!

Glen Landrus

Chair, Board of Directors



We ended the fiscal year back in record territory. We enjoyed another record convention after a two-year pandemic dip, and most importantly, used the convention proceeds and operational fundraising to set a new high bar in Mission Program Funding (MPF) at \$7.53 Million directed to the wild sheep resource, education, and advocacy.

The Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF) casts a very long conservation shadow given our relatively small membership size just under 11,000 worldwide. Through exceptional support from our membership, sponsors, donors, and industry partners, WSF has been able to raise and direct during the past ten years more than \$56 million to Mission Programs representing programs enhancing and restoring wild sheep worldwide.

In a relentless effort to improve processes and programs to better achieve our Vision, Purpose, and Mission, during the spring of 2022 WSF revised our Grant-In-Aid (GIA) process to one which better engages our Chapter and Affiliates as participating stakeholders while focusing our GIA on larger, bolder, and multi-year legacy projects from \$50,000 to \$250,000 and more. We envisioned that funding larger projects would act as a catalyst for additional support. It worked.

During the twelve months of July 2022 to June 2023 WSF funded \$1.35+ million to eighteen Grant-In-Aid programs requested through our Chapters and Affiliates, \$1.7+ Million in advocacy, research, education, and industry support GIA funding, plus \$4.47+ Million that was directed to our state, provincial and tribal/First Nation partners through 2023 conservation permit sales which total the aforementioned \$7.53 Million.

This is your legacy and your work through your generous support. Thank you!

I also want to thank our Chapter and Affiliate partners and funding partners for their exceptional efforts, which together with the Wild Sheep Foundation, help accomplish our collective Purpose to Put and Keep Wild Sheep on the Mountain®!

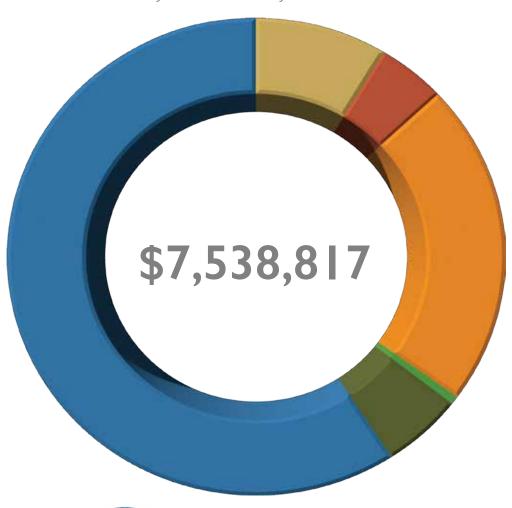
Through the support of the WSF family, we weathered some challenging years but as noted in this Annual Report, we are back on top. We start the new FY 2023-24 in exceptional shape to maximize our impact on wild sheep restoration and maintain WSF's unmatched relevance as a conservation powerhouse.

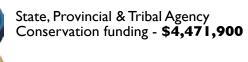
Yours in wild sheep and wildlife conservation,

Gray N. Thornton President & CEO

# FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 MISSION PROGRAM FUNDING

JULY 1,2022 - JUNE 30, 2023





Education, Advocacy & Other - \$643,298

Industry Support - \$331,500

Habitat, Restoration, Separation, Transplants, Management Plans & Research - \$1,665,221

International Conservation - \$37,500

Dedicated Auctions for Grant-in-Aid Funding - \$389,398

## STATE, PROVINCIAL & TRIBAL AGENCY CONSERVATION FUNDING

APOS - Alberta Bighorn Tag	\$337.500
8 8	
Arizona Department of Fish & Game/AZ Antelope Foundation	
BC Ministry of Forest, Lands & Natural Resource Operations	\$229,500
California Department of Fish & Wildlife	\$194,750
Colorado Parks & Wildlife	
Colorado Mountain Goat - RMGA	\$32,400
Idaho Department of Fish & Game	\$304,000
Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks	
Navajo Nation Fish & Wildlife	
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission	\$333,000
Nevada Department of Wildlife	
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish	\$720,000
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife	\$333,000
Taos Pueblo Game & Fish Department	\$234,000
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	\$256,500
Wyoming Governor's Big Game License Coalition	\$274,500
TOTAL	\$4,471,900

#### EDUCATION, ADVOCACY & OTHER

Conservation Contract Consulting & Support	\$261,108
Education/Public Outreach (Conservation Visions, IUCN)	\$30,498
Educational Films - Selective & Women Hunt/Women Shaping C	Cons \$35,000
Promotions - Industry Event Support	\$4,780
Women Hunt	\$115,498
WSF Chapters & Affiliates Summit Meeting XV	\$39,160
WSF Life Member Scholarship	\$15,000
WSF S.H.E.E.P.Youth Education Program	\$37,432
WSFYouth Education Coordinator	\$59,998
WSF/MidwayUSA Youth Wildlife Conservation Experience	\$44,824
TOTAL	\$643,298

#### INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION

Central Asia Conservation Initiative	\$35,000
World Mountain Ungulate Conference	\$2,500
TOTAL	\$37,500

# DEDICATED AUCTIONS FOR GRANT-IN-AID FUNDING

Dedicated Auctions for Grant-In-Aid Funding	\$389,398
Bear Trust International	
British Columbia Trappers Association	\$750
The Conklin Foundation	
Four Daughters Ranch/El Nino Children's Home	
Foundation for Wildlife Management	\$1,000
Hunters for British Columbia	\$9,000
Jack Creek Preserve Educational Programs	\$8,500
Oregon WSF	\$5,000
Wild Sheep Legacy Foundation	\$71,750
WSF Midwest Chapter Funding	
Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia - 2022 Jurassic Classic	\$5,000
Wounded Warriors Outdoors Program Sponsorship	\$41,250
TOTAL	<b>\$380 308</b>

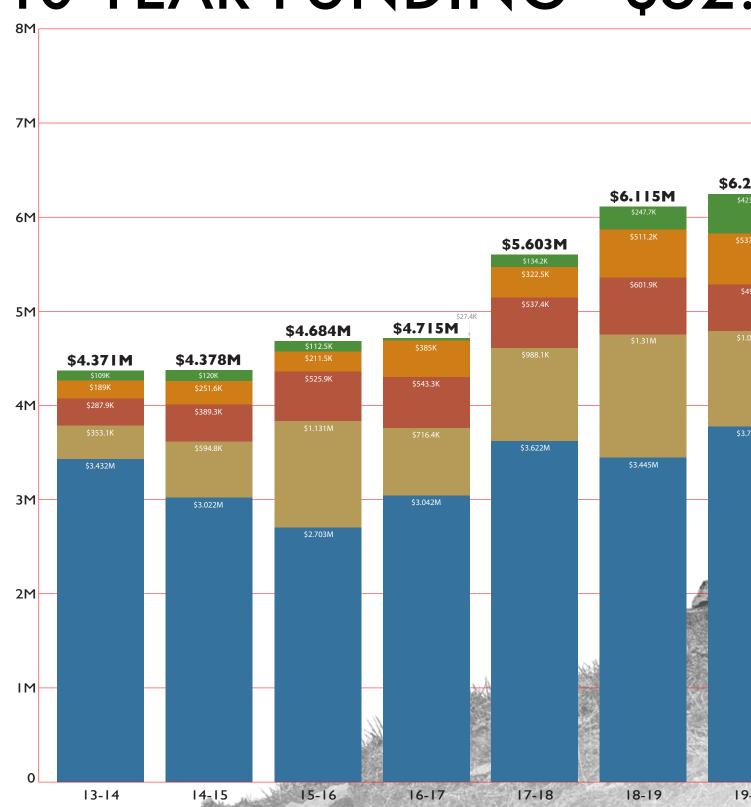
#### HABITAT, RESTORATION, SEPARATION, TRANSPLANTS, MANAGEMENT PLANS & RESEARCH

Arizona Guzzler Project (via WSF Midwest)	\$1,000
Biomeme Unit and Strips for WSU	
Careers in Conservation (WSF Midwest)	\$1,000
CA-WSF Give A Lamb A Drink (G.A.L.A.D)	
Chronic Carriers & Bighorn Density Study Wyoming	
Conservation Revolving Fund - Non-GIA Expenditures	
Conservation Visions	
Desert Bighorn Council 2023	\$2,000
Educational Films - "Transmission" Edited Version for NASC	\$7,600
Fraser River BCTest & Remove (Year 5)	\$100,000
Harcuvar Mountains Arizona Desert Bighorn Restoration	
Hart Mountain Oregon CA Bighorn Recovery	
Horn Plugs	
Instrument   Grant-Writing Software	\$1,788
ION Initiative - CA Bighorn Restoration	
"Montana Matters" Youth Experience (MT-WSF)	\$500
Nebraska Bighorn Restoration & Triple Testing	\$105,200
New Mexico BLM Water Developments	
Prescribed Burns in NE BC	\$250,087
Rocky Crate Chair - WSU	\$50,000
Sierra El Alamo Trap & Transplant	\$40,000
Sierra El Alamo Water Project	\$30,000
Tommy Guzzler construction, Desert National Wildlife Refuge	\$19,500
Tri-State Test & Remove Program	\$177,000
Ungulate Enhancement - Yukon Territory	\$25,000
Ungulate Enhancement Program - Northern Guides	\$100,000
Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia - Jurassic Classic (22 & 23)	\$9,840
Wind River Reservation Feral Horse Gathering	
Working Dogs For Conservastion	\$49,894
Yukon WSF Movi HunterTest Kits	\$6,095
TOTAL \$1	,665,221

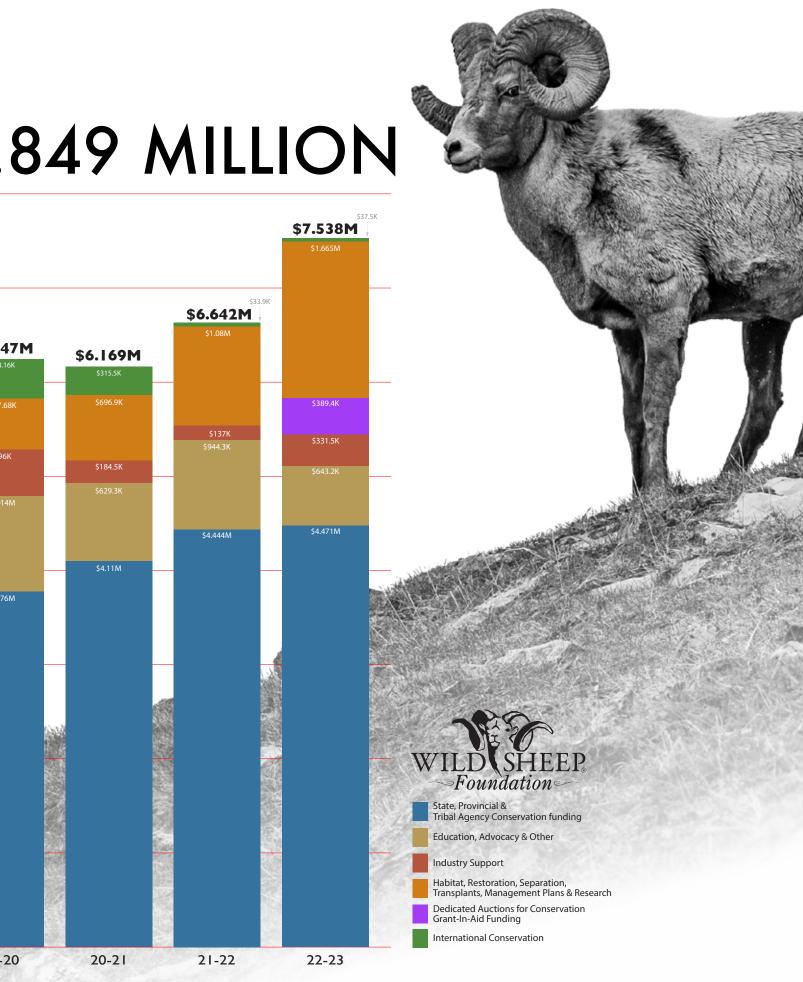
#### **INDUSTRY SUPPORT**

I Campfire Campaign, Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia	
Alaska Professional Hunters Association (APHA)	
Alberta Professional Outfitters Association (APOS)	\$5,000
Association of Mackenzie Mountain Outfitters	
Bobcat Rodeo Sponsorship	\$2,500
Boone & Crockett Club Big Game Awards	\$25,000
British Columbia Trappers Association	\$2,500
Congressional Sportsman's Foundation (American Express)	\$7,500
Congressional Sportsman's Foundation 2223-23	\$10,000
EJ Hudson Productions	\$15,000
Guide/Outfitter Assoc. of BC - Wildlife Stewardship (GOABC)	\$15,000
HuntFish Podcast Summit Spot Stalker Guide Service	\$500
Northern Guides	\$10,000
Northern Nevada SCI	\$5,000
Northwest Guides	\$10,000
Polestar Outdoors	\$1,500
SCI Foundation - Berreta Conservation Leadership	\$5,000
The Wildlife Society Annual Conference (Spokane, WA)	
WAFWA Summer 2023 Meeting	\$1,500
WAFWA 2023 Sheep Show Meeting	
Wildlife Society - (Cardmember Services)	
Who Cares BC (via GOABC)	
WSF Chapters & Affiliates Summit Meeting	
Wounded Warrior Outdoors	
Wyoming Outfitter & Guide Association	
Yukon Outfitters Association	\$5,000
Promotions - Industry Event Support	
TOTAL	\$221 EAA

# 10 YEAR FUNDING - \$52.



Wild Sheep Foundation - FY 2022-23 Annual Report





#### CONSERVATION PARTNERS/ EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES

During FY2022-23, WSF was privileged to receive Grant-in-Aid/Project partner funding from many conservation partners. Bass Pro Shops/Cabela's Outdoor Fund, Dallas Safari Club Foundation, Gilchrist Foundation, Grizzly Outdoor Corps, Oregon Wildlife Foundation, Pope & Young Club, WSF Midwest Chapter and many other collaborators partnered with WSF on FY2022-23 wild sheep conservation projects.

















#### WILD SHEEP CAPTURE/COLLARING/ TRANSPLANTS/RESTORATION

With partner funding from the WSF Midwest Chapter and Cabela's Outdoor Fund (COF), WSF worked closely with the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society (ADBSS) and the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) to transplant 30 desert bighorn sheep into the East Harcuvar Mountains in south-central Arizona. Stepped-up mountain lion control efforts by AZGFD contributed to a positive growth-trajectory in this herd, with an expected carrying capacity of 400 desert bighorns. With support from the Gilchrist Foundation and Grizzly Outdoor Corps, WSF and more than a dozen WSF Chapters and Affiliates (C&As) provided funding to Nebraska Game & Parks Commission (NGPC) for the capture, radiocollaring, and pathogen surveillance of 64 bighorn sheep in the Wildcat Hills of Nebraska's Panhandle. While NGPC opted to not transplant bighorns to a new location, due to varying Movi prevalence levels, significant knowledge was gained, particularly in comparison of 3 Movi-detection analytical tools (e.g., WADDL, Biomeme field unit, Working Dogs for Conservation [WD4C]). WSF again provided funding to release 60 desert bighorn sheep into free-range habitat in the Sierra El Alamo Mountains in northern Sonora, Mexico, bringing the 5-year total to 236 desert bighorns released to the wild.



#### HORN PLUGS FOR HARVESTED RAMS

WSF spent \$10,167 to provide horn plugs for rams harvested in more than a dozen states and provinces, on tribal/First Nation lands in the western U.S. and Canada, and countries included in the Central Asia Conservation Initiative. Proudly, WSF has provided horn plugs, related materials, and beneficial training for state, tribal, provincial, territorial, and other jurisdictions, for more than 40 years.



#### PATHOGEN/DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

In FY2022-23, WSF continued to support innovative efforts to utilize specially trained dogs to help detect presence of Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae (Movi) bacteria, in both domestic and wild sheep. Preliminary trials by Working Dogs for Conservation (WD4C) demonstrated high probability of canine-detection regarding presence/absence of Movi bacteria, in both laboratory and field settings. This strategy offers another surveillance "tool" in the toolbox for wild sheep managers, wildlife veterinarians, domestic sheep producers, and other stakeholders to help identify, and manage, potential transfer of deadly respiratory pathogens that often cause pneumonia and subsequent die-offs in affected wild sheep populations. WD4C personnel and dogs participated onsite with 4 bighorn sheep capture operations (in NE, SD, ID, AZ), and worked with samples provided by agency/ministry wild sheep managers in multiple western jurisdictions.

#### WATER DEVELOPMENT/ DELIVERY/DISTRIBUTION

With partner funding from the WSF Midwest Chapter and Cabela's Outdoor Fund (COF), WSF worked closely with the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society (ADBSS) and the Arizona Game and Fish Department to purchase and outfit a heavy-duty 500-gallon water transport trailer dedicated for use in the East Harcuvar Mountains in south-central Arizona. With partner funding from the Dallas Safari Club Foundation, WSF funded pipeline expansion in Sonora, bringing much-needed water to desert bighorn sheep and other desert-dwelling wildlife.

Working closely with our New Mexico WSF Chapter, and with partner funding from BassProShops/Cabela's Outdoor Fund, "shovel-ready" guzzler projects were completed on public land in the Socorro Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management, enhancing desert bighorn sheep habitat and facilitating seasonal movement corridors for bighorns, elk, and mule deer. The Socorro BLM Field Office was recognized for their landscape-scale water development strategy via a national Conservation Award from BLM HQ.

Stymied by poor population performance and marginal body conditions of desert bighorn sheep on the Desert National Wildlife Refuge (DNWR), a request was made (and approved by WSF) by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) to re-direct WSF funds planned for a desert bighorn capture/collaring project on DNWR to development of the "Tommy" guzzler in the Desert Range of Nevada, working alongside the Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn (FDB).

In northwest Wyoming, WSF funds were used to support insertion of vaginal implant transmitters ("VITs") in captured/collared bighorn ewes in the Whiskey Basin, Jackson, and Upper Shoshone River herds, with particular focus on the Whiskey Basin herd, near Dubois. Preliminary results documented adverse impact and heightened costs on nutritional and body condition of Movi-positive animals, compared to Movi-negative bighorns. Findings to date document the importance of habitat quality and nutrition on the population dynamics of bighorn sheep herds, with and without pathogen loads.

In the Yukon Territory, WSF again partnered with our Yukon WSF Chapter to split the costs for acquiring, distributing, submitting, and analyzing hunter-collected swabs from harvested Dall's rams in the Yukon Territory. In close coordination with Yukon Government's Animal Health Unit, particularly with Program Veterinarian Dr. Kristenn Magnusson, and YG's Fish & Wildlife Branch, Yukon WSF has helped educate Yukon hunters as to the importance of "citizen science" data collection, and the need for quality swab samples that government personnel simply would not be able to acquire. In a typical fall season, more than 100 swab samples from harvested Dall's rams are collected for analysis.









#### "TEST & REMOVE" STRATEGIES, TO MANAGE/REDUCE PNEUMONIA IMPACTS

Unfortunately, respiratory pneumonia remains one of the principal challenges to bighorn sheep restoration, range wide. By identifying and removing chronic carriers of Movi bacteria, preliminary results indicate a substantial improvement in subsequent lamb survival/recruitment. Cross-agency results were, and will be, shared, via virtual and in-person. In fact, with WSF assistance and input, a "Test & Remove" 2-page educational fact sheet was drafted during spring 2023, then adopted unanimously by WAFWA Directors in mid-July 2023.

Aided by bequest funding from WSF Life Member Gregg Eriksmoen's estate, WSF helped fund Year 5 of a "Test-and-Remove" project along the Fraser River, in southern British Columbia, where 75 bighorn sheep in the High Bar sub-herd were captured and sampled, 4 bighorns were Movi-positive and subsequently removed from this population. More than 300 bighorn sheep were captured and sampled for respiratory bacteria (e.g., Movi) during winter 2022-2023 in a tri-state (ID/OR/WA) test-and-remove project; 7 chronic carrier ewes were removed.









### DOMESTIC SHEEP/ WILD SHEEP SEPARATION/ ADVOCACY/EDUCATION

Working closely with the Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia, WSF funded filmmaker Jesse Bone of Filter Studios in Cumberland, British Columbia to create a 15-minute version of the award-winning educational film "Transmission", which was shown around the West, including to political leaders, legislators, agency Directors and Commissioners, numerous WSF C&A events, and other public viewings.

WSF continued to provide funding and serve as a conduit for multiple agencies (e.g., U.S. Forest Service) and other partners to update, improve, and deliver "Risk of Contact" model training for use by federal land-management and state/provincial wildlife agencies in the western U.S. and western Canada.

WSF supported and collaborated with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and MT-WSF on an unprecedented path of bighorn sheep research, management, and restoration, with MFWP investing \$8 million over next 5 years. MFWP will co-produce science to evaluate contact risk between wild and domestic sheep.

# FERAL HORSE REMOVAL FROM WILD SHEEP RANGE

On the Wind River Reservation (WRR) in Wyoming, and in close cooperation with our Wyoming WSF Chapter, WSF provided seed money to help the Shoshone & Arapahoe Tribal Fish & Game Agency (SATFG) and the USFWS contract ground- and helicopter-removal of more than 4,000 feral horses, many from identified, important bighorn sheep habitat. Multiple big game species (e.g., elk, mule deer) and their habitat will benefit from pro-active management of feral horses on tribal lands. Efforts on this WRR feral horse project attracted interest from other tribal wild sheep managers in the West in conducting similar horse removals. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) contributed significantly to this effort, with major funding being provided by the State of Wyoming Legislature, the Wyoming Wildlife & Natural Resource Trust (WWNRT), WSF Wyoming and WSF Midwest Chapters, and a host of other wildlife conservation NGOs based in Wyoming.



#### PREDATOR/LARGE CARNIVORE MANAGEMENT

With funding support from the Pope & Young Club, WSF provided \$50,000 to mountain lion control efforts on Hart Mountain National Antelope Range in Oregon, for work conducted by the USFWS and USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services. Additional support was secured from the Oregon Wildlife Foundation. WSF contributed \$100,000 and \$25,000 USD to the Northern Guides Association and our Yukon WSF Chapter, for ungulate enhancement in northern British Columbia and the Yukon Territory, respectively.



#### HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

Planned and approved prescribed burns in Stone's sheep habitat in northeastern British Columbia were unfortunately halted by an unprecedented wildfire situation in NE BC in spring 2023; ignition supplies (e.g., 41,000 Premo "ping-pong balls") were purchased by and stored for future deployment and prescribed burning, when burn conditions are more favorable, to stay within prescription and written burn plans. WSF funds continued to facilitate future prescribed burns (i.e., conduct requisite "pre-burn" helicopter lamb surveys and vegetation monitoring) working closely with the Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia and again, our conservation partner, BassProShops/ Cabela's Outdoor Fund.WSF funds were also awarded to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Hart Mountain National Antelope Range in Oregon, for contracted juniper removal in important seasonal bighorn sheep habitat.





### INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS & CENTRAL ASIA CAPRINAE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE (CACI)

In September 2022, WSF participated in the 8th World Mountain Ungulate Conference in Italy. An important part of WSF's international programs is building professional relationships with the world's wild sheep and wild goat experts, including members of the IUCN Caprinae Specialist Group, the group responsible for global Caprinae species assessments. At WMUC, biological experts came from 4 continents including N.A., Europe, and central, south, and western Asia. WSF met with Tajikistan representatives regarding their successful Markhor survey, discussed Marco Polo import permits, and discussed potential European Alpine Ibex restoration projects. WSF made clear our support for collaboration with the IUCN Caprinae Specialist group.

In November 2022, WSF participated in CITES CoP19, in Panama; WSF took a diverse group of representatives, including delegates from Mexico, Navajo Nations, and the U.S. WSF met with Tajikistan CITES authorities, and held discussions with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding argali import permit issues. WSF also had discussions with Mexico CITES authorities on removing desert bighorn sheep in Mexico from CITES listing; those Mexico authorities are eager to work with WSF on this direction. WSF held a CACI seminar during 2023 Sheep Week; USFWS presented on CITES, the Endangered Species Act, and the 6 Enhancement Finding questions. This presentation focused on what Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan CITES authorities needed to provide USFWS, for processing U.S. argali import permits.

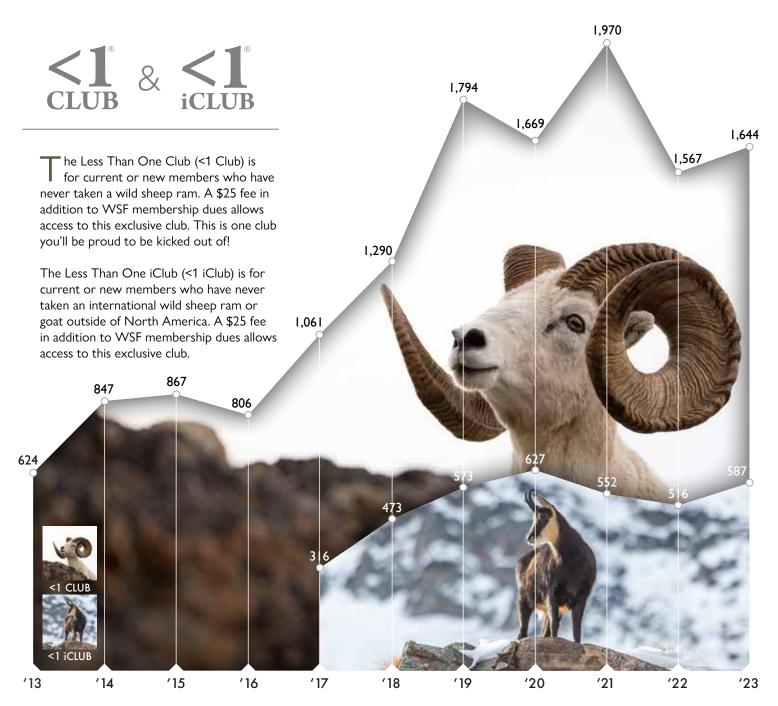
In April 2023, WSF attended the 69th CIC General Assembly in France. Sessions addressed the divide between global conservation and hunting advocacy, hunters and our reasonings, public opinion, "One Health", implications of climate change on wildlife (Chamois project), Artemis Working Group, and Ukraine and Humanitarian work of the CIC. The Wild Harvest Initiative was also discussed, and CIC agreed to work with Shane Mahoney on this effort in Europe, to complement N.A. work.

In April, WSF became an Associate Member of FACE. FACE has national hunters' association members from 37 European countries including the EU-27, and FACE is active in the EU Parliament. Worth noting, that is 37 CITES votes, whereas there are only 3 votes from N.A. WSF has participated in several EU Parliament meetings highlighting the role of hunters and sustainable use hunting.

In June 2023, WSF participated in a large-scale argali survey in Mongolia, the first in a decade. WSF provided funding for 2 wildlife biologists from the Kazakhstan Wildlife Foundation, WSF's first Central Asia Affiliate, to participate. This joint work with Mongolian and Kazakhstan biologists is the beginning of a Central Asia wild sheep and wild goat working group. WSF's participation is helping to move forward USFWS's processing of Mongolia argali import permits.

# WSF MEMBERSHIP



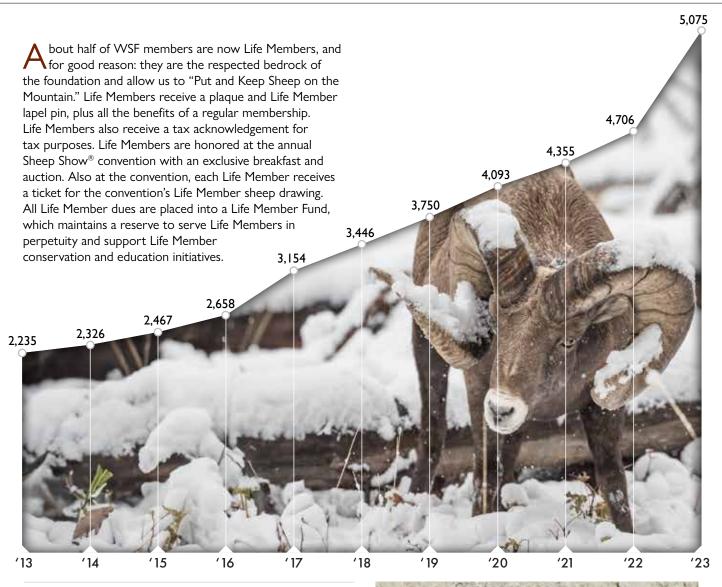




"Being a member and volunteering for the Wild Sheep Foundation has shown me the importance of putting and keeping wild sheep on the mountain. Dedicating your time to benefit wild sheep populations gives you hope to one day be able to harvest a ram of your own and for future generations to come."

Toby Wipf WSF Member

# WSF LIFE MEMBERS

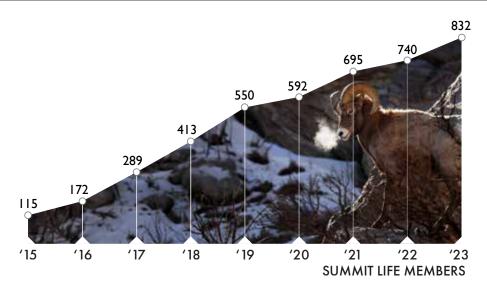


"WSF is one of the few conservation organization you can truly grow into. Low-cost memberships with many benefits, then you join the <1 Club, then Life, Summit Life, Chadwick Ram Society, all with attributes of hunting and preserving wild sheep. If you're seasoned or dream of sheep hunting, there is no better organization in world leading hunters and sheep up the mountain. <1 Club/<1 iClub members, Life and Summit Life members all have opportunities to win sheep hunts. It is also a very fun organization. If you pay attention, there always seems to be something going on at WSF. Sheep Show to Rendezvous, sheep relocation, habitat projects, they keep members involved you know you are getting your monies worth. Sheep Show is worth the price of admission, fun and interactive, if you get a chance you have to go."

- Kris Killorn, Summit Life Member



## WSF SUMMIT LIFE MEMBERS



The Summit Life Membership takes that exceptional commitment and support of the Life Member to an even higher level. Life Member and Summit Life Member dues are directed to the WSF Life Member Fund to maintain a reserve, to provide service to all Life Members in perpetuity, as well as fund annual Life Member conservation and education initiatives. The Life Member Fund is one of the funds included in WSF Board Directed Assets as identified on p.32. Since inception, 832 Summit Life Members have joined through June 30, 2023.

#### FY 2022-23 NEW SUMMIT LIFE MEMBERS

Timothy Aydt Lance Banning Cindy Alexander Bentley Clint Bentley Ben Berukoff Harbor Blake Jim Boyer Dylan Bransom Jeffrey Brown Ben Buntrock Eugene Burger Jolene Burke Dallan Carter David Carvalho Eric Cavage John Chapman Madison Chapman **Rob Cinclair** Paul Cooke

Benjamin Cox Tracy Cunningham Joe Currier **Nick Curtis Bret Daugherty** Keetin Daugherty George Davis Ellie Dieren Matthew Dieren Ashley Dieren Louis DiGiovanni Mike Dobson Matt Gallo Chris Gillman Samuel Hays John Hendrix Jeremy Hixson Gabe Hofrenning

Joseph Hyrkas Cory Johnson Jay Johnson Todd Kaufman David Kestner Jon Kuhns Jeffrey Lee Perry Livingston Ray Martin Michael Mcdonald Taylor McGuire Steve McIntosh Craig McKenzie Jeffrey McMinn **Bruce Mellott** Antony Mohsenzadegan James Michael Mover Brian Nelson

Michael Nelson Jeffery Nunez Clark Olsen Davin Osborne **Graham Overguard** Rick Parker Robert Parker Matt Pestorich Harrison B Piazza Michael Piazza Pamela Richardson Marc Rue Daniel Sanders Milton Schultz, Jr. Michael Scott Christopher Seely James Sheehan Michael Smukall

Jeff Staley Easton Storlie Jaime Suchy Nicholas Swindle George Tasich **Daniel Teschner Curt Thompson** Angelo Tiberti **Bob Tonkin** Lance Trebesch Matt Utnik **Robert Wallock** Aislyn Ward Gerrick Weakley Jay Webster Andy Wood Jay Yokomizo Rodney Zeeman

Note: Summit Life Members joining after June 30, 2023 are recognized in the *Wild Sheep®* magazine and website and will be listed in the FY 2023 - 24 Annual Report.



# ENSURING THE FUTURE OF WILD SHEEP

uring the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, the Ensuring the Future of Wild Sheep (ETFOWS) campaign recorded \$1,725,000 in new and upgraded pledge commitments. Contributors to the ETFOWS campaign are recognized through three WSF giving societies - Marco Polo Society, Chadwick Ram Society, and the Legacy Society.

In 2013, WSF launched ETFOWS to include tax and estate planning opportunities, counsel and advice, major gifts, and giving societies to raise the funds required to ensure the future of the wild sheep resource by directing even more dollars to wild sheep restoration, repatriation, and conservation. Our vision is to build a series of funds that, with a targeted annual off-take of ~4%, will allow WSF to direct 100% of our convention fundraising to Mission Programs. Our goal is \$5 Million to \$6 Million annually in mission-focused Grant-In-Aid and additional mission funding.

The Marco Polo Society (MPS) was established in 2008 as WSF's premier giving society, recognizing WSF donors of \$100,000 or more. During the 2022-2023, fiscal year the Marco Polo Society welcomed 15 new members, bringing the total number of MPS members to 91.

The Chadwick Ram Society (CRS) was created in 2013 with five benefactor levels ranging from \$2,500 to \$50,000. Benefactor levels can be "upgraded" within the Chadwick Ram Society as well as to the Marco Polo Society. During the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year the Chadwick Ram Society brought in \$425,000 in new and upgraded pledge dollars!





#### WSF SALUTES OUR MARCO POLO SOCIETY® MEMBERS TO DATE - Alphabetical Order

Shane & Angela Alexander (TN) Lee & Penny Anderson (FL) Anonymous

Anonymous

#### \* Anonymous

#### \* Anonymous

Stanford & Pamela Atwood (CA) John & Jane Babler (MN) Scott & Erica Barry (MI) Brian & Debbie Benyo (OH) Gary Bogner (MI)

### Dan & Kathy Boone (TX) \* Louis Breland (AL)

Jerry & Amy Brenner (NC) Steve & Jackie Bruggeman (MN) Peter & Wendy Burchfield (PA) Ron & Billi Carey (AB) Oscar & Valerie Carlson (MN)

Walt & Joan Coram (TX)

Guinn & Betsy Crousen (TX)

#### \* Sam & Tracy Cunningham (TX)

Denis & Diane Dale (AB)
Dean & Paige Darby (MI)
Monty & Becky Davis (TX)
Jeff & Jann Demaske (CO)
Chris & Jaimie Dianda (NV)
Mike & Julie Dianda (NV)
Mark & Janice Dickson (CA)
Billy Dunbar (AK)
The Fiedeldey Family (OH)

Ronald S. Gabriel, MD (CA)

#### \* Kevin & Lauri Gilbert (MT)

Brian & Susan Ham (AZ)
Marc & Cheryl Hansen (PA)
Jim & Sue Hens (NY)
Tom & Denise Hoffman (NY)
Steve & Jill Hornady (NE)
Larry & Jane Hunts (OR)

Kevin Hurley (ID)

Ross & Nicole Jackson (CO) Scott Jesseman (IL)

Kaan & Nurgul Karakaya (TUR) Kryptek Outdoor Group (ID)

#### \* Tommy & Patty Lang (FL)

George & Kelly Lawrence (WA) Doug & Dana Leech (WV) Thomas Lemmerholz (GER)

#### \* Wayne Lennington (TN) leff Lindgren (MN)

#### \* Robert Hall & Jane Link (FL)

Paul Mattes (MI)

Kyle & Joanne Meintzer (NV)

#### \* Joe & Christine Michaletz (MN)

Craig & Therese Mueller (ID) Richard & Linda Murphy (NM) The Olmstead Family (BC)

La Palmosa

Mark & Gabriela Peterson (MI) Ron & Vicki Pomeroy (WY) Larry & Brenda Potterfield (MO)

Joni & Gary W. Raba (TX)

Terry Rathert (TX)

Gary & Yvonne Rigotti (OR)

Christopher Ring (TX)

Kevin & Janine Rinke (MI)

Alan & Barbara Sackman (NY)

Doug & Shelly Sayer (ID)

Roger Segebrecht (WI)

Kip & Sue Slaugh (UT)

Kevin & Tuesdy Small (CA)

J. Alain Smith (WA)

Mike Snider (MI)

#### \* Jeff Sorg (MT)

Daryll & Shauna Southwick (CO) Brandon & Kristi Stokes (OR) Jelindo & Sandee Tiberti (NV)

Matt Tomseth (OR)

Tim & Ruth Van Der Weide (IA) Ken & Anna Vorisek (AK)

#### \* Mark Watkins (MN)

#### \* Jay Webster (TX)

Craig West (NC)

Steven & Ardyce Whisler (MT)
Clayton & Modesta Williams (TX)

#### \* Lyle Wood (AB)

Russ & Debi Young (TX)
Gary & Penny Young (WV)
Alan Young (YT)

\*Indicates New Marco Polo Society members during FY - 2022-23

Note: Marco Polo Society Members joining after June 30, 2023 are recognized in the Wild Sheep® magazine and website and will be listed in the FY 2023-24 Annual Report.

# CHADWICK RAM SOCIETY®

hadwick Ram Society donations can be made to the Endowment Fund, Conservation Fund, our annual Convention and/or Operations to fund specific programs and initiatives. Chadwick Ram Society members receive a society pin and are recognized in our "Wild Sheep" magazine as well as on our website. Members may also "upgrade" their benefactor levels within the Chadwick Ram Society as well as to the Marco Polo Society.

For more information on the Chadwick Ram Society, the Marco Polo Society or the Ensuring the Future of Wild Sheep campaign, contact WSF's world headquarters staff or visit our website.

We cordially invite you to join the Chadwick Ram Society and help ensure the future of wild sheep!

#### WSF SALUTES OUR CHADWICK RAM SOCIETY® MEMBERS • Alphabetical by benefactor level

#### \* New or Upgraded CRS for FY - 2022-23

Chadwick Ram Society members joining after June 30, 2023 will appear in the FY 2023-2024 Annual Report. You can see those new members highlighted on our website and in our magazine.

#### PLATINUM - \$50,000

Lee Anderson (FL)

Anonymous

Kenneth L. Barr (CA)

Bryan & Barbara Bartlett (NM)

Gary Bogner (MI)

Bob & Steve Brocchini (CA)

Ron & Billi Carey (AB)

David Cosco (YT)

Tom Foss (AB)

Kevin Gilbert (MT)

Mike & Dianna Goodart (CO)

Evon D & Jack H Keck Foundation (WI)

Kevin & Eileen Kehoe (AK)

Roger Kenner (ND)

Chris Klineburger &

Grace Mathis-Klineburger (NV)

#### \* Steve Letcher (AZ)

Larry & Emily Lewis (MI)

Mychal Murray (TX)

Lanny S. & Susan Rominger (NM)

Michael Samson (AK)

Jim Travis (AZ)

"In Memory of Jody Travis"

Mark Watkins (MN)

#### GOLD - \$25,000

#### \*Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Mike Borel (CA)

Tony Caligiuri (IA)

Wesley Curry (ID)

Scott DeMars (MT)

Darin & Tonya Fiedeldey (OH)

Farrel & Judy Gosman (IN)

Dr. Bob & Dr. Carole Griego (AZ)

Alan Hayes (SC)

Larry & Gay Johns (NV)

Bob & Pam Keagy (CA)

Mike Mechenbier (NM)

#### \* Donald Priest (AZ)

Glen & Caroline Pyne (CA)

David B. Reed (TX)

Lou & Pauline Rupp (MO)

Steve & Sue Skold (IA)

Renee Snider (CA)

Jim & Alisia Stager (PA)

Charles & Denise Swanson (IL)

Dr. Brian & Karen Tallerico (IL)

George Vandenberg (CO)

Butch Whiting (ID)



#### SILVER - \$10,000

Anonymous

Anonymous

Ryan Andrews (PA)

David Antley, Jr (OR)

Glenn & Susan Bailey (VA)

Ryan & Marissa Bassham (MT)

Jake Benson (TX)

Cole & Elaine Benton (WY)

Lance Bernal (NM)

#### \* Derek Blake (AK)

Eldon "Buck" Buckner (OR) Jeremy & Karen Chase (PA)

#### \* Joseph Ciavarra (CA)

Kelli S. Cody (MT)

Kemp Copeland (TX)

James & Leann Craig (IN)

Richard Crawford (MI)

Larry Diehl (VA)

Dennis Dunn (ID)

Tyrel Dutcher (TX)

Buddy DuVall (GA)

David & Tamara Alegria Dybvig (AZ)

K.J. Eberspecher (IL)

Gary Erker (CO)

Aaron Florian (UT)

Ryan & Tiffany Foutz (UT)

Dale & Donna Gaugler (MD)

leff Geiger (OH)

Karen Gordon (AK)

Paul Greene (CO)

#### \* Patrick Hagens (WY)

Robert & Arlene Hanson (AZ)

#### \* Marty Harsin (NV)

Zach & Amber Higgins (ID)

Daniel Hinz (WY)

Denise Hoffman (CO)

Lucas Humbard (AK)

Stewart N. Isley (MI)

Larry Jacobs (OR)

Brett Jefferson (NV)

Jonathan Jencks (VA)

Kenetrek (MT)

Dan Kluth (ID)

Kyle Krause (TX)

Will Lee (AK)

Peter Licata (NV)

Tom Lang (FL)

Garrett & Jana Long (MT)

Shane Mahoney (NL)

Donald Martin (CA)

#### \* Robert Martin, Jr (VA)

Zachary McDermott (WY)

Larry & JoAnne McGovern (MT)

Terry & Mary Mick (MN)

Bo & Jerrin Morgan (AZ)

Pete & Bobbie Mowbray (VA)

Craig & Laureen Nakamoto (IA)

Stone Mountain Safaris

- Leif & Kellie Olsen (BC)

Michael Opitz (WA)

Rich & Frances Papapietro (CA)

Joe & Mary Peachey (PA)

Mark & Susan Pickering (NM)

Richard J. Pierce (CA)

Greg Pope (WY)

Steven Quisenberry (VA)

Ron Raboud (FL)

Ed Rasmuson (AK)

Aaron Rees (WA)

Dr. Allan Reishus (CO)

Mason Rogers (TX)

Richard B. Schilhab (TX)

Gary Sessions (NM)

Robert Sherer (MT)

McKenzie Sims (WY)

AC & Melissa Smid (WY)

Edward & Gail Spies (SD)

J.C. Spies (SD)

Ryan Steptoe (AE)

James Stubbs (SC)

Gray N. Thornton (MT)

Jeremy & Jessica Tripp (ID)

JT Tubbs (MT)

Reuben Valles (CA)

#### \* Zack Walton (CA)

Jim & Shaina Warner (ID)

Dan & Kim Williams (AK)

Darryl Williams & Cassie Shafer (CA)

Jim & Paula Wilson (NJ)

Thomas Zimmerman (WI)

#### **⊌**BRONZE - \$5,000

Todd Adams (AK)

Jack & Cindy Atcheson (MT)

#### \* Louis M. Balenko (CO)

Clint Bentley

& Cindy Alexander (NV)

Rick & Sandra Booth (PA)

Mike Bouton (MN)

Ross Brewer (TX)

Aaron & Amy Burkhart (MN)

Calvin Burns (CO) Paul Carter (MA)

Julie Chapman (IN)

Kevin Cheng & Hana Yang (CA)

#### \* Don Colter (ID)

James Cooney (AK)

Alan Day (OR)

Paul Donaldson (MT)

Toni Durrance (FL)

\* Brian Fienhold (UT) Jim Fitzgerald (CA)

Tom & LeAnna Fischer (ID)

Mark Fritz (MN)

Jeff Furstenau (MN)

Hal & Emily Frye (AK)

Tom Grimes (MT)

Tyson Hale (TX)

Justin Hallock (CA)

Brian & Susan Ham (AZ)

Paul Hanson (WA)

David & Kathy Harrison (CA)

#### \* Paul & Kathy Havey (PA)

#### \* Charles Hartford (CA)

\* Samuel Hays (TX)

Dale Hislop (AB)

Keith Hite (PA)

Shad & April Hulse (UT)

Stacey & Dorcy Hunt (WA)

Kyle & Tess Hurley (ID)

Adam Janke (BC)

Glenn & Ann Kennedy (TX)

Bob Kenner (WA)

#### Rachel Kidwell (AK)

\* Steve King (NM)

Ted Kruzan (IA)

Glen Landrus (WA) James Lewis (AK)

John Link (WI)

Christopher Loomis (MT)

Mitchel Lopez (NJ) Jim Manley (OR)

Martin Marietta (NC)

Matthew & Traci Martin (MT)

Bob & Lisa Mays (NV) Alan & Kathy McGraw (TX)

#### \* Nick & Andi Negrini (MN)

\* Carl Nelson (AK) Randy & Kim Newberg (MT)

Doug & Lu Ochsner (MT)

Elliot Niemi (AK)

\* Pat O'Neill (MN)

Steve Opat (AK)

Jeffrey Perez (NJ)

Gary Raba (TX)

Stuart "Cam" Rader (AK)

Gerald & Edith Remaklus (AZ)

Thomas Rea (CO)

Anthony Reviglio (NV) Greg & Katy Schildwachter (MD)

Paul Schulteis (CA) Bob Van De Rostyne (WY)

Mike Schmillen (MN)

Tim & Roxanne Shinabarger (MT)

#### Victor Smith Jr. & Danielle Jackson (CA)

\* Paul Spyhalski (MN)

Barrett Sims (TN)

Drew Stamerjohn (IL) Steven Stanford (WA)

Kyle Stelter (BC)

Greg Strait (PA)

John Teeter (NC)

Steve Thompson (IN) Troy Tidwell (WA)

Peter Treboldi (MI)

Jim & Crystal Urban (AK)

Brennan Uter (LA)

Dr. Tony Weber (WA) T.R. White (NV)

Michael Wieck (WI) Justin Wise (OR)

Gail D. Zimmerman (WY)

## CHADWICK RAM SOCIETY® (continued)

#### **◎**COPPER - \$2.500

Adam Adams (TX)

Anonymous

Grant Adkisson (CO)

Dan Adler/Diamond Z Outfitters of AZ

Thomas Adrien (GA)

Rob & Cheryl Arnaud (MT)

Myles Astle (NT)

Michael Avery (LA)

Jeremy Ayotte (BC)

Ben Bailey (AK)

#### \* Bryan Bailey (WA)

Kurt Baugher (ID)

Justin Befort (AK)

Jim & Gail Bernardin (WY)

Clayton Bevers (TX)

Bradford Black (OH)

Lloyd Blackwood (NC)

John Blankenship (MA)

John R. Blocker III (TX)

Aaron Bloomquist (AK)

In Memory of Adeline Bloomquist (AK)

Angie Bloomquist (AK)

lim Bonanno (CO)

Brian Book (MT)

Dan & Cynthia Book (MT)

Skip & Sarah Bourgeois (AK)

Josh Bummer (ND)

#### \* Matt Burke (CA)

Rick & Heather Carosone (ID)

Adam Casagrande (ID)

#### \* Eric Cavage (PA)

Edward Chacho (AK)

Iim Cherf (WA)

Gary Colbath (AK)

Ion Crawford (MI)

William N. Cullins (AZ)

Graham & Paige Culver (MT)

Kevin Dana (AK)

David Daniel (TX)

George Davis (OH)

Ryan DeBonis (AK)

Brown & Kelli Delozier (TX)

#### \* Christopher Denton (FL)

Matt Deluca (AK)

#### \* Kaleb Desjarlais (AK)

Terry Dieren Family (IA)

Chipper Dippel (TX)

#### \* Christopher Estes (TX)

Brett & Haley Evens (AK)

Cyril & Carol Elsinger (IA)

Dan Evenson (WI)

Dusty & Kiersti Felska (MT)

Darla Fiedeldey (OH)

Hank Flatow (MT)

Tyler Gaenzle (VA)

Jerome & Michele Garcia (NM)

George Garner (AK)

Jason Gentz (MN)

Becky & Nick Gerritsen (AK)

Matt & Rita Gittlein (AK)

Brandon Goodwin (IL)

#### \* Marcus Gores (OR)

Eric Gould (MT)

#### \* Garrett Grant (WA)

Edward K. Grasser (AK)

David Haakinson (AK)

Steven Hallenbeck (AK)

AD Hancock (FL) John W. Harris (WY)

Keith Hart (PA)

#### \* David Hartwig (CA)

Marvin Scott Haswell, M.D. (CO)

Raymon Hedges (AK)

Adam & Holly Heier (AB)

#### \* Stan Henderer (OR)

Wayne & Diane Henderson (SD)

Jacob Herman (TN)

Grant Hill (AK)

John Hilton (CA)

Benjamin Hinze (AK)

Scott Homrich (MI)

Marilyn M. Horton (GA)

C.J. Hyland (WA)

Gary Ingersoll (TX)

Cory & Becky Jackson (AK)

James "Jay" Johnson (FL)

Ryan Johnson (AK)

Four Seasons Safaris New Zealand

- Shane Johnston (NZ)

Charles & Hannah Kahahawai (AK)

Peter Kaple (FL)

Craig Kasemodel (AK)

Erin Kehoe (AK)

Andrew Kelly (MT)

Charlie Kelly (AZ)

Nicholas B. M. Kemp, Jr (PA)

Zachary Kenner (AK)

Bill Kiefer (ND)

Kris & Jill Killorn (MT)

Dallas King (Alb.)

Kurt Kobus (WI)

Patrick Lais (AK)

Ben Lamb (MT)

Richard Lewallen (MT)

Ricky Lindsey (AK)

Leverett & MeredithLunceford (VA)

Russell MacLennan (CO)

#### \* Eric Mackay (UT)

Bryan Martin (BC)

Gary H. Martinez (NY)

David Matthias (IA)

Jason Matzinger (MT)

Walter Maximuch (NJ)

Brendon McCarney (AK)

#### \* Michael McComas (TX)

Jim & Ashley McEnroe (MT)

Garrett McKee (AK)

Kenneth Mee (CA)

Herb Meyr (ID)

Chuck Middleton (ID)

Davy Mize (LA)

lacob Mock (AK)

David L. Mode (GA)

Charles Monson (ND) Kasey Moore-Ritchie (AK)

Janner T. Morgan (AK)

Nicholas Muche (AK)

Zachary Mulford (WI)

G. Latham Myers, II (WV)

Robert Naugle (CA) Hans Neidig (AK)

\* Brian Nelson (WI)

Shawn Nelson (WY)

#### \* Jake Nightingale (ID)

Dan Niles (MI)

Chase Oswald (BC)

Michael Parker (TX)

Travis Parks (FL) Chris Peccia (MT)

#### \* Nate Peckinpaugh (MT)

\* Brian Pelczar (MT)

John M. Pestorich (CA)

Matt Pestorich (CA)

James Petersen (IL)

Laura Pettett (CO)

William Pettett (CO) \* Dan Powell (IL)

Bob & J.P. Puette (NV)

Mahting Putelis - Hunt to Eat (CO)

James A. Rabenberg (IA)

Christine Ransom (CA)

Trevin Reed (MO)

Daryl Reid (CA)

Brian Rhead (ID) Brian Richards (AK) David M. Richards (MT)

Chad Riedel (AK)

Zachery Rinker (AK)

Leff Robbins (AL)

Brad Roe (MT)

Cody & Shea Rutter (AK)

Jacob Ryg (MN)

#### \* Michael Salomonson (CO)

David & Adrienne Sams (TX)

Larry L. Sayers (NV)

Tim& Lillian Schommer (ID)

Wayne & Marcia Schottler (MT) Mike Shults (CA)

Alan Shultz (CA)

Chris & Aislinn Schultz (AK)

Rebecca Schwanke (AK)

Jeff Schweighart (WY)

Jason Sheridan (LA)

Larry Sidaway (MD) Jesse Simonson (HI)

Rush Simpson (AR)

Neal H. Skinner (AZ)

Travis Skogstad (AK)

Cory Smith (ND) Samuel Sowders (TX)

#### lay Stanford (AK)

\* Jonah Stewart (AK)

Brian & Claire Stoltz (AK)

Dallas Strait (PA)

John Sturgeon (AK) Morad Tahbaz (CT)

Timothy Thomas (AK) Darren Thomson (AB)

Cornelius Tolan (PA)

Rowdy Tough (AK)

Bryan Tulare (AK)

William & Lois Turner (AB) Carter & Michelle Verhaeghe (OR)

Tina Veldkamp (AK)

Jake & Jacilyn Wallace (CO) Will Walton (AK)

John Washburn (WI)

Kelli White (AK)

Beau Williams (WY) Erica Williams (MI)

Shawn Wood (CA)

Peregrine Wolff (CA)

WSI Sports Wear (MN)

Ed Zernia (AK) Brian Zivicky & Leslie Reed (CO)



# WSF SALUTES OUR LEGACY SOCIETY® MEMBERS JANUARY 2013 - JUNE 30, 2023 LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS JOINING DURING FY 2021-22 ARE SHOWN IN BOLD

Lee & Penny Anderson
Anonymous
Anonymous
Jack, Jr. & Cindy Atcheson
Derek W.O. Berry
Mike Borel
Cabela's Outdoor Fund
Dr. Robert & Cynthia Cassell
Rick & Heather Carasone

Monty & Becky Davis
Howard & Mary Deters
Doug & Patty Dreeszen
Buddy DuVall
Tom Grimes
Eric & Sue Hansen
Robert & Arlene Hanson
John & Mary Ann Justus
Roger McCosker
Robert E. & Lisa Mays

Kyle & Joanne Meinzter
Chuck Middleton
David Mode
Brad R. Plaga
Robert & J.P. Puette
Kevin & Janine Rinke
Lanny Rominger
Louis & Pauline Rupp
Roger Segebrecht
Tim & Roxane Shinabarger
Jim Travis
Tim & Ruth Van Der Weide
The Estate of Robert B. Johnson

Curt & Marcia Thompson Gray N. Thornton

The William H. Donner Foundation, Inc. SCI Foundation - Hunter Legacy Fund (HLF-100)



Carter Riecks

\*New Legacy Society Members for FY - 2022-23 Note: Legacy Society Members joining after June 30, 2023 are recognized in the Wild Sheep® magazine and website and will be listed in the FY 2023-24 Annual Report.

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER - Spring Issue 2023 Wild Sheep®

As I noted in my post Sheep Show® video message, on behalf of a grateful and hard-working staff and board of directors, THANK YOU to all our exhibitors, donors, sponsors, auction & raffle buyers, appeal donors, convention volunteers, members, and guests for helping to make the 2023 Sheep Show another mind-blowing success! The altruism and exceptional generosity of the wild sheep family never cease to amaze and inspire me. Thank you!

The records you all helped us break in 2023 were many and incredible. Record Sheep Show Raffle sales. Record banquet attendance and record expo hall attendance. A new record of nearly \$1 million in convention sponsorships, including a record \$350,000 raised in Convention Appeals for our Take One Put One Back, Ram Lay-A-Way, One More for Four, and Women Hunt® programs as well as the Working Dogs for Conservation initiative (WD4C) with 100% of those donor direct dollars going to the programs of the donor's choice. Thank you!

Our live and silent auctions were off the chart, including the conservation permit dollars raised for our state, provincial, tribal, and First Nation agency partners. These set a new record with more than \$4.89 million dollars raised, including an incredible nine new state & tribal permit records. Thank you!

The dollars you helped us raise in Reno will fund \$2.6 million in budgeted Grant and Aid to wild sheep conservation and grants to our guide/outfitter & industry partners. Our Reno success will also fund grants to disease research, and our advocacy work in

Washington, DC, and state and provincial governments. It will fund our hands-on youth education programs and scholarships, pro-hunting public relations campaigns in Canada, Mexico and the USA, as well as our conservation work in central Asia and advocacy efforts with the US Fish & Wild Service, CITES and IUCN. Thank you!

Through your support and our 2023 Sheep Show® results, WSF expects to direct nearly \$7 million this fiscal year to wild sheep conservation, research, education, advocacy, and other mission programs. This represents WSF's fifth year in a row of directing more than \$6 million annually to the wild sheep resource and programs benefiting them and their habitat.

You all made this happen. Thank you!

But it. Is not time to rest. Since the convention your staff have been working on plans and improvements for the 2024 Sheep Show® we are sure you will enjoy. We are expanding the Camp Chef Culinary Corner, focusing on some exciting art displays and our artist presence, expanding our taxidermy displays, developing incentives to attend and win sheep and other hunts, and have reviewed and will refresh all of our evening and event programs. While the 2023 show was over the top, we will never sit back and coast. You and the wild sheep resource deserve fresh ideas, new programs, and a constant effort to improve!

WSF and the entire industry have come back with a bang. We set new records as have our chapters and affiliate events held thus far this season. Our industry partners

DSC, HSC, SCI and MDF/SFW all have held record events this year as well. This bodes well for our collective missions and the species and programs we support. Yet, we still face many challenges and must not rest on our laurels. There are serious threats in the USA to our firearm rights and freedoms. Even more threats of draconian firearm restrictions on our Canadian members and neighbors. Import restrictions by the USFWS on importation of hunting trophies from Tajikistan and Mongolia to the USA threaten to crush the conservation benefits of hunting and the livelihoods of peoples in rural communities dependent on our dollars for their existence.

Rest assured that in addition to focusing on our impact to the wild sheep resource which is our primary Purpose and Mission, that your staff and volunteer leaders remain engaged shoulder to shoulder with our partners in the industry to be the tip of the sword to protect our freedoms and way of life.

In closing, thank you again for exhibiting, for your donations, your sponsorships, your bids, your gifts, your participation, your membership, and your unmatched support of our 2023 Convention. You all came for the sheep, and you stayed for the party.

Gray N. Thornton
President & CEO
Editor in Chief, Wild Sheep®
Summit Life Member
Chadwick Ram Society Member
Legacy Society Member







# WOMEN HUNT® -YEAR IN REVIEW







Women Hunt's registered trademark applications were approved for the use of Women Hunt, Women in Hunting, Women in Hunting Initiative, WH and WIHI.

The 2022 New Hunter Course application process saw significant growth from the inaugural offering in 2021. Reach expanded beyond the WSF and our Chapter & Affiliate network reflecting the positive growth, awareness, and excitement for Women Hunt. Applications were received from women with no affiliation or even awareness of the wild sheep resource or the foundation, a transformation from the previous year.

Mentors were found for the Class of 2022 participants through a combination of the C&A network and through the relationships built with our partners including Artemis Sportswomen. Artemis was able to assist with finding mentors in states in which we don't have a presence, illustrating the value of collaboration with other women's groups in the industry.

Alumnae from the Classes of 2021 and 2022 worked diligently to meet the third prong of the goals of Women Hunt's

New Hunter course – giving back to WSF, Women Hunt, the C&A network, and within their local communities. The alumnae engaged in conservation project work in multiple states and provinces, actively promoted WSF and WH on social media platforms, volunteered for the WSF and their local C&As, created local women's hunting, angling and conservation groups/activities, and our educator alumnae taught lessons to students on wildlife conservation, the role of hunting in conservation, etc.

A synergistic relationship was also established with The Wildlife Society. TWS identified that Women Hunt's voices and stories would be invaluable in bridging an evergrowing lack of support for hunting in young wildlife professionals, many of whom are from urban backgrounds with no connection to rural, agricultural, and hunting life styles. This growing demographic of disconnected wildlife professionals pose a threat to the future viability of hunting unless a connection can be made to positively impact decisions made at the governmental, NGO and private industry levels. Women Hunt premiered their presence at the TWS annual conference in Spokane, WA in November of 2022 by

manning a booth and hosting a seminar. Traffic at the booth was robust through all three days of the expo with engagement of both women and men. The seminar was attended by over 100 individuals and generated a very healthy discussion with valuable comments shared by attendees. Women Hunt formed a relationship with Women of Wildlife, a program of TWS geared towards supporting female wildlife professionals.

The 2023 Sheep Show saw more firsts for Women Hunt with our presence in a booth on the expo floor and the creation of the Camp Chef Culinary Corner. Class of 2021 and 2022 alumnae volunteered not only in these areas but in areas of need identified by WSF staff ranging from registration, <1 Club, the Ladies Luncheon, banquet seating, running auction slips, and more.

The next fiscal year will see Women Hunt continue to develop relationships, partnerships, and collaborations, increase awareness and visibility through promotional activities and testimonials of alumnae, expand offerings, and focus on donor development.



The Youth Wildlife Conservation Experience (Y.W.C.E.) is the pinnacle youth event solely organized and executed by the Wild Sheep Foundation and takes place each year alongside the Sheep Show® in Reno, Nevada. This year marked the twelfth year of the event, which has continuously grown in size over the last decade. This year set an all-time record for the number of youth who attended the event, at 1,835 kids.

Starting on Thursday of Sheep Show<sup>®</sup>, local students were bused in from a variety of schools for a five-hour experience. It began with a seminar educating youth on the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, adaptations of wild sheep, and how the Wild Sheep Foundation is involved with conservation of wild sheep. Next, three sessions of outdoor career seminars took place. Each session offered three different seminars for student to select from. Fach session lasted 25 minutes and offered students the opportunity to learn about a variety of jobs. These included: wildlife biology, running nature centers, making art out of antlers, running an outdoor camouflage company, outdoor Dutch oven cooking careers, and more.

After learning about three of the nine offered careers, students reassembled for lunch and a keynote speaker. The presentation was put on by one of WSF's Life Membership Fund Scholarship recipients who was majoring in a field related to wildlife management. This offered an opportunity for participants to learn from someone closer to their age about possible paths forward into such college bound careers.

Finally, student school groups were given a few hours for hands-on learning from the forty-one different stations offered throughout the Y.W.C.E. and spread out over 94,530 square feet. Each station was designed to engage, excite, and

inspire the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts and wildlife conservationists. Stations included: fly tying, rock climbing, conservation, animal study, archery, leaveno-trace ethics, the shooting sports, duck calling, telemetry, fishing, and more.

Friday repeated a similar schedule with students from other schools, amounting to a total of 590 youth attending the experience through field trips from nine different schools in two days.

Saturday the Y.W.C.E. was open to the public for free and offered the same hands-on stations, but also included free youth raffles. Additionally, the Tracks

Program took place for youth who were 12-17 years old which involved taking a punch card and following sheep tracks on the floor throughout the exhibit hall to participating vendors. Each vendor would take time to educate on a specific concept. Upon completion of the punch card, it was deposited into a special raffle.

The Y.W.C.E. program is in-part funded through a youth endowment with the MidwayUSA Foundation, which was established through the generosity of Larry and Brenda Potterfield. The Y.W.C.E. was established in 2012 thanks to the Potterfields' vision of engaging youth in conservation and outdoor activities.

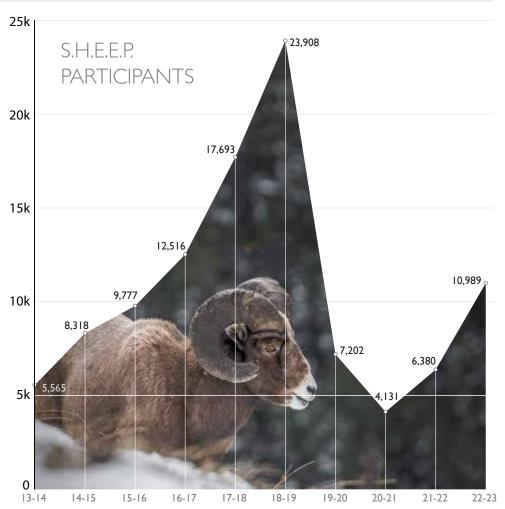


# S.H.E.E.P. SHOOTING · HUNTING · ETHICS · EDUCATION · PROGRAM

ecognizing the importance youth Will play in the future of wildlife conservation, hunting, and outdoor activities, WSF developed the Shooting, Hunting & Ethics Education Program (S.H.E.E.P.) in 2012. WSF's commitment to developing the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts, hunters and conservationists led to the development of S.H.E.E.P. as its community outreach youth initiative involving urban and rural areas across our nation. Concluding its eleventh year, the program has impacted 94,488 kids in 672 events since it began. Including the national Youth Wildlife Conservation Experiences, WSF has impacted 108,693 youth with its 684 events overall.

The goal of S.H.E.E.P. is to organize, be involved in, and execute experiential learning experiences for youth around the nation that focus on both introductory as well as next-level skills in outdoor ethics, the shooting sports, conservation, and outdoor related hobbies. Events range from small-scale youth gatherings at chapter banquets where participants utilize indoor archery equipment, Laser Shot machines, and conservation kits to massive events involving various conservation groups and hundreds to thousands of kids. Not every event is the same, and each is customized based on the goal and space available of that particular event. In addition to youth expos, learn to shoot clinics for both archery and firearms take place to offer youth opportunities to learn the sport in a safe environment. WSF has developed school kits that are shipped across the nation. These kits include over twenty-five lessons, videos, PowerPoints, and hands-on materials that teachers can use to educate their classes on wild sheep and conservation efforts. This year 55 different classrooms learned from these kits.

This year, youth from past archery clinics were invited to start a WSF archery team. The team began meeting in late November and practiced every other week the rest of the year. Most of the 15 team members then competed in local archery tournaments, with a few who began competing in national ones.







#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

Board of Directors Wild Sheep Foundation Bozeman, Montana

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Wild Sheep Foundation (the "Foundation"), a nonprofit organization, which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Wild Sheep Foundation as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Wild Sheep Foundation and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Wild Sheep Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or
  error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include
  examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that
  are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
  effectiveness of Wild Sheep Foundation's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting
  estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Wild Sheep Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Wipfli LLP

Missoula, Montana

Wippei LLP

October 31, 2023

# Wild Sheep Foundation

### **Statements of Financial Position**

June 30,		2023	2022
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,106,241 \$	665,654
Convention and membership receivables		109,915	315,274
Merchandise inventories		104,759	116,622
Prepaid expenses		374,503	277,857
Pledges receivable, net of discount		445,869	461,739
Total current assets		2,141,287	1,837,146
Fund and trust - invested funds		4,409,230	4,098,739
Pledges receivable, net of discount		472,826	429,802
Furniture fixtures and equipment, net		68,986	61,388
Other assets		15,235	10,249
Right-of-use asset, net		354,743	,
Total assets	\$	7,462,307 \$	6,437,324
HARMITIES AND NET ASSETS			
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
Current liabilities:	4	412 707 ¢	222.022
Accounts payable	\$	413,797 \$	223,033
Accrued expenses		281,070	208,579
Convention deposits and deferred revenue		450,965	265,498
Line of credit		126,887	276,425
Operating lease obligation - current		112,644	
Total current liabilities		1,385,363	973,535
Long-term liabilities:			
Operating lease obligation		242,099	-
Total long-term liabilities		242,099	-
Total liabilities		1,627,462	973,535
Net assets:			
Without donor restriction:			
Undesignated		1,503,125	1,373,422
Board designated		2,884,729	2,914,468
With donor restrictions		1,446,991	1,175,899
Total net assets		5,834,845	5,463,789
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	7,462,307 \$	6,437,324

### **Wild Sheep Foundation**

### **Statement of Activities**

		2023	
	Without Donor	With Donor	
Year Ended June 30,	Restrictions	Restrictions	Total
Support and revenue:			
Proceeds from annual convention	\$ 11,106,453	\$ - \$	11,106,453
Less: direct costs	4,047,630	-	4,047,630
Net convention revenue	7,058,823	-	7,058,823
Barastana (	1 017 066	256 100	2 222 755
Donations	1,947,366	256,400	2,203,766
Dues and memberships	784,764	-	784,764
Publication revenue	233,769		233,769
Investment income (loss), net of expenses	311,275	73,047	384,322
Net assets released from restriction	58,355	(58,355)	
Total support and revenue	10,394,352	271,092	10,665,444
Program service expenses:			
Wild sheep conservation and education	7,959,828		7,959,828
Membership services	592,557	-	
Membership services	392,337		592,557
Total program service expenses	8,552,385	-	8,552,385
	-,,		
Support service expenses:			
Fundraising	378,890	-	378,890
Membership development	331,991	-	331,991
Administration	1,031,122	-	1,031,122
Total support service expenses	1,742,003	-	1,742,003
Change in net assets	99,964	271,092	371,056
Net assets, beginning of year	4,287,890	1,175,899	5,463,789
Net assets, end of year	\$ 4,387,854	\$ 1,446,991 \$	5,834,845

For full Financial Audit results please contact WSF Headquarters.

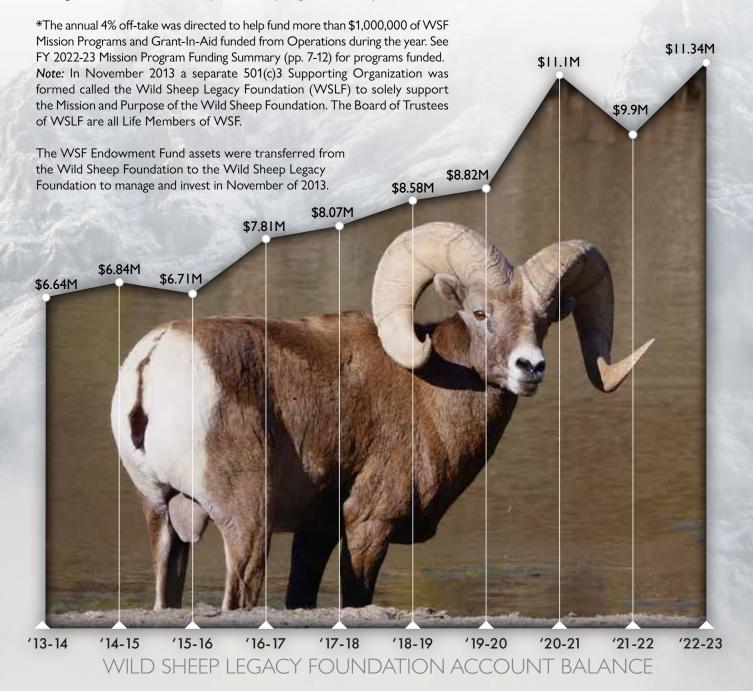


Beginning Balance: \$9,902,1022 (July 1, 2022)

Endowment Additions: \$536,724 Gains (losses): (\$1,371,555)

Less: 4% off-take for Programs (\$380,632)\* Less: Investment & other fees (\$83,866)

Ending FY Endowment Balance: (\$11,345,883) \$ (June 30, 2023)





# Consolidated statement of financial position $\operatorname{EP}$ wild sheep foundation $\operatorname{\$WILD}$ sheep legacy foundation June 30, 2023



1,627,462

#### **Assets**

Current	assets:
---------	---------

Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,108,364
Convention and membership receivables	109,915
Merchandise inventories	104,759
Prepaid expenses and other assets	<u>374,503</u>
TOTAL current assets	1,697,541
Fund and Trust - invested funds	4,409,230
Endowment - invested funds	11,343,761
Pledges receivable, net of discount	918,695
Furniture, fixtures and equipment, net	68,986
Other assets	<u>369,978</u>
TOTAL assets	\$18,808,191
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,176,497
Convention deposits and deferred revenue	<u>450,965</u>

#### Net assets:

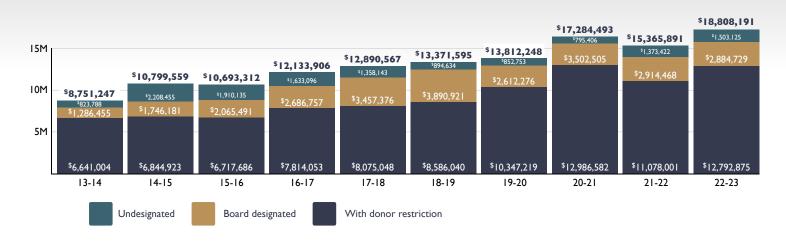
Without donor restriction

**TOTAL** current liabilites

Undesignated 1,503,125
Board designated 2,884,729
With donor restriction 12,792,875

TOTAL net assets 17,180,729
TOTAL liabilities and net assets \$18,808,191

### CONSOLIDATED NET ASSETS OF WSF & WSLF



# $SOCIAL\ SNAPSHOT\ {\it Highlights\ from\ our\ most\ popular\ social\ media\ posts}$



Wild Sheep Foundation and the wild sheep family mourns the passing of @louiseshockey\_ and extends our heartfelt condolences to the Shockey family. May she rest in Heavenly peace.

Reach: 91,265 Likes/Reactions: 8,642



The "White Ram" on a Full Curl Friday. One of North America's treasures. PC Greg Rensmaag

Reach: 67,983 Likes/Reactions: 8,413



Up close and personal. PC: Chris Auch @chris\_auch

Reach: 61,982 Likes/Reactions: 11,027



DROPPED: New Sheep Fever Podcast - Episode 40 Wild Sheep & Predators Join Sheep Fever co-host Gray N. Thornton for a fascinating and educational conversation on wild sheep predation with four career wildlife biologists with a combined ~180 years of agency and NGO experience. Kevin Hurley, WSF Vice President of Conservation, Kurt Alt, WSF Conservation Director - International Programs, Tom Lohuis, Dall's Sheep Research Biologist for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game; and Eric Rominger, (Retired) Bighorn Sheep Biologist, with New Mexico Department of Game & Fish have managed and studied a wide spectrum of ungulate species across multiple western states and Central Asia.

Reach: 65,360 Likes/Reactions: 2,267



Their curiosity is one of many intriguing characteristics of wild sheep #fullcurlfriday Footage by @l.victorclark

Reach: 61.097 Likes/Reactions: 6,124 Views: 79,446



And the race is ON! Backpack races are back again for #sheepshow2024 sponsored and hosted by Stone Glacier.

Reach: 53,332 Likes/Reactions: 1,663 Views: 78,906

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### WSLF BOARD OFTRUSTEES



### WSF STAFF



