



**WSF's 2014 Thinhorn Sheep Summit Action Plan Update**  
***The Kevin & Janine Rinke Thinhorn Initiative***

**January 2015 Update**

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**“NO CONTACT IN THE NORTH”**

Legislation is part of the solution

**Recent Actions/Strategies:**

- Developed pitch for series of presentation in Yukon planned for April 2015. Submitted a program summary and objectives for distribution to YK government through YK point of contacts, to prepare for series of presentations in Whitehorse and Dawson City, Yukon in April 2015.
- Follow up with First Nations leadership in NWT Dehcho region to find advocates for the development of Dehcho First Nations resolution statement.
- Maintain engaged working group from all thinhorn sheep jurisdictions through monthly update (AK, BC, NWT, YT)

**Jurisdictional Updates:**

- **NWT:** Continued discussions with Dehcho First Nations leadership involving members from 2 different bands.
- **YK:** A series of presentations by Jeremy Ayotte are planned in the Yukon this spring (April-May 2015). Presentations in Dawson City will be given to the Renewable Resource Council during their AGM April 30-May 2. According to Dan Reynolds (RRC Chair), the Council is behind this 100%. Two talks are planned for Whitehorse (one government, one public).
- **YK:** A potential Yukon Chapter WSF is still in formative stages, but progress is being made.
- **AK:** Information has been coordinated to support Kevin Kehoe and the recently-chartered Alaska Chapter WSF and others in their effort to develop a Brief to support introduction of a new Bill in Alaska, for the 2016 Legislative session.

**Actions to Implement:**

- **(NWT):** Contact Heather Sayine-Crawford and Brett Elkin to discuss opportunities to address Sahtu Co-Management Board. Emphasize opportunity for this program to provide support for legislation to protect wild sheep within the Sahtu. Also look for opportunities to catalyze effort across boundaries (Dehcho-Sahtu, Yukon- NWT).
- **(NWT):** Nic Larter has provided names of 2 First Nations leaders that are very supportive of this initiative to develop a Dehcho position statement or resolution to exclude domestic sheep and goats from thinhorn sheep range across the Dehcho region.
- **(YK):** Continue to work with Troy Hegel and Dan Reynolds to confirm agenda for April-May presentations.
- **(AK):** Continue to work with Kevin Kehoe/Wayne Heimer to develop Brief to support introduction of new Bill to 2016 Alaska Legislature.

- **(All):** Coordinate conference call with Thinhorn Initiative working group to update everyone and emphasize strength of multi-jurisdictional approach.
- **(All):** Continue to compile information on each jurisdictional context:
  - public land management (are there concerns with public land grazing of domestic sheep/goats near wild sheep range? can we prohibit the use of sheep/goat/llama as pack animals? are there permitting processes we can use?)
  - private land regulations and politics (are private farms the key concerns? are there agricultural acts/regulations protecting farm practices?)
  - wildlife management (what is our lobby strength? what is the role of First Nations?)
  - regional protocols for confirmed contact (can this be developed within each region? such a protocol demonstrates critical importance of issue)
  - information management (is there a regional database with accurate thinhorn herd range polygons? are the locations of domestic sheep farms known being tracked?)

