

MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION

SPECIAL DIRECTOR'S MEETING-Regards Legislative Meeting for Discussion on Developing Strategy against SB 83

Location- Telephone Conference Call

Minutes-February 7, 2013

Board Members Present: Mike Menke (President), Jack Chambers (Vice President), Doug Dreeszen (Secretary), Brian Solan (Treasurer), Mike Colpo, Glenn Erickson, Jim Weatherly (Executive Director),

Board Members Absent: Shane Clouse, Steve Kline, Jeff Mortensen

Members Present: Tom Grimes

Call to Order: This informal meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM, and was facilitated by Jim Weatherly, Executive Director of the Montana Wild Sheep Foundation. The purpose and intent of the meeting was to discuss up-coming strategy within the MT WSF, and to come up with some strong points in opposition of SB 83, in an attempt to kill the bill in the House or at least try to come up with some strong amendments to make the bill more attractive towards transplanting and augmentation of bighorn sheep in Montana.

As the bill stands at present, it will be very hard in the future to transplant bighorn sheep in Montana. The bill will make it very cumbersome for the MT FWP to transplant and augment existing bighorn sheep herds in Montana.

It was the general consensus that this was a bad bill. The Board reviewed some personal thoughts and ideas of J. Weatherly and G. Erickson. Several other Board Members had some good ideas to incorporate for future testimony.

As of the time of this meeting, we did not know the time and date of the next hearing in the House. J. Weatherly will forward this information as soon as it comes available.

A list of the FWP House Legislative members will also be forwarded to the Directors and any other interested parties, so testimony can be forwarded to them to kill the bill.

Miscellaneous Items:

- J. Weatherly reported that the next FWP Commission Meeting will be February 14, 2013. There is an item on the agenda to approve the capture of 4-6 bighorns from Region 2, for disease study at Washington State University.
- M. Colpo reported that he received an email from FWP Biologist Karen Loveless that a sheep capture slated for the Point of Rocks near Gardiner, MT, has been cancelled due to a land owner denying access to the area where the capture is to take place because of the FWP stance on the buffalo management in Montana. Colpo will look into the matter further.

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- M. Menke reported that he had finalized a fishing trip donation with Deep Strike in Alaska for the fundraiser. He also stated that he had been in contact with Bill Brown, outfitter in the Breaks, regards to two Youth Management Mule Deer Hunts, also for the fundraiser. He is need of taxidermy donations for the Youth Hunts. T. Grimes said he will look into a taxidermist to donate work for the hunts. Several other taxidermists' names also came up.
- D. Dreeszen reported that he had been contacted by Bob Anderson, author of Great Rams III, and that Anderson can't get a donated book from the Boone & Crockett Club, for our fundraiser, however, we can buy one for cost at the B & C in Missoula. J. Weatherly will check into this. The other book, Great Rams II has been already been donated by Anderson.

Adjourned: The meeting was over at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Dreeszen, Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation