

## CHAPTER & AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT

by John "Timmer" Reeves

# Montana Sheep Report 2017

To reiterate the famous words of the late Duncan Gilchrist, Montana is still the "Land of Giant Rams." This past sheep season will go down as one of the best in the history of one of the greatest sheep states.



### New State Record-Missouri Breaks Ram

Justin Sheedy took a monster Missouri Breaks, 6.5 year old, 45x43x18 208 3/8" ram in October, and broke the old state record from 1993 of 204-7/8 by former MT WSF Executive Director Jim Weatherly at upper Rock Creek. Sheep hunting legend John Lewton helped him on his hunt. Justin's dad, Ted accompanied his son on this hunt making it even more special. This fine ram equals the current B&C hunter-taken record: WSF Life Member Guinn Crousen's Alberta ram in 2000.



### New World Record-Wild Horse Island Rams

A Wild Horse Island nine-year-old ram that died of natural causes in 2016 has been officially scored as the new world record. Its score of 216-3/8 points shattered the old record by nearly seven inches. The current world record was killed by vehicle in 2010 in Alberta. It's score was 209-4/8. The record was certified by a B&C panel and confirmed in late February at Wild Sheep Foundation's World Headquarters (see page 52) and has the world of sheep fanatics buzzing. The ram's skull and horns weighed in at 48 pounds. A record that will hold forever? Time will tell. The new world record ram was found by two State Park officials in the fall of 2016, and kept in storage along with two rams found earlier that year, which have since been officially entered and accepted by B&C at

205-2/8, and 209-0/8. Wild Horse Island is a unique public lands asset that provides world-class viewing for the public.

### Giant Rams from 2017

Craig Freese took a 6.5-year-old, 41x41x16, 195-4/8 net bighorn out of

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Craig Freese

the Missouri Breaks in November.

Josh Davis took a 6.5-year-old, 44x41x17,198-6/8 green bighorn out of the Missouri Breaks in November.

Tom Madden took a 8.5-year-old, 40.5x40.5x16,190-7/8 bighorn out of

the Missouri Breaks in September.

Jim McEnroe took a 8.5-year-old, 43.5x43.5x15.5,191-7/8 net bighorn in the Missouri Breaks in September.

The Missouri River Breaks appears to have the best bighorn sheep

hunting in the world and there is no question that Montana is still the "Land of Giant Rams."

Special thanks to all hunters who shared their photos. WS



Josh Davis



Tom Madden



Jim McEnroe



Bear Trust International would like to congratulate the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for delisting the grizzly bear population in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Based on the scientific data, this population met the Demographic Recovery Criteria in 2008.

For the past 4 years, Bear Trust has been working to educate our youth about why grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem are ready for delisting, based on the scientific data. Watch the free introductory video to learn more: <https://beartrust.org/grizzly-bear-delisting-stem-lesson>.

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