



WYOMING WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION GRANT APPLICATION

Prior to completing this application, please review the Funding Priorities located [here](#).

Project Title:
80 character limit

Organization Name:

Project Lead:

Name	<input type="text" value="Sara Bridge"/>	Additional Point of Contact <i>(if different from Project Lead):</i>	Name	<input type="text"/>	
Email	<input type="text" value="sara@bighorn.org"/>	Email	<input type="text"/>		
Phone	<input type="text" value="(307) 455-3429"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>		
Mailing Address	<input type="text" value="10 Bighorn Lane"/>	Mailing Address	<input type="text"/>		
City, State, Zip	<input type="text" value="Dubois"/> <input type="text" value="WY"/> <input type="text" value="82513"/>	City, State, Zip	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Project Type *(select all that apply):*

<input type="checkbox"/> Research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education and Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/> Captures & Transplants
<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Easement	<input type="checkbox"/> Population Monitoring
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="text"/>	

Project Location(s) Information:

County: Nearest Town:

Project Phase *(if applicable):* of **Project Timeline:** to

Budget Information: Total WY-WSF Request \$

Total Project Cost: \$ (2021/2022 Budget for Wages, Programs, and Marketing)

If yes, list each grant received for five years

Has this project been funded by the Foundation previously?

Other Project Contributions or Matching Funds:		In Hand	Requested
Source	<input type="text" value="WSF - Eastern Chapter"/>	Amount \$ <input type="text" value="5,000.00"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Source	<input type="text" value="Utah Wild Sheep Foundation"/>	Amount \$ <input type="text" value="400.00"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Source	<input type="text" value="Wild Sheep Foundation (Education Fund)"/>	Amount \$ <input type="text" value="2,500.00"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source	<input type="text" value="Never Sweat Recreation Board (Dubois)"/>	Amount \$ <input type="text" value="8,000.00"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Source	<input type="text" value="“Big 4” Virtual Raffle – Fall 2021"/>	Amount \$ <input type="text" value="10,000.00"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Source	<input type="text"/>	Amount \$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Project Objective and Narrative:

funding priorities

In 2021, the National Bighorn Sheep Center (NBSC) focused on expanding our educational programs by developing and strengthening new partnerships nation-wide and seeking funds for the expansion effort. The Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation has been our key partner, supporter, and funder through this. We thank you.

2021 Winter WY-WSF GIA funds would be used to expand our educational program to enable us in reaching a state-wide and national audience. Our goal is to expand our outreach, inform wild sheep enthusiasts of wild sheep ecology and management needs, and gain additional support for conserving the nation's wild sheep resource. Specifically, funds will be used to support and expand critical operations i.e., staff, museum maintenance, expanded marketing/outreach. Again, funding will be focused on our long-term strategy to function as a 'national' resource for sheep conservation. For example, we intend to work with scientists and managers from across the nation to host informational programs relevant to wild sheep conservation.

We will continue to capitalize on our network made available through the WY-WSF and the national Wild Sheep Foundation. Since June, we have cultivated new relationships with chapters by virtue of the WY-WSF's sponsorship of our attendance at the Wild Sheep Chapters and Affiliates event in Lewiston in June. Thank you!!

Per the brainstorming and networking that occurred in June, we have two events planned that work towards our "going national" goal. First, we are hosting a discussion around the recently published book, Greater Yellowstone's Mountain Ungulates "Talk with the Experts" with Kevin Hurley and Doug McWhirter. Secondly, we have worked with the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society (ADBSS) to put together a panel titled, "The North American Model of Conservation with the ADBSS." Per our "listening tour" with this chapter, we heard what they are focused on in their area. We will share that with our constituents through this programming.

Additionally, we have worked with Dr. Ryan Brock of the Wild Sheep Foundation in planning the creation of an interactive museum exhibit that would feature Wild Sheep Chapters across the nation, their most prominent herds, along with their challenges, and management efforts. Dr. Brock will be using his education funds to finance this project.

We are also major partners in developing a film depicting the extensive collaboration and complexity of modern-day wild sheep conservation. The film will have application West-wide and utilize the Whiskey Mountain herd to illustrate the complex partnerships and strategies needed to conserve wild sheep on our mountains – i.e. a multitude of habitat enhancements/conservation efforts, disease management; research; partnerships with FS, BLM, WGFD, reservations, USFWS; public outreach/involvement needs, etc.

WHAT WILL OUR PROGRAMS LOOK LIKE:

In 2022, we will host additional events with experts, as those mentioned above, to provide a national perspective around sheep conservation. For example, we would like to explore the possibility of hosting a panel with Dr. Frances Cassirer, researcher for Idaho Fish and Game, who provided an account at the C/A meeting in Lewiston ID, 2021 about successful methodologies that have been used in wild sheep conservation in other areas of North America outside of Wyoming. <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2020/nov/01/success-story-hells-canyon-bighorn-sheep-healthy-t/>

HOW WILL WE MEASURE SUCCESS:

Our goal for 2022 is to reach pre-pandemic outreach levels (~13,000 folks) and expand our outreach levels by at least 10% using WY-WSF and other acquired funds. In 2021, we have already reached 3,800 individuals, having hosted, or participated in a total of 75 programs.

Museum admission will increase by an additional 5%, as we project to open our doors to 5,000 visitors. We tackle outreach through multiple channels. Our active membership holds over 250 active individuals; our email listserv over 3,000; and our social media accounts over 4,000. We project to see these numbers grow by 3%, consistent with past years' averages.

Additionally, we will continue to broaden our audience for Camp Bighorn. Through donor support, we sponsored 17 of the 21 youth who attended camp this year. In total, our sponsors donated \$4,700 and every youth who requested a sponsorship received one. Our attendees consisted of 11 boys and 10 girls ages 8-12 from the Wyoming towns of Lander, Dubois, Encampment, Pavillion, Riverton and Shoshoni and from the states of Montana, Minnesota and California. Next year, pending relaxed pandemic restrictions, we plan to have more attendees from out-of-state, with total attendance growing to 25 youths.

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As a testament to the growing confidence in our ability to execute on our mission, we have petitioned and received funding from a variety of other sources: \$5,000 from the Eastern Chapter for our educational program, \$2,500 through the Wild Sheep Foundation's Education Fund, and \$400 in Camp Bighorn sponsorship from the Utah Chapter. In Wyoming in particular, we have requested funding from major sources such as the Game & Fish Commission and the Kemmerer Foundation.

WHY IS THIS GRANT CRITICAL?

One full-time and three part-time staff members design the strategy and lead the execution of our outreach programs. Our large volunteer base supports us. WY-WSF funding is critical so that we can hire and retain talented staff to grow our organization and its mission. We look forward to continuing to work with both Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation and the national Foundation to amplify the outreach around scientific findings, conservation initiatives, and management efforts.

Miles/Acres Affected (if applicable): Miles Acres

Describe Any Current or Future Monitoring/Management (if applicable):

N/A

Describe how you will share your learned info with us

We will share learned info and accomplishments through our quarterly newsletters, e-blasts, regular presentations to the WY Wild Sheep events and updates to the Board of Directors, presentation at the annual Wild Sheep Foundation Chapter & Affiliates meeting, updates, and correspondence with the Wyoming Game & Fish Commission, and of course, follow-ups in future WY-WSF grant reports.

Additional Budget or Project Information for Consideration (if applicable):

We emphasize the small staff and volunteer base that supports our operation. As WY-WSF funds will support our operations, we can prioritize other fundraising towards endowment funds i.e., the Butler Conservation Fund that will enable our organization to thrive in the future.

Attachments and Supporting Documentation:

Please select the types of attachments included:

- Map(s) *required* Letter(s) of Support
 Project Design Photos
 Monitoring/Management Plan Permit(s) / NEPA Compliance
 Other:

Please submit applications and attachments via email to: Info@wyomingwildsheep.org

Subject Line: " Name of Project - Organization Name"