



Adopt A Sheep
Okanagan Bighorn Sheep
Treatment Program
Wild Sheep Society
of British Columbia

Adopt a Sheep (\$2,500)

- 30 individual ewes (wild sheep) are up for adoption at a rate of \$2,500
- Each sponsor will receive a Bighorn Sheep Stuffy with their ear tag number.
- Each ewe will be ear-tagged and recognized as being adopted by the partner
- Sponsor will receive an 8 1/2 x 11 certificate representing their commitment
- Sponsor will receive one printed 8 1/2 x 11 Photo of their sheep
- Sponsor will receive updates on a quarterly basis on the project
- Sponsor will have their name and logo displayed at pen as Adopt A Sheep donor
- One collaborative post on okanaganbighorns and wildsheepsocietybc Instagram.

Pen Sponsor (\$5,000)

- Four pen sponsorship are available at a rate of \$5,000 per unit
- Sponsor will receive an 8 1/2 x 11 certificate representing their commitment
- Sponsor will receive a 1/2 page ad in WSSBC's magazine
- Sponsor will have their name and logo displayed on the pen they are sponsoring
- Sponsor will have a dedicated sign with name and logo displayed at pen entrance
- Two dedicated collaborative posts on okanaganbighorns/wildsheepsocietybc Instagram

Adopt a Ram (\$7,500)

- One ram is up for adoption at a rate of \$7,500
- Each sponsor will receive a Bighorn Sheep Stuffy with their ear tag number.
- The ram will be ear-tagged and recognized as being adopted by the partner
- Sponsor will receive an 8 1/2 x 11 certificate representing their commitment
- Sponsor will receive one printed 8 1/2 x 11 Photo of their sheep
- Sponsor will receive updates on a quarterly basis on the project
- Sponsor name and logo displayed at pen as Adopt A Ram donor
- Sponsorship will help cover the cost of the capture.
- Three dedicated collaborative posts on okanaganbighorns/wildsheepsocietybc Instagram

Bighorn Conservation Sponsor (\$10,000)

- Two Bighorn Conservation Sponsors are available at a rate of \$10,000 per unit
- Sponsor will receive an 8 1/2 x 11 certificate representing their commitment
- Donor plaque with sponsor name along with the project they are supporting
- Four dedicated collaborative posts on okanaganbighorns/wildsheepsocietybc
- Sponsor will receive a full page ad in WSSBC's magazine
- Sponsor will have their name and logo displayed on the pen they are sponsoring
- Dedicated signage with their name and logo displayed at the pen entrance
- Exclusive signage recognizing support at our 2026 fundraisers

Okanagan Bighorn Conservation Partner (\$25,000)

- Exclusive
- Sponsor will receive an 8 1/2 x 11 certificate representing their commitment
- Donor plaque with sponsor name along with the project they are supporting
- Six dedicated collaborative posts on okanaganbighorns/wildsheepsocietybc
- Sponsor will receive a full page ad in WSSBC's magazine
- Sponsor will have their name and logo displayed on the pen they are sponsoring
- Dedicated signage with their name and logo displayed at the pen entrance
- Exclusive signage recognizing support at our 2026 fundraisers



Get involved today:

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The Science – Psoroptes management in the Okanagan

A two-part approach.

Background

Psoroptes Cuniculi has infected bighorn sheep populations in the Okanagan region in southern BC/north central Washington for over 2 decades. Declines of over 50% in subpopulations have been documented.

This external parasitic infection is unique to wild sheep in Canada as the only positive population with Psoroptes and unique as the only known infection of Psoroptes Cuniculi in North American wild sheep.

Understanding the impacts of the disease and developing management actions is paramount to recovering local Washington state and BC Bighorn sheep while proactively planning for potential introductions to healthy bighorn populations.

Execution

The Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia is working in conjunction with Okanagan Nation Alliance. Furthermore, we have received the support of the Wild Sheep Foundation and their Chapter and Affiliates.

Psoroptes Cuniculi has infected Bighorn sheep in the area and resulted in high mortality rates and decreased numbers. The scope of this project includes capturing roughly 30 Bighorn ewes and placing them through a drug treatment trial in captivity over an 18 month period. They will be handled on a monthly basis where 3 herds will undergo separate drug treatments with a fourth control group (untreated). We will monitor the effectiveness of the drug in treating Psoroptes, and upon clearing the disease, document how long reinfection will take when reintroduced with the control (infected) herd.

Ewes that are being captured will likely be pregnant and will be lambled in captivity. One cycle of breeding will take place in captivity due to the duration of the project. Proceeds from Adopt a Sheep contributors will be utilized to cover costs relating to capture, treatment and animal husbandry (feeding and care) of the California Bighorn Sheep.

We have a Communications Coordinator for this project who will lead the communications piece and community engagement.

Objectives

The primary goal of this project is to find an effective drug that can be applied to Bighorn Sheep to clear Psoroptes from infected animals which will ultimately lead to improved herd health at the landscape level.

This work is part of a larger adaptive wildlife management strategy to develop practical, applied, effective, and ecologically sound approaches to managing Psoroptes infestations in bighorn sheep.

There are two main objectives of this project.

1. Clarify questions surrounding drug administration, duration, and effects on captive and wild sheep.
 - a. Drug selection, drug dosage, delivery methods and clearance times.
 - b. Population response to treatment of a significant portion of the population.
2. Monitor/confirm disease transmission to the naïve population on the east side of the Okanagan Valley in BC and Washington state and document disease prevalence and spread.
 - a. Monitor population for Psoroptes infection.
 - b. Validate domestic sheep Eliza test on bighorns.
 - c. Monitor infected populations for changes in mortality, fecundity, and population growth.

