

Additional notes and questions for panel members from the February 25th Meeting:

At the end of the meeting the facilitator, Steve Lewis, took 15 minutes to ask the audience and participants the following questions. Noted below the question are the notes which were taken on the flip charts.

What was the value in today's meeting?

- Got to meet each other.
- Variety of perspectives
- Identified common ground, need to build on that.
- Identified important information
- Developing trust
- Cooperation is essential for success.

How should we continue?

- Have an annual forum on the science regarding bighorn sheep.
- Don't lose momentum!
- Look at other Natural Resource issues and the models that have been developed for handling challenging issues. Look for other processes.
- Develop standards within the scientific community
- Work together to solve problems.
- Consult with the Executive CRM
- Increase agency communication with permittees.
- Address predator problem.
- Develop a team to keep the momentum going: Bob Williams, Carl Benz, Tom Stephenson, Mike Cox
- All interested stakeholders need to be at the table.
- Involve Bodie Hills CRM
- Involve those not here today and send proceedings.

The audience was given cards to submit questions or comments. All of the comments and questions submitted are listed below.

Comment: Attempting to make management decisions based on possible future events is now going against established legal precedent according to recent 5th circuit court decisions.

Comment: Man has had a huge impact on the world and the natural world. Conversely would it not reasonable that man has had an equal role in on our survival as a species and on our quality of life—these are inextricably linked. Therefore, man is in the business of management of the natural world. We can't go back to a time where there is no human impact without eliminating humans. In order to be successful in natural resource

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management we need to retain and use all of our resource management tools; multi-species, sheep, goats, etc. Grazing is a tool. Further we cannot continue down our current path of species bigotry or single species management . We must manage our natural resources holistically (as a whole). If we do not manage our natural resources as a whole for all, we will inevitable create or in-balance which will result in chaos, loss of species, loss of rural communities, and loss of quality of life.

Questions for Panel Members from the Audience:

Questions for the entire group:

Question: If everybody is right, then what should the total percent of the bighorn area be and what should the total percentage of the domestic sheep are be on a district by district basis? Why not identify the area's once and for all? Instead of making a target everyone could have a long term plan.

Question: Consensus seems to be that Foreyt studies/experiments of 1989 are "flawed and inaccurate" leading to "assumptions that we could not make today". Since this no longer represents the best available science, How can these assumptions be used as a bench mark for management and reintroduction decisions?

Question: Pasturella is endemic in wild populations "any animal with an oral cavity". How and why are domestic sheep being singled out? Is it because wild populations cannot be managed?

Question: Panel discussion yielded comments that "in 30 years of experience I have never seen a disease transmission from domestic sheep and Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep are making a remarkable recovery. It has happened on its own and doing quite well." Why does the recovery program state its #1 objective for success is elimination of domestic grazing particularly when domestic sheep have and will continue to here?

Question: Consensus indicates "much we do not understand about this disease." How and why can decisions be made in this light that has such profound economic impacts?

Question: Private property exists around allotments, domestic sheep will be here, eliminating allotments will not eliminate potential contact- Do you realize this?

Question: Why don't wildlife managers have any responsibility to implement health care activities to address concerns?

Question: What management activities do wildlife "managers" actively carry out?

Question: What science is required to consider management changes from the current system?

Question: What caused the Sierra sheep populations to be listed under the ESA when sheep populations lots of places are such small populations?

Question: Are there bighorn sheep listed elsewhere and what are the recovery plans for these populations?

Question: How do you make the decision of picking what species is most important, domestic or bighorn?

Question: Does the ESA give USFWS the ethical right to destroy domestic sheep producers economically and destroy rural communities? It may be legal but is it ethical?

Question: If the Foreyt study in 1989 is considered flawed, yet the results are so dramatic, why have the studies not been repeated?

Question: Will the presenters in the 9:15 to 10:15 time slot please provide the rarity (relative to Federal and State listing status) and population numbers, number of populations, etc. for the subspecies they studied or described. This will give a better context for understanding. Especially Dr. Aune from Montana.

The following questions were directed at individual speakers:

Questions for Dr. Gonzales: You stated that “outbreaks of respiratory disease have decimated population”...

When were these recorded?

What pathogens were identified?

Where were the bighorns when infected-

-close together?

-seasonal range?

-etc.

Who made the observations and who diagnosed the “respiratory disease”. Please be specific.

Question for Dr. Ward: Do pasteurilla sp. Have the ability to “mutate” among biotypes, and if so, what conditions are thought to be conducive to mutation? Could transmission from one host to another in some way stimulate a change in which would complicate tracing the organism? (Rick Furman)

Question for Dr. Rink: Dr Ward stated that every animal with an oral cavity has Pasteurella, yet you present this was not cultured from the domestic sheep harvested from the Santa Rosas Range in reference to the die off. Are you comfortable enough with the necropsy and subsequent lab results of this sheep to identify it in your study? Was any attempt made at virus isolation in this individual? You inferred that your culture results were not up to par with results from Caine. Could this play a role in your study?