

## Publications

Proceedings of the annual meetings are published under the title: Desert Bighorn Council Transactions. Copies may be obtained by ordering a copy at the biennial meeting or by requesting one from the Council's office (address below). Cost is \$20 for members and \$26 for institutions and non-members. Forms for ordering Transactions may be found on the Council's website: [www.desertbighornCouncil.com](http://www.desertbighornCouncil.com)

**Desert Bighorn Council Transactions**  
**c/o Brian Wakeling, Transactions Editor**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, Arizona 85086**

## Technical Staff

In 1960, the council appointed a Technical Staff to compile all pertinent knowledge on the ecology and management of desert bighorn sheep. As a result of the work, in 1980, the Council published a book "The Desert Bighorn, Its Life History, Ecology and Management." This book is still one of the most comprehensive works on desert bighorn sheep ecology and management.

The technical staff currently serves as the Council's official voice by providing written input for planning documents, legislative proposals, and actions on public lands that could affect desert bighorn sheep or their habitat. The Technical Staff can be contacted by writing the Technical Staff Chair:

**Clay Brewer, Technical Staff Chairman**  
**28 County Road 458**  
**Rochelle, Texas 76872**  
**Phone: 325-463-5001**  
**[clay.brewer@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:clay.brewer@tpwd.texas.gov)**

## Representative Council Resolutions And Actions

- 1963** Passed resolution opposing the introduction of exotic ungulates without thorough environmental analysis.
- 1967** Passed resolution endorsing retention of desert bighorn habitat in Public Domain under the Classification and Multiple Use Act.
- 1981** Passed a resolution encouraging the state of Texas re-initiate the Texas desert bighorn re-establishment program.
- 1990** Developed and published a set of guidelines for management of domestic sheep in bighorn habitat.
- 1996** Passed a resolution opposing propagation of desert bighorn sheep by interspecies embryo transfer using domestic ewes.

## Council Awards

When the Council Awards Committee determines that an individual or group has made outstanding contributions to the knowledge and welfare of desert bighorn, an award is presented at the Desert Bighorn Council meeting honoring that accomplishment. Three awards are currently given: The Ram Award (Bighorn Trophy), The Honor Plaque, and The Award of Excellence.

In addition to these periodic awards, the Council has set up a trust fund (Hansen-Welles Memorial Scholarship) to provide funding to those working on desert bighorn research projects. At least one award is given from this fund each year. All proposals for funding must be submitted in writing to the Technical Staff Chair by February 1st for awards to be announced the following April.



Desert  
Bighorn  
Council

## Statement of Purpose

The **Desert Bighorn Council** was unofficially organized in 1957, and officially organized with adoption of a constitution in 1959. The Council was established to promote the advancement of knowledge concerning desert bighorn, and the long-range welfare of these animals. Membership is comprised of wildlife biologists, scientists, administrators, managers, and others interested in the welfare of desert bighorn. The Council is interested in all ecological and management issues affecting bighorn sheep and their habitat. The native desert bighorn greatly decreased in number with the European settlement of western North America, and Council members are dedicated to ensuring the future of current populations. The necessity of managing areas for bighorn sheep becomes more critical each year. Council members are implementing numerous studies and management strategies designed to improve current management guidelines.

## Primary Council Objectives

- 1) To provide for the exchange of information on the needs and management of the desert bighorn through meetings and published transactions, by means of which new or important information, ideas, techniques, and problems can be presented and discussed by council members.
- 2) To stimulate and coordinate studies in all phases of the life history, ecology, management and protection, recreational

and economic values of desert bighorn, including studies of wildlife species that may be detrimental to desert bighorn.

- 3) To provide a clearinghouse of information among all agencies, organizations and individuals professionally engaged in work on desert bighorn, through the appointment of work committees, the preparation of bibliographies and abstracts, and related methods when desirable and feasible.
- 4) To function in a professional advisory capacity, where appropriate, on local, national, and international questions involving management and protection of desert bighorn, and to adopt such measures as shall tend to promote the advancement of knowledge concerning desert bighorn and the long- range welfare of these animals.

## Membership

The Council is comprised of wildlife biologists, scientists, administrators, managers, and others interested in the welfare of desert bighorn. Any individual engaged or interested in management, protection, or scientific study of the desert bighorn is encouraged to join. Dues are \$20, collected every other year (in April of odd-numbered years, when the DBC meeting is held), and include one copy of the most recent DBC Transactions. You can join by returning a

completed membership form (found on the Council's website [www.desertbighornsheep.com](http://www.desertbighornsheep.com)) with a check made out to *Desert Bighorn Council* to:

**Amber Munig, DBC Secretary**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**(Game Branch)**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086**  
**Phone: 623-236-7355**  
**Email: [Amunig@azgfd.gov](mailto:Amunig@azgfd.gov)**

## Biennial Meetings

Biennial meetings are held in April of odd-numbered years, somewhere in the range of the desert bighorn, with the actual location rotating among the seven U.S. states inhabited by wild populations of desert bighorn (Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, California) and Mexico. Up to 100 people generally attend the meetings in order to exchange information and take action on matters pertaining to desert bighorn management and welfare. Technical papers are presented by researchers and managers working with bighorn populations, and status reports are given by a representative from each state's wildlife agency estimating current population numbers, harvest numbers and general population welfare. In conjunction with each meeting, a field trip is taken to observe a nearby population of desert bighorn sheep and their surrounding habitat. Further details concerning these meetings may also be obtained by writing the Council's current Secretary.

