



Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council



22nd Biennial Symposium Canmore, Alberta Canada

April 20-23, 2020

Second Call for Contributed Papers and Posters

Deadline for Abstract Submission: February 1, 2020

The Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council (NWSGC) 22nd Biennial Symposium will be held at the Coast Canmore Hotel and Conference Centre in Canmore, Alberta, April 20-23, 2020. We invite submission of abstracts for oral and poster presentations. The organizing committee is accepting abstracts reporting on scientific investigations of bighorn sheep, thinhorn sheep, mountain goats, and related mountain ungulates. Papers and posters will be selected based on their relevance to research and management of wild sheep and mountain goats and their habitats. Sessions topics will cover behavior, ecology, management, disease and health, population genetics, and others, suggested by submissions.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Submit oral presentation abstracts electronically by February 1, 2020 in MS WORD to: Kathreen Ruckstuhl, kruckstu@ucalgary.ca, including the words **NWSGC Abstract** in the subject line.

Oral presentations will be scheduled for 20 minutes, including 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions. Oral presentations will be selected based on relevance to session themes, likely interest to a diverse audience of wild sheep and goat managers and researchers, and other criteria of the organizing committee. Platform abstracts not accepted for presentation, may be assigned to the poster session with consent of the submitter.

Submit poster presentation abstracts electronically by February 1, 2020 in MS WORD to: Kathreen Ruckstuhl, kruckstu@ucalgary.ca, including the words **NWSGC Poster** in the subject line. Further instructions on poster presentations will follow.

Oral and poster abstracts should follow style guidelines of Journal of Wildlife Management and should include:

Corresponding author name, address, and contact information; Title of presentation; Authorship and Affiliation(s). Abstracts are restricted to ≤ 250 words and should include a statement of objectives, description of methods, and summarize results.

Abstracts will be published in the symposium program. Authors are **strongly encouraged** to submit an associated manuscript for inclusion in a peer edited Symposium Proceedings, **DUE on August 1, 2020**. Submission instructions for full-length papers will be provided by the Symposium Proceedings editor.

Sample abstract:

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ORAL PRESENTATION REQUESTED

Factors Predicting Success of Mountain Goat Reintroductions

RICHARD B. HARRIS, *Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, 600 Capital Way N, Olympia, WA, USA 98501*
BRIAN STEELE, *Department of Mathematics, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, USA 59812*

ABSTRACT: We adopted a retrospective approach to assess factors associated with success of mountain goat (*Oreamnos americanus*) reintroductions into native habitats during 1950-2010. We excluded translocations into areas not historically inhabited by mountain goats, as well as projects best considered augmentations. To supplement published and unpublished literature, we requested data on translocations from staff at state and provincial wildlife agencies likely to have access to information otherwise unavailable. Where data allowed, we estimated post-translocation growth rates, r . Because most projects did not allow the quantification of growth, we also categorized reintroduction projects as successful or not, reintroduced populations as extant or extirpated, and released animals as having displayed site fidelity or dispersing soon after release. We examined a suite of hypothesized explanatory variables for these outcomes, including number of males, females, juveniles, and kids, as well as number of separate releases, number of source populations (assumed a proxy for genetic variation), and whether source populations themselves originated as translocations. In contrast to earlier work that suggested no demographic predictor of mountain goat translocation success (Guenzel 1980), we found that the number of adult founders was strongly predictive of long-term success. Releases of just a few animals were relatively likely to have been extirpated within the time durations studied. Evidence suggested that releasing juveniles and kids along with adults produced no improvement in probability of a successful outcome.

Notice of Acceptance

Oral and poster presenters will be notified of their acceptance by March 1, 2020.

Registration

All presenters must pre-register by March 8, 2020.

Symposium registration is being hosted by the Alberta Conservation Association
Online registration will open in the near future. Stay tuned!

For all other questions and information contact:

Beth MacCallum (780) 865-3390, ovis@bighornwildlife.com (symposium chair)
Mike Jokinen (403) 715-0211, mike.jokinen@ab-conservation.com (registration)
Kirby Smith (780) 723-0238, kirbkate@gmail.com (field trip)
Kathleen Ruckstuhl (403) 829-2063, kruckstu@ucalgary.ca (program and proceedings)

Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council Website: <http://www.nwsgc.org/symposia.html>