



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Domestic Sheep Producer and Wild Sheep Society of BC develop partnership for the future.*

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Since 1998, the Wild Sheep Society has been working to understand the prevalence of Mycoplasma Ovipneumoniae (MOVI) throughout BC to reduce the risk of possible transmission from domestic sheep and goats to wild sheep populations. As a leader in wild sheep conservation, WSSBC strives to develop positive partnerships for the future.

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, WSSBC, a provincial veterinarian and a long-term producer joined forces to embark on the journey of being MOVI free in wild sheep habitat. "This is a ground-breaking opportunity as we see long term partnering and results being obtained from working with this producer," said Chris Barker, WSSBC Projects Chair. "This will not only benefit wild sheep but ultimately his herd as well. "

Furthermore, WSSBC has begun developing a disease awareness film that will showcase the impacts MOVI has on producers, hobby farmers and the detrimental affects on wild sheep populations.

We want to thank Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, Wild Sheep Foundation, Yukon Wild Sheep Foundation, Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta and Jurassic Classic for being our funding partners and supporters for this film.

Partnerships are critical to success and WSSBC looks forward to continuing this development with domestic owners and being able to demonstrate the positive outcomes of the developing wild/domestic programs.

To find out more about Mycoplasma Ovipneumoniae (Movi) or our disease research projects, visit our website at [www.wildsheepsociety.com](http://www.wildsheepsociety.com)

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About the Wild Sheep Society of BC

The Wild Sheep Society of BC is a non-profit registered Society dedicated to the protection and enhancement of wild sheep and wild sheep habitat throughout "Beautiful British Columbia". Putting tens of thousands of volunteer hours and dollars into conservation projects in BC since 1998, the WSSBC is committed to its vision statement of 'Putting more sheep on the mountains".

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