



2019 Desert Bighorn Council Meeting

CasaBlanca Resort
Mesquite, Nevada

April 16 - 19, 2019, Tuesday - Friday



Theme - *Beyond Borders: Collaborative management recognizing connectivity, disease, and genetics*

1st Announcement

The 55th meeting of the Desert Bighorn Council will be hosted by the Nevada Department of Wildlife. The 2019 meeting Chairman is Steve Kimble and co-chair Mike Cox.

- **Hotel/Venue** - CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite, NV 89027. Room block at \$64.00/night is being held until March 15. If you register by phone (877-830-6451), be sure to use the registration code 1DBC19. Link to online Room Reservations: [CasaBlanca Resort](#)
- **Airport Transportation:** Mesquite is on Interstate 15, 1 hr 20 min from Las Vegas McCarran Airport and 45 min from the St George, UT airport. St. George Express (800-356-9796) runs a shuttle from both airports to Mesquite but it is not cheap. Uber and Lyft are options also especially if you can share the ride with others. We are currently looking at other transportation options including hooking folks up who can share a ride or rental car and cost.
- **Meeting Registration:** Early registration is \$200/person through March 15, 2019. \$250/person late registration. Sponsorships and vendor registration available. Online Registration Link: [Meeting Registration](#)
- **Meeting Plans:** General meeting plans are Tues, April 16 - Evening Reception and Social; Wed and Thurs, April 17 & 18 - Oral and Poster Presentations and special session in support of the meeting theme; Fri, April 19 - Field Trip with drive south through Muddy Mountains, Valley of Fire State Park, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and ending at Boulder City/Interstate 11 Bypass bighorn/wildlife crossings. Should finish before 2 pm and will be 30 minutes from Las Vegas Airport. Folks are encouraged to drive their agency vehicle and limited space for others in NDOW vehicles.

Call For Papers

The theme of the 2019 Desert Bighorn Council Meeting is *Beyond Borders: Collaborative management recognizing connectivity, disease, and genetics*. With the advent of GPS collars, improved scientific methods in Epidemiology and Genomics, and recent disease events that cross multiple state and federal jurisdictions, we all have realized the reality of our broad southwest desert landscapes where bighorn sheep know no boundaries and neither should we when it comes to collaborative bighorn research and management.

In support of this year's theme, a special session will involve an interactive presentation and discussion on information we have all been busy collecting the last few years on disease

surveillance, herd genomics, and herd demographic performance in relation to disease events. This special session will be similar to the regional workshop held in Laughlin 2014 with all the southwest state agencies and national park units attending to share their stories on the recent disease events that had spread across 3 states and multiple parks and preserves. Mike Cox will be reaching out to each jurisdiction and sending out a survey in early January 2019 for everyone to fill out as part of the special session presentations and discussions. More details to come.

We will be giving special attention to presentations related to this year's theme. We also welcome papers and posters on all aspects of bighorn sheep research and management issues. Please submit abstracts for consideration to **Brian Wakeling** at bwakeling@ndow.org.

We will also have a special session on jurisdictional bighorn status. Mike will send out a standard survey in early January 2019 to each state and federal jurisdiction to summarize west-wide management information on demographic surveys, herd estimates, harvest, and translocation data. A west-wide presentation will be made from the summary of the jurisdictional surveys including open discussion on revision of west-wide bighorn handling and capture guidelines. Also jurisdictions will be given time to provide key bighorn research updates during the bighorn status session.

Call for Papers: Deadline March 1, 2019

Instructions for Oral Presentation and Poster Abstracts:

Please submit abstracts in Microsoft Word format with the title of your abstract in all capital letters and bold font. Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words in length. List all authors in capitals using first and last names, followed by their affiliation, mailing address, phone number and email address in standard letters. Please identify if the abstract will be an oral or poster presentation and the name of the presenter immediately after the abstract.

Abstract example:

USING HISTORIC SURVEY DATA TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL BIGHORN HABITAT FOR FUTURE TRANSLOCATION SITES

MIKE COX, Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Pkwy, Reno, NV 89511.
(775) 688-1529 mcox@ndow.org

BRIAN WAKELING, Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Pkwy, Reno, NV 89511.
(775) 688-1529 bwakeling@ndow.org

Abstract: We used existing survey data stored in an old file cabinet (e.g. agency database) to model potential unoccupied bighorn habitat in central Nevada.

Oral Presentation
Presenter: Brian Wakeling

For general information related to workshop contact: Cassandra Grieve cgrieve@ndow.org 775-688-1529; for Logistics - Steve Kimble skimble@ndow.org 702-486-5127 ext 3200; Program questions - Mike Cox mcox@ndow.org 775-688-1556; and Abstract submissions - Brian Wakeling bwakeling@ndow.org 775-688-1520.