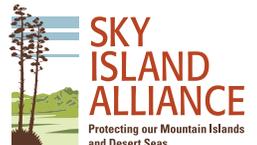


Catalina Bighorn Sheep Restoration

Become a Project Sponsor



Photo courtesy of John Hiller



To learn more, visit www.CatalinaBighornRestoration.org

HELP RESTORE BIGHORN SHEEP TO THE SANTA CATALINA MOUNTAINS

Why is this project important? The Santa Catalina Mountains north of Tucson, Arizona once contained a healthy native population of one of the desert's most iconic wildlife species, desert bighorn sheep. They were extirpated out in the 1990s for reasons that are not fully understood. Urban encroachment, human disturbance and changes in habitat resulting from fire suppression were likely factors. Disease or increased predation may have played a part.

Now, state and federal agencies are partnering with private organizations to restore a healthy and self-sustaining population of bighorn sheep to the area. The goal is to reestablish a naturally-functioning ecosystem with healthy populations of predators and prey coexisting naturally, as they did for centuries.

The Catalina Bighorn Advisory Committee has come together to thoroughly investigate and address all relevant issues and add accountability and community voices to the process.

Why start the project now? The decision to return bighorn sheep to the Catalinas is motivated by several key conditions that make it possible to address most of the likely causes for their disappearance.

- The huge fires in the Catalinas 10 years ago burned away much of the unnaturally dense vegetation built up during decades of fire suppression, spurring the regrowth of a diverse array of plants that has significantly improved habitat for sheep.
- The Coronado National Forest is moving forward with its FireScape plan to return fire to its natural role in the ecological equation - as a regular occurrence that's inherently beneficial for plants and wildlife. Low-intensity prescribed burns and other management actions can help ensure that neither people nor wildlife suffer the effects of a badly distorted fire regime again.
- With a better understanding of the negative impacts of human disturbance on sheep, all of us who enjoy the Catalinas can do a better job of respecting and enforcing trail restrictions designed to protect bighorn, especially during lambing season.
- Thanks in part to the conservation efforts of the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, bighorn are thriving in other areas of the state, which makes it possible to transplant some to the Catalinas.

The estimated total project cost is \$600,000 with the first release being planned for November 2013.

Be a part of this historic project by sponsoring a bighorn sheep satellite GPS collar! Collars will provide real time information to facilitate management of the population and respond to concerns with individual animals.

ADOPT-A-SHEEP SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS



SPONSOR LEVELS

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Platinum | +\$25,000 |
| Gold "Adopt-a-Sheep Collar" | +\$5,000 |
| Silver | +\$2,500 |
| Bronze | +\$1,000 |
| Partner | +\$500 |
| Donor | <\$499 |

SPONSORS RECEIVE

- Association with a high-profile project that promises to be a major economic benefit to Tucson's travel and tourism industry and a legacy to future generations of area residents. (All levels)
- Recognition and logo placement (where appropriate) in media and public outreach, including news conferences and prominent placement in social media. (All levels above Donor)
- Invitation to be at the release site(s) during a sheep release. (Bronze level and above)
- Sponsor Plaque of Recognition (Bronze level and above)

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