

BUSINESS MEETING

The business meeting opened with a discussion about the Boone and Crockett Club's record book. Delegates voiced opinions that bighorn sheep, and maybe all sheep, should be removed from the book. Others disagreed, stating that if that happened somebody else would immediately start a book of records of sheep.

The discussion continued with the following points being made: Alberta's Indians are killing many rams and selling the heads. Poaching is a problem in many states and provinces. Is the loss of these rams actually biologically detrimental to the sheep populations? Sheep heads are worth a lot of money. Remove the hunter's name from the Boone and Crockett record book.

The discussion ended with (1) a suggestion that, since several of the delegates present would attend the Boone and Crockett sheep meeting in Missoula in June 1974, they could voice their opinions; (2) the following resolution, proposed by John Stelfox, and approved by the delegates:

WHEREAS, uncontrolled hunting can seriously deplete sheep populations, be it resolved that the Northern Wild Sheep Council supports the principle that native ethnic populations enter into cooperative agreement with state, provincial and federal agencies in the management of wild sheep.

The resolution was mailed to individuals listed by John Stelfox.

Wayne Heimer presented the following two resolutions which were approved by the delegates:

(1) WHEREAS, the wild sheep of North America occur in many different habitats, and

WHEREAS, the numbers and status of wild sheep in North America are extremely variable from population to population, and

WHEREAS, the overall status and well-being of the wild sheep of North America rest ultimately on the status and well-being of individual populations,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Northern Wild Sheep Council recommends that management of wild sheep in North America be effected at the population level for the best interests of each population. Furthermore, the Northern Wild Sheep Council recommends that general species management over large areas be carefully defined and given a lower priority than that of the individual population.

(2) WHEREAS, the Alaska Land Claims Settlement Act of 1968 provides for selection of 80,000,000 acres in Alaska as national interest land, and

WHEREAS, the Interior Secretary's tentative selections include a substantial portion of the world's Dall sheep, and

WHEREAS, the proposed management agencies will have the option of regulating hunting on the national interest lands,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Northern Wild Sheep Council recommends to the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service, the National Park Service and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service that hunting be retained as a viable management option for most Dall sheep populations residing on these public lands.

Wayne Heimer provided a list of people to whom the second resolution should be sent.

The following Statement of Concern was passed by the delegates:

Statement of Concern to be Brought Forward at the Missoula Sheep Meeting, June 18-20, 1974:

WHEREAS, the Boone and Crockett Club was originally formed to promote both quality, sportsmanlike trophy hunting and the concept of wise conservation of big game species, and

WHEREAS, wild sheep populations in North America have been subjected to undesirable hunting and cropping ethics, the Northern Wild Sheep Council recommends that the Boone and Crockett Club either remove wild sheep species from Boone and Crockett listings or else delete those entries which are listed as "pick-ups" or are judged as not taken in fair chase.

The Wyoming delegation volunteered to host the 1976 meeting in Wyoming.

Danny Wilson invited delegates to attend their Desert Sheep Council meetings.