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W. DAVID HACKER - MANAGEMENT OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP ON ALPINE RANGES IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATES AND PROVINCES

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Abstract: Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep managers from the western United States and Canada were polled to gain a better understanding of management techniques used to regulate populations of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep on alpine ranges. A questionnaire was developed and mailed to 27 sheep managers in 10 States and four Canadian provinces. The returned surveys reported on 121 populations of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. An attempt to identify effective management schemes from the survey indicated expanded ram hunts and ewe hunts may be cost effective means of controlling populations at or near carrying capacity.