

# **GIS Mapping of North American Wild Sheep and Mountain Goat Translocations in North America, exclusive of Desert Bighorn Sheep Ranges**

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**Abstract:** At the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposium of the Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council in 1996 in Silverthorne, Colorado, a workshop was held to exchange, verify, and update transplant records for wild sheep (*Ovis* spp.) and mountain goats (*Oreamnos americanus*) in 18 states, provinces, and territories. Biologists from state/provincial/territorial wildlife management agencies compared transplant records as donors and/or recipients of wild sheep and mountain goats, as far back as records were available. Tabular summaries were included in the 10<sup>th</sup> NWSGC Proceedings. In winter 2005-2006, transplant actions since 1995 were requested from each of those 18 states, provinces, and territories. Transplant actions were plotted for each state/province using Geographic Information System mapping, to graphically depict inter- and intra-state/province/territory translocation of wild sheep and mountain goats. Individual maps were developed for each state, province, and territory, as were composite maps for wild sheep and mountain goats in the western USA and Canada. These maps represent a “snapshot in time” portrayal of translocation efforts to date, and should provide a foundation for future genetic review and analysis of wild sheep and mountain goat transplant actions in North America, exclusive of desert sheep ranges in the southwestern USA and Mexico.

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**Key words:** GIS, mountain goat, Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council, translocations, wild sheep.

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