



## DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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**Dear Extreme Volunteer Sheep Counters:****July 5, 2020**

We hope you all continue to be safe and healthy amid the COVID-19 pandemic. For those affected by the virus and for those caring for a loved one affected by the virus we at the Colorado Desert District extend our sympathy. As with everything else in our lives, the 2020 Interim Bighorn Sheep Count was modified to provide for everyone's safety and at the same time allow us to continue with a revised count. As has been stated before, if next year allows for a normal count we will proceed as such and celebrate the **50<sup>th</sup> Annual BHS Count!**

90 bighorn were observed this year and all counters returned safely! Your tremendous efforts under extreme conditions are greatly appreciated. As you review the numbers I know many of you will have questions as to why they are low. In the next two weeks, with a lot of help from Janene Colby (Department of Fish and Wildlife Environmental Scientist) we will be sending out a comprehensive analysis of this year's data.

**We hope to see you next year for the 50<sup>th</sup> annual BHS Count (July 1-4, 2021)!**

COUNT SITE	EWE	LAMB	YEARLING		RAM	NO I.D.	TOTAL
			M	F			
BPC Trailhead	6	0	1	0	4	0	11
BPC 1 <sup>st</sup> Grove	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BPC 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grove	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BPC 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grove							Not counted
BPC 4 <sup>th</sup> Grove							Not counted
Hellhole Lower	5	1	1	0	0	0	7
Hellhole Upper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tubb Canyon Mid. Spring	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
Tubb Canyon Mid. Spring II							Not counted
Tubb Canyon Big Spring							Not counted
CC – 2 <sup>nd</sup> crossing	5	0	1	0	8	0	14
CC – Box/Lower Willows	14	4	2	0	0	0	20
CC – Cougar Canyon	3	1	0	0	2	0	6
CC – Sheep Canyon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CC - Middle Willows - Lower	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
CC - Middle Willows - Upper							Not counted
Rattlesnake Spring							Not counted
N. Fk. Palm Wash Tenajas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sentenac Canyon							Not counted
Agua Caliente	19	1	1	1	2	0	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>

**RATIOS:      RAM : EWE 28:100      LAMB : EWE 18:100      YEARLING : EWE 12:100**

COUNT CONDUCTED ON JULY 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

High temperatures for each day: 105°F, 110°F, 112°F.

Low temperatures for each day: 77°F, 75°F, 74°F.

**THANKS to all of you!**

**Mike Puzzo, Environmental Scientist, Coordinator**

**Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Colorado Desert District**