

**InterOffice Memo**

**To:** JEFF YEO

**From:** JAMES M. PEEK

**Date:** July 12, 1993

**Subject:** TAYLOR RANCH VEGETATION MONITORING

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Here's what I have in tabular form for analysis. We're trying to get our act together so we can come in the first week of August, or at the latest, the second week. I'll get ahold of you ahead of time with the dates when we get them. I'm bringing in Guy Wagner, who will be assigned to do the sheep study, so he gets a feel for what the situation is.

This week I'll be visiting in Boise with Schlegel, Beecham, Hunter, and Bodie about the sheep project. Hopefully we'll have the funding from IFG tied up by fall. If that comes in then I'll also take on Brian Holbrook as a master's candidate to obtain more info. We'll be trying to obtain energy and time budget data using radiocollared animals and the automatic data recorders that Dale M. and Dave V. used. There is a grizzly bear meeting at Boise as well that I get to attend. After all the meetings, I'm going to bootleg a ride via Magee into Gillihan's and try to get the white truck back home at long last. Then perhaps I'll have everything that was scattered between Challis, Taylor Ranch and Gillihan's all back home. What a deal.

I have been busy with TWS business plus three chapters to various and sundry books, plus an edit and review of a white paper F. Wagner and others wrote on wildlife management in the national parks. This paper is a major piece of work I'm afraid and they want it asap, after it took Wagner 5 years to produce it.

I'm also trying to get Jim Bennetts some documentation on the white horse deal. After having gone through Bottger, a finance office on campus, and the controller, I think we have a way to do it. If Jim will get us documentation that we traded Skateboard for the white horse, then we can issue him a bill of sale for the white horse with the understanding that another horse will be procured in payment. I'm afraid it got to be a bigger mess than either Jim or I thought it might, but we'd better get the papers squared around.

I'm worried that we haven't obtained the vegetation data when growth had finished in all years. This is one reason I'm not so worried about getting in to obtain it until August. Am trying to get the correlations between precip and the several parameters accomplished as I get some time.

*Cheers,  
Jim*

STATUS OF MOUNTAIN SHEEP IN MORGAN CREEK, EAST-CENTRAL IDAHO

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Abstract: Habitat relationships of the Morgan Creek mountain sheep (Ovis canadensis) population were observed in 1989 and 1990. The population increased from approximately 100 in 1970 to at least 278 in 1988, the highest level recorded. Rams used areas further from water and frequently-used roads than did ewes. Comparisons of areas subject to grazing by cattle along with a 1417 ha area excluded from livestock grazing show improved grass cover since 1973, with no differences between the excluded area and adjacent grazed areas. Blood chemistry data indicated this population to be in relatively poor condition in late winter.

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