

Conservation Friends from Opposite Sides of the World Work to “Put Sheep on the Mountain”

In the above photo Lacy Robinson shows Croc Adams and Peter Byrom radio collared bighorn sheep movements along the Main Salmon River upstream from Riggins, Idaho. These 3 friends were drawn together from opposite sides of the world by their dedication to wildlife conservation. Lacy is the Nez Perce tribe’s biologist studying Rocky mountain bighorn sheep on Idaho’s Salmon River. Lacy’s research continues the Nez Perce tribe’s over 10,000 years of history intertwined with bighorn sheep. She is identifying which habitats bighorns use, where they move to, and potential for fatal mixing with domestic sheep. The data she is gathering is essential to Forest Service, BLM, and Fish and Game protection of existing bighorn populations and tribal-TWSF efforts for them to reoccupy historic habitats.

Croc Adams owns Southern Mountain Adventures hunting guide service (www.southernmountainadventures.co.nz) in New Zealand’s southern alps. Peter is a fellow conservationist from Oberon, New South Wales, Australia. When Croc guided several FNAWS members on red deer, chamois, and Himalayan tahr hunting adventures “down under”, he was so impressed by his clients’ stories of FNAWS/TWSF good work for BHS that he donated a tahr hunt to Idaho FNAWS’s 2008 banquet. In October, 2008, Croc and Peter came to visit friends in “the States” and Nez Perce tribal wildlife manager Keith Lawrence graciously invited them to learn about the tribe’s world-class wildlife research with FNAWS/TWSF. After Lacy’s office tutorial, Croc and Peter rode behind Lacy in a Cessna 205 and observed how she located and GIS mapped collared sheep in the Salmon River breaks. These friends’ work exemplifies how FNAWS/TWSF and its global partners “put and keep sheep on the mountain”.

Photo 1: Lacy Robinson, Croc Adams, and Peter Byrom studying bighorn sheep data at Nez Perce Tribal offices in McCall, Idaho



Photo 2: Croc and Peter about to be airborne



Photo 3: Bighorn sheep in Salmon River Canyon (Peter Byrom photo)

