



Agenda
Managing Desert Bighorn Sheep in Texas: Challenges of the 21st Century
May 14-15, 2025
Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas



Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Arrival & Welcome Reception

 The Ritchey
102 E Murphy Ave, Alpine
 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Breakfast, Registration & Check-in

 Morgan University Center at Sul Ross State University – Espino Conference Center
Location: US-90 Alpine, TX 79832
 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM


- Parking located just outside building
- Must register car via QR code at registration table inside University Center

Opening Session: Setting the Stage

 Morgan University Center at Sul Ross State University – Espino Conference Center
 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

- **Welcome Remarks**
 - Opening Statement: Dr. David Yoskowitz, Executive Director, TPWD
 - Speaker: TPWD Commissioner Paul L. Foster
- **The Texas Landscape & Conservation Efforts**
 - Speaker: Clay Brewer
- **The State of Desert Bighorn Sheep in Texas**
 - Speaker: Froylan Hernandez, TPWD
- **Landowner Perspectives on Desert Bighorn Sheep Management**
 - Speakers: Chris Stahl & Allen Smith
 - Moderated by Alan Cain, TPWD

Session 1: *Mycoplasma Ovipneumoniae* (*M. Ovi*) and Disease Risks

 Morgan University Center at Sul Ross State University – Espino Conference Center

 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

- **Understanding *Mycoplasma Ovipneumoniae* in Desert Bighorn Sheep**
 - Speaker: Dr. Peri Wolff, Wildlife Disease Association
- **Case Studies Across the West**
 - Speakers: Dr. Peri Wolff, Wildlife Disease Association / Mike Cox, Nevada Department of Wildlife
 - Moderated by Dr. Warren Conway, Texas Tech University

Lunch Break

 Morgan University Center at Sul Ross State University – Espino Conference Center

Location: University Center Dining Room

 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

Session 2: The Aoudad Challenge

 Morgan University Center at Sul Ross State University – Espino Conference Center

 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM

- **Aoudad in Texas: Distribution, Economics, and Cultural Impact**
 - Speaker: Jose Etchart, TPWD
- **Disease Transmission Risks from Aoudad**
 - Speaker: Dr. Walt Cook, Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, Texas A&M University
- **Aoudad Ecology & Competition with Desert Bighorn Sheep**
 - Speaker: Dr. Justin French, Borderlands Research Institute (BRI)


Session 3: Management Strategies

 Morgan University Center at Sul Ross State University – Espino Conference Center

 3:00 PM - 4:45 PM

- **"Test and Remove" Strategy**
 - Speakers: Frances Cassirer and Hollie Miyasaki, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
 - Moderator: Froylan Hernandez, TPWD
- **Use of Holding Facilities for Disease Control**
 - Speaker: Rusty Robinson, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
- **Nebraska Bighorn Sheep Experience – History, Challenges & Future Considerations**
 - Speaker: Todd Nordeen, Nebraska Game and Parks
- **Texas Desert Bighorn Sheep Health Action Plan**
 - Speaker: Froylan Hernandez, TPWD
- **Closing Remarks**
 - Speaker: Dr. David Yoskowitz, Executive Director, TPWD

Evening Reception

 Museum of the Big Bend

400 N Harrison St C-101, Alpine

 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Walkable from Morgan University Center – directly East