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NEBRASKA BIOLOGY TECHNICAL NOTE NO. 81  
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**Preventing Bighorn Sheep Disease Issues by Avoiding Contact with Domestic Sheep and Goats**

The enclosed document and associated maps are being provided to address concerns associated with possible disease transmission between domestic sheep and goats and wild bighorn sheep populations. Two areas within the Nebraska Panhandle, the Pine Ridge and the Wildcat Hills, have established populations of the rare Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis canadensis*). Substantial resources, both financial and otherwise, have been dedicated to this effort by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, conservation organizations, sportsmen and women, and private landowners in the area. It is important that field office staff with the Natural Resources Conservation Service recognize the value of this wildlife resource and take steps to protect it when working with cooperators that own or manage herds of domestic sheep or goats. This information compliments the Nebraska Range and Pasture Technical Note #18 which provides guidance on how to use "targeted grazing" to manage invasive plant species.

Enclosures:

[http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/NE/Bighorn\\_Sheep\\_Disease\\_Prevention\\_Document.pdf](http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/NE/Bighorn_Sheep_Disease_Prevention_Document.pdf)

