

# Tribal code protects bighorn sheep

## Cougars, antelope also protected

The Warm Springs Reservation has not been home to bighorn sheep for many years.

Because of the long absence of the sheep, local residents may not be aware that tribal law protects these animals against unlawful hunting, said

Doug Calvin, wildlife biologist at the tribes' Natural Resources Department.

The Confederated Tribes Wildlife Code, Chapter 350, regarding hunting and trapping, protects bighorn sheep—along with cougar, antelope

and mountain goats—against hunting, said Calvin.

To quote the Tribal Code: "There shall be closed season on antelope, cougar, mountain sheep (bighorns) and mountain goats until such time as the Tribal Council determines that any such species has increased in sufficient

numbers to warrant an open season."

There are no mountain goats on the reservation, and likely won't be, due to limited habitat, said Calvin.

But people should be aware that cougar, antelope and bighorn sheep are present and protected by tribal law, he said.

## Howlak Tichum

### Everett Patt

Everett "Ab" Patt passed away on Saturday in Warm Springs. He was 51.

Mr. Patt worked as the Realty Officer for the Bureau Indian Affairs realty office in Warm Springs.

Mr. Patt is survived by three daughters, Evette,

Elissa and Sarah; and one son, Howard.

He is also survived by his sister Orthelia Patt, brother Olney Patt Jr., and father Olney Patt Sr.

The funeral service for Mr. Patt was on Monday, Jan. 21.

## Bighorns: capture, release took 24 hours

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The event was captured on video by Louis Scott of the Confederated Tribes Cultural Resources Department.

Cultural Resources is planning to make a video documentary of the bighorn project.

The bighorns living on the reservation consist of the following animals:

Three adult rams, and three lamb rams. Twelve adult ewes and two lamb ewes.

### 10 ewes are pregnant

Of the adult ewes, ten of them are pregnant, so the herd should increase by the summer.

The mix of animals—the number of rams and ewes—is ideal for starting a new population of bighorns, said Terry Luther, Fish and Wildlife manager for the tribes.

Luther also said he was happy with how the capture and release operation happened.

"It was as good a project as I've seen," he said. "We had a good mix of animals, and they're healthy."

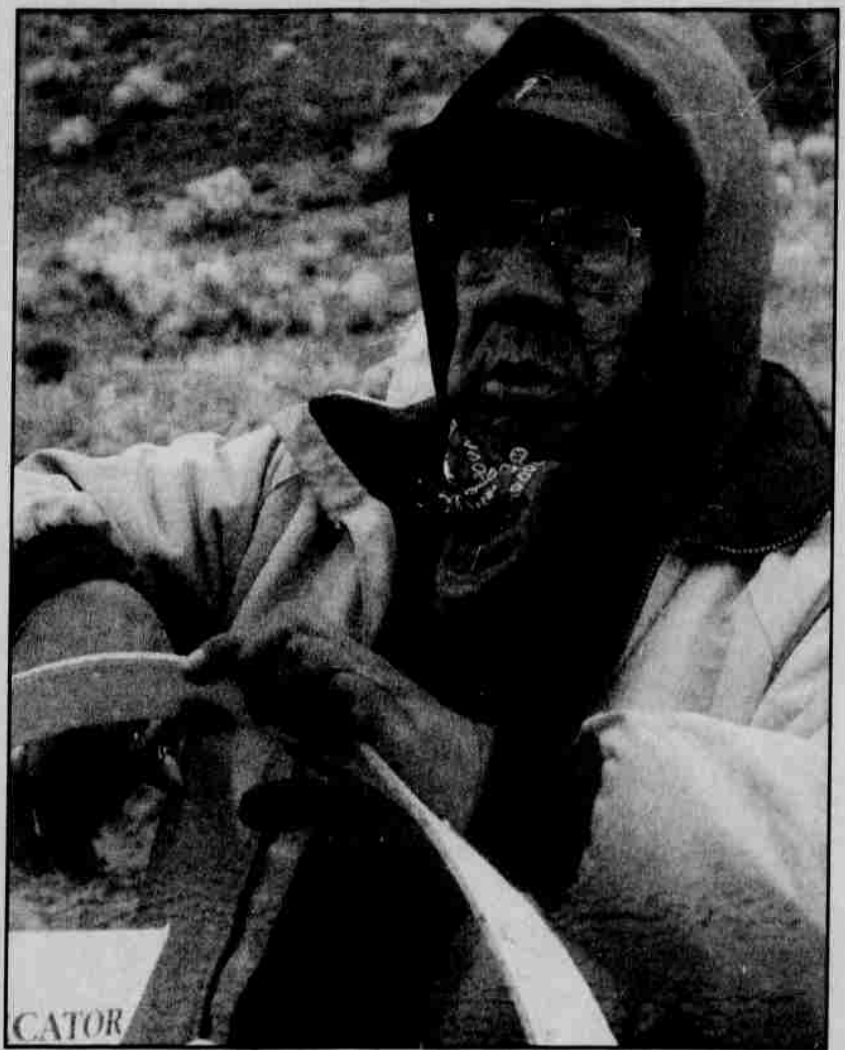
Sometimes during the capture, a sheep will overheat, go into shock and die.

Fortunately, this didn't happen with any of the sheep that were captured at John Day and transported to the reservation.

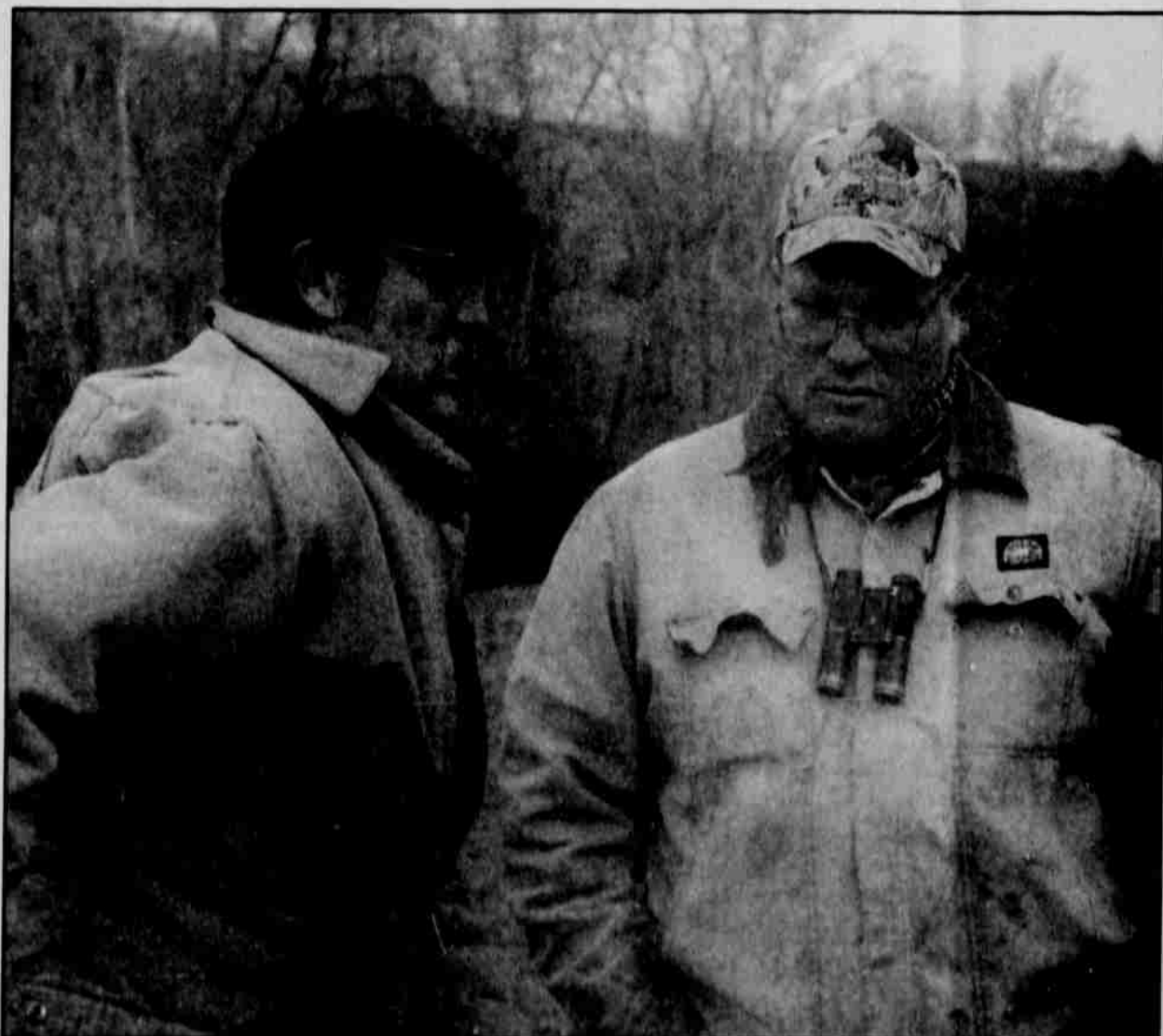
### Monitored by plane

On Monday mornings, Stanley Simtustus, biological technician, has been going up in an airplane monitoring the location of the sheep that have radio collars.

The batteries in the collars should last a few years, and during that time Simtustus will be keeping a record of the seasonal movement of the bighorns.



At left, Doug Calvin places a radio collar on a bighorn sheep. Above, Stanley Simtustus prepares a radio collar.



Foster Craig of ODFW talks with Jason Smith, Range and Agriculture manager for the Confederated Tribes. At right, the helicopter arrives with four bighorns.