

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### THE MINISTRY IS REQUESTING THAT HUNTERS DO NOT HARVEST EAR-TAGGED BIGHORN SHEEP RAMS IN THE EAST KOOTENAY

The Ministry of Environment and Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program have coordinated two recent transplants of bighorn sheep. The first transplant occurred in 2005 and moved 25 bighorn sheep from Radium to Premier Ridge area. The other transplant occurred in 2007 and moved 19 sheep from Golden to the Whiteswan Lake/Coyote Creek area. All transplanted sheep were ear-tagged including 12 rams. Most of these rams are not full curl and therefore not legal to hunt. However, there are a few that are approaching the full curl mark and are less than six years old. These rams are *very important* to the transplant initiative as they are providing new genetic material to these herds, if they are allowed to breed. Therefore, we are requesting that hunters not harvest ear-tagged rams. For more information, please contact the Ministry of Environment at 250-489-8540.

