

Bighorn Sheep

Male and female bighorn sheep
female



Lambs



How they determine who gets the



HABITAT

Bighorn sheep inhabit the western mountains of north America from Alberta southward to Colorado. The desert variety inhabits the desert mountains of the southwest united states and Mexico.

FEEDING HABITS

Bighorn sheep are herbivores. They graze high mountain pastures during the summer months and move to lower elevations during the winter.

Common Name: Bighorn Sheep

Scientific Name: *Ovis canadensis*, **Type:** Mammals, **Diet:** Herbivores, **Group Name:** Herd

LIFE CYCLE/REPRODUCTIVE CYCLE

The Female Bighorn sheep (ewe) chooses her males by the males fighting. They fight by ramming their horns and the winner gets the female. They also have two other types of mating strategies, following the ewe around to show dedication and showing the ewe its strength. The gestation period of the female bighorn sheep is six months. The mating season is between the months of November and December. Mothers can only have one child at a time. They care for their children for about one year, when sheep believe they are ready to survive on their own. The mother only nurses for four to six months because young bighorn sheep are very independent. The life expectancy of a male is nine to twelve months. The life expectancy of a female is ten to fourteen years.

HUNTING REGULATIONS

Season Dates Online Application Dates

Start: Sep 1, 2018 **Start:** Apr 16, 2018

End: Dec 31, 2018 **End:** May 18, 2018

FUN FACT

Average life span in The Wild: 6 to 15 years

Size: 5 to 6 ft

Weight: 117 to 279 lbs.