

# **CA WSF Idea Generates \$520,000 and Counting!**

**By Kyle Meintzer, CA WSF Liaison to CA DFW**

**As most of you know, since CA WSF was founded in 2001, we've accomplished a great many things on behalf of California's desert bighorn sheep. The close relationship we've developed with the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife has allowed your chapter and DFW to do many things that have greatly benefitted not only wild sheep, but also California's sportsmen and sportswomen.**

**Perhaps the biggest financial benefit we've created for DFW came about from one simple idea a CA WSF Director presented to the CA Fish and Game Commission at a meeting in Stockton in 2009. As two more sheep hunt zones were about to be opened which would add enough additional draw tags to create a third fundraising tag, CA WSF asked the Commission to make the third tag a raffle tag. Such a tag would therefore be available to anyone, not just the wealthy.**

**The Commission loved the idea and in 2011 DFW 'test drove' the idea by creating 'Random Draw Tags' for Deer and Elk. That proved successful beyond anyone's best hopes, so in 2012, Bighorn Sheep and Antelope Random Draw Tags were also made available to the average guy and gal.**

**The results have been astonishing! In just three years, the Department has netted over \$520,000 MORE than they would have netted if they'd simply sold those tags at auction!\* In other words, one simple idea brought to the California Fish and Game Commission by a committed NGO has already raised over ONE-HALF MILLION DOLLARS for DFW's big game programs. This tremendous increase in revenue will no doubt continue in the years ahead as the Random Draw program continues.**

**\*(These figures were calculated by taking the net Random Draw Tag revenue realized by DFW and subtracting the average price similar tags had sold for at auction over the previous several years.)**