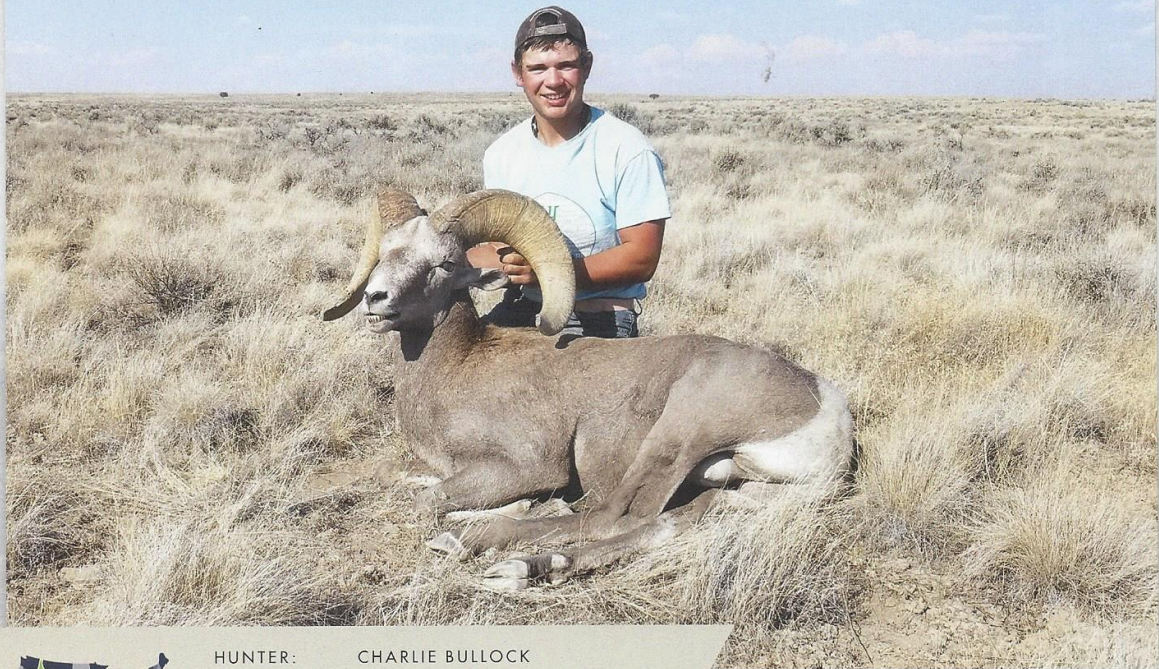


My Hunting ADDICTION



HUNTER: CHARLIE BULLOCK
 SCORE: 163"
 SPECIES: CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP
 LOCATION: IDAHO

If the truth be known, my sheep addiction probably started while I was still in the womb. Some mothers choose to read to their unborn child. Some mothers choose to do heroin.

While four months pregnant with me, my mother chose an Alaska Dall sheep hunt. I was an addict before I was ever born.

My early summer job was to check bear baits for my mom and dad's outfitting business – Mile High Outfitters. I had just spilled used restaurant grease all over me and I smelled like a maple flavored, BBQ'd french fry when my dad called and told me the draw results were out. Right then, the cell phone reception was lost. For the rest of the day, I was left wondering if my name had been drawn. When I got home, I found out that my Grandma Chris had drawn a California bighorn tag. At this point, the fight was on between my brother and me to win grandma's affection. Through 2018 in Idaho, a parent or grandparent could give a tag to a child or

grandchild under the age of 18. Lucky for me, I received the tag from my grandmother and was going to go on my third out of four once-in-a-lifetime hunts in Idaho. I drew a mountain goat tag in 2015 and a Rocky Mountain bighorn tag in 2016.

The summer was flying by, so I started my preparations early. My cousin, Joe Ziegler, and I won the coyote derby the winter before, and we each won a new rifle. My good friend, Scott Farr with Farr Better Accuracy, customized it for me. When Scott was done with the rifle, it shot magnificently out to 800 yards. I practiced a couple times a week to build my confidence.

The end of July came. We were between hay cuttings and it was time to scout for the monster ram I was after, so we headed to the Owyhee Wilderness. When we got to camp, my dad and I split up. I took off walking, and he rode the four-wheeler. After 10 miles of hiking and a lot of miles on the ATV, we found 19 rams. We headed home, dreaming about opening day. Half of the area we would be hunting is