**US Sheep Experiment Station Rangeland Research Rancher Roundtables**

**January 4, 2022**

Hello,

My name is Hailey Wilmer. I’m the new research rangeland management specialist at the USDA-ARS Range Sheep Production Efficiency Research Unit at the US Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, ID. I am an interdisciplinary rangeland scientist with an interest in: plant and herbivore interactions, rancher local knowledge and adaptation, social aspects of rangelands and rural communities, biodiversity conservation, and fire/grazing interactions.

Right now, I’m in the process of getting to know sheep producers in our region. I’m also “revamping” our rangeland research program and writing a new 5-year plan that responds to regional issues for sheep producers related to rangeland management and sustainability. **As part of this process, I’d like to invite you to share your concerns, ideas, and insights with me at one of three informal “rancher roundtables” I’m hosting on Zoom.** All producers and sheep industry folks are welcome to drop in:

-Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 4 PM MT

-Monday, January 17, 2022 at 9AM MT

-Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 4PM MT

**To connect to the zoom meeting, follow this link:**

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/16134954126?pwd=VWVrUUVZekl6Vnlrc3ozeE56eC8vdz09>

Meeting ID: 161 3495 4126

Passcode: sheeppeeps

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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Zoom gives you an option to call in by phone or join the video call on your device. If you cannot join at these times or have connection issues, you’re welcome to contact me at hailey.wilmer@usda.gov or on my cell: 208-223-7254 to schedule a one-on-one chat. You can also send me written responses. The sessions will focus on the questions I’ve pasted below.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to connecting with you all,

Hailey

**Dr. Hailey Wilmer**

**Research Rangeland Management Specialist**

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**ROUNDTABLE QUESTIONS**

1. **Tell me about your rangeland management goals. What challenges do you face in reaching those goals?**
2. **What opportunities do you see for innovation and research to help you or others like you reach those goals?**
3. **Where (or at what scale) are range science and management questions most pressing for you? (Global, Whole sagebrush biome, high elevation systems, etc.)**
4. **What social, ecological, and economic changes should range research at the USSES address moving forward?**
5. **What do we need to learn now about range sheep systems, human dimensions of rangelands, wildlife conservation, and weather/climate related changes here?**
6. **What would meaningful engagement with the USSES station look like for you?**
7. **What other groups or organizations should we collaborate with?**