

Colorado's State Mammal

The Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep was adopted as the state mammal on May 1, 1961. This majestic animal is also the symbol of the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW). The DOW is the state agency that protects all of our wildlife.

The bighorn sheep was named for its massive horns. Both males (rams) and females (ewes) have horns. The rams' horns bend back and downward and can form a full curl. Ram horns can weigh as much as 50 pounds! Females have short, spiked horns.

Bighorn sheep live in the mountains of Colorado. They are brownish in color and have a white rump patch. Bighorn sheep are great mountain climbers. They are known for their agility and perfect sense of balance.

