

Narrative Statement (s)

(Additional Documentation)

BCRC 12-234 (a)-Our site has fields on both the North and the South side which are prone to high winds. This is severe during the cold winter months. These high winds cause snow to drift and create extreme winter conditions for livestock. The site is flat causing it to become very saturated in the spring months creating excess mud and water surrounding the existing Barn structure. These conditions create undesirable accommodations for raising our sheep. The barns' original layout and location limited accessibility and created unusable space. The roof line extensions have transformed the Barn structure. With these adaptations the Barn is now 100% accessible and utilized year-round. It creates a much safer environment for our livestock, accessibility for removal of manure and sound barrier.

BCRC 12-234 (b)-Our site was originally split more than 30 years prior to our occupancy which resulted in the current Barn structure not conforming to current regulations or allowing for improvements. The north side access to the barn is limited to roughly 8 feet which during spring months was "unusable" due to mud and excess water. This north access is where the main entrance to the barn is located. By adding the roof extension to this portion of the barn it has become more accessible and beneficial year around, while also making the north side of the barn more visually appealing.

BCRC 12-234 (c)-Granting the variance is not in conflict with the public interest in that it will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare, or materially injurious. This variance improves the original structure by creating visual appeal to the north, reducing ground saturation, improving accessibility, reducing soil pathogens and the potential for disease in our livestock or visiting livestock, allows for year around accessibility for 4-h and FFA youth as well as other community members. The roof extensions are open air and create a noise barrier, drier shelter (improves hoof health), and the ability to reduce manure odors due to accessibility for cleaning.

Supplemental materials:

Our sheep raising journey began with our oldest daughter's dream a few years ago, to raise her own quality 4-H lamb for the Bonner County Fair. This simple dream has grown into a beautiful flock and has expanded to provide more youth in our community with a quality project lamb. Both of our daughters have multiple breeding projects this year 2026 and will be providing the opportunity to local 4-H and FFA kids to choose a project animal from their stock. We strive to provide a facility to aid in their success. Having a single location that meets the needs of sustaining a functional environment year around for our daughters 4-H sheep breeding projects is vital for their independence and success. The original barn structure limited this and their involvement throughout the transitioning seasons it was also a hinderance to their ability to provide substantial animal husbandry year around. The roof line extensions make overall access and maintenance attainable for our daughters, allowing them more opportunities to be involved in every aspect of their projects which directly relate to the health and welfare of their flock. As parents we feel that it is important to encourage our daughters' dreams and provide a facility that allows them to grow a healthy flock.