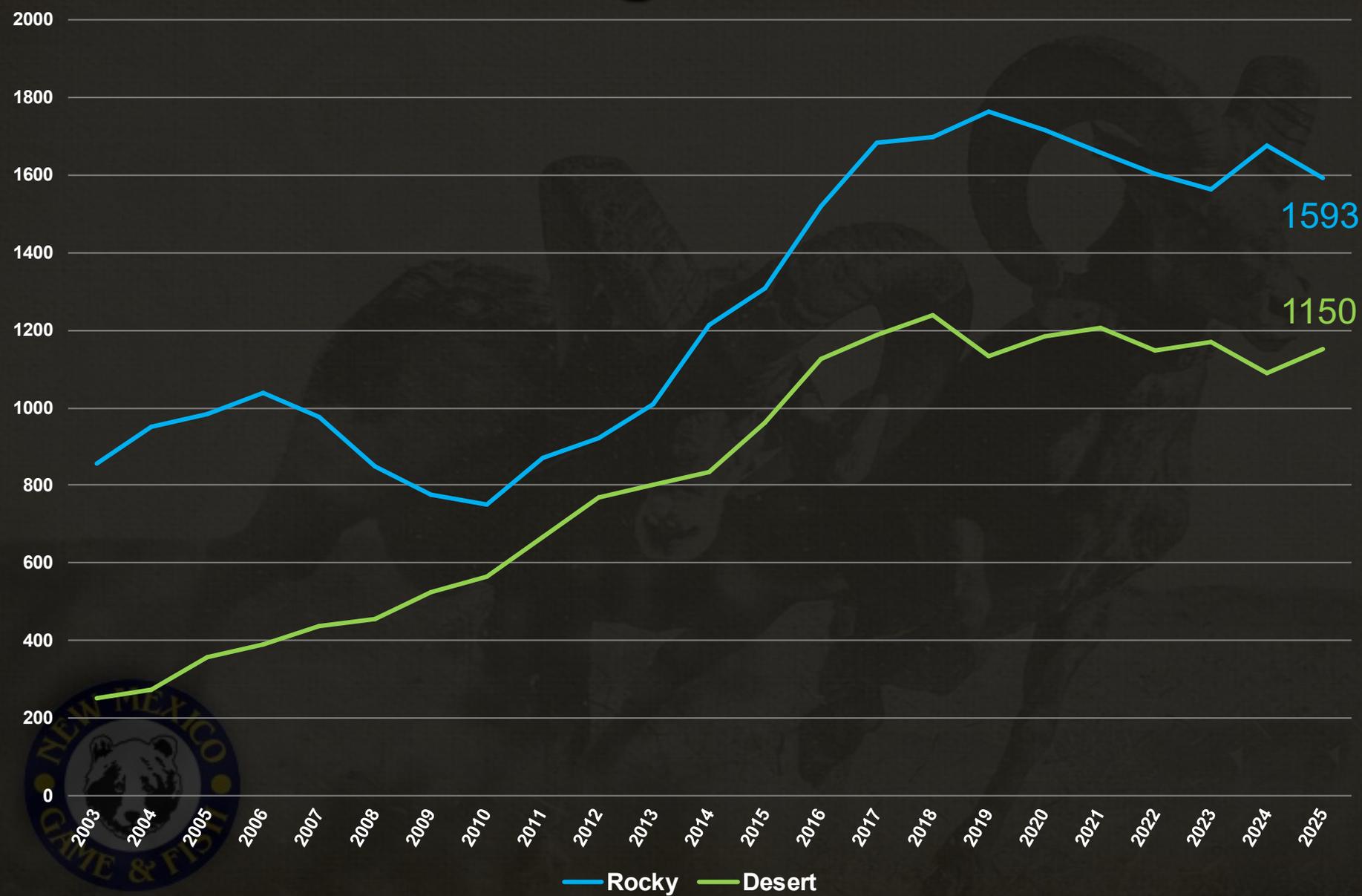


Bighorn Sheep Rule 19.31.17 NMAC

February 20, 2026
New Mexico State Game
Commission Meeting



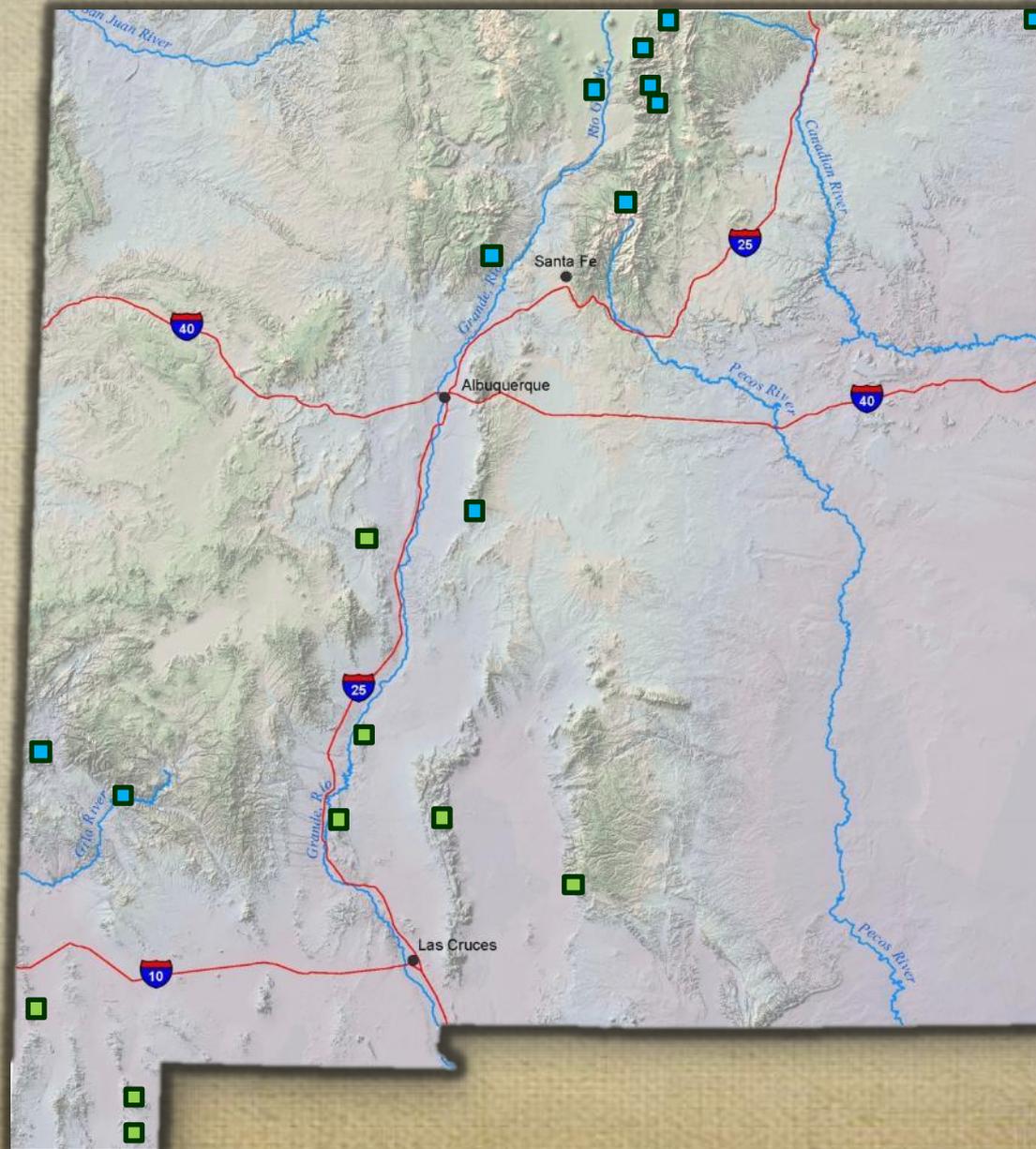
Statewide Bighorn Estimate



Bighorn Population Distribution

■ 8

Desert
Populations
~1,150



■ 11

Rocky
Mountain
Populations
~1,593



Bighorn Projects

- Captures
 - 2022-2025: 305 bighorn captured/collared
- Translocations
 - 2023: 28 bighorn from Red Rock to Alamo Huecos
 - 2025: 37 bighorn from Caballos to Sacramentos; 32 bighorn from Red Rock to Peloncillos

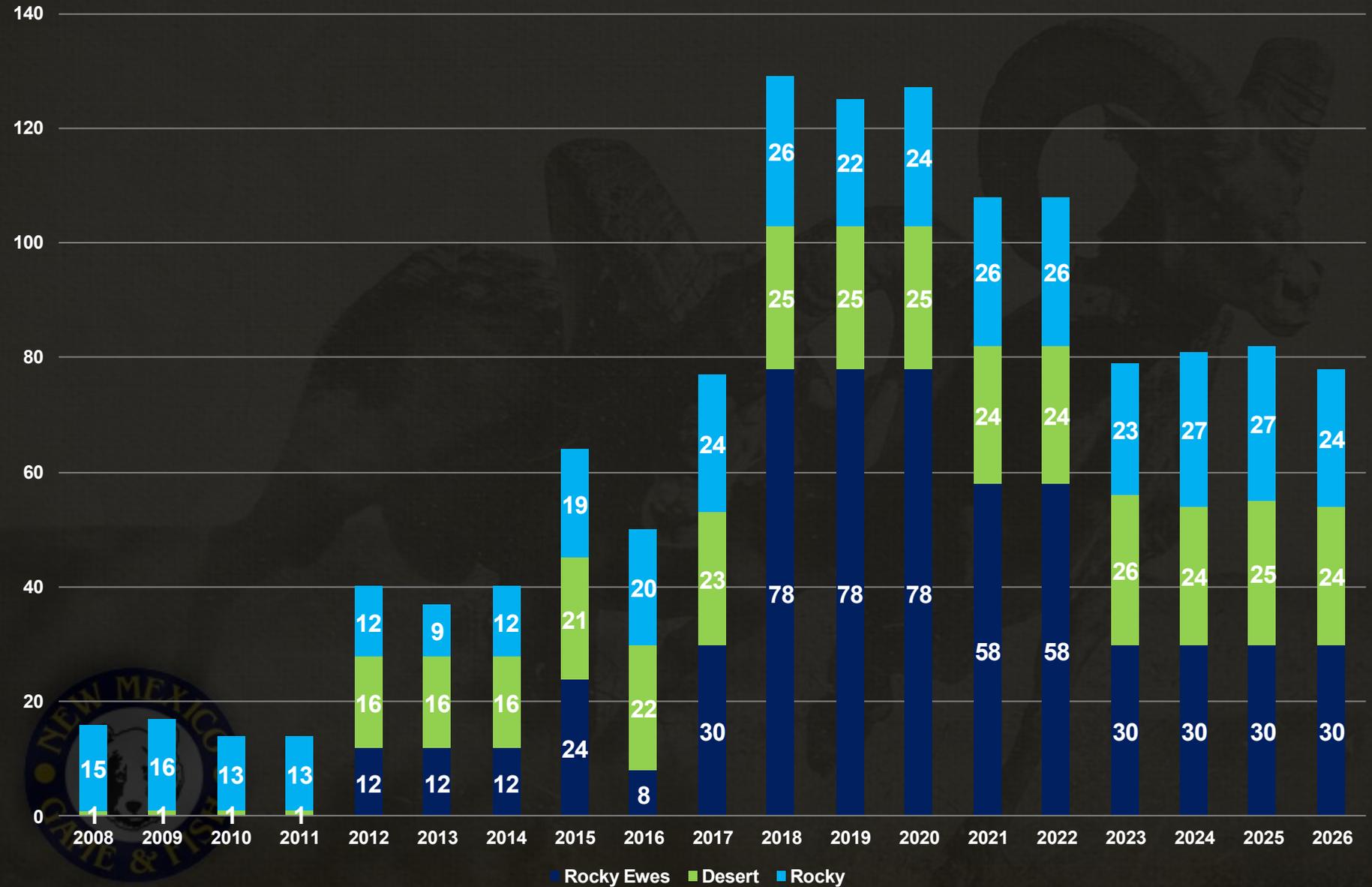


Bighorn Projects

- Testing GPS solar ear tags vs GPS collars
- Improving survey precision
- Diet analysis
- Alternative survey methods



NM Bighorn Sheep Hunting



Manzanos Ram Hunt (BHS-1-201)



- GMUs 14 & 18
- Currently defined as an open hunt area in BHS-1-201, has never been hunted
- Proposed Changes:
 - Define as open GMU under Private Land
 - Working with private landowners to establish hunt period(s), season dates, and bag limits for private and public
 - Start ram hunt ~2027



Sacramentos Ram Hunt (BHS-1-204)

- **GMU 34**
- **Re-established in 2018, has never been hunted**
- **Proposed changes:**
 - **Define as an open GMU within BHS-1-204**
 - **Establish hunt period(s), season dates, and bag limits**
 - **Start ram hunt ~2027**



General

- Adjust season dates appropriately (including date adjustments)



Comment on proposals:

DGF-bighorn-rule@dgf.nm.gov



Bow Only Ram Hunts



- **Considering ram archery only ram hunts**

