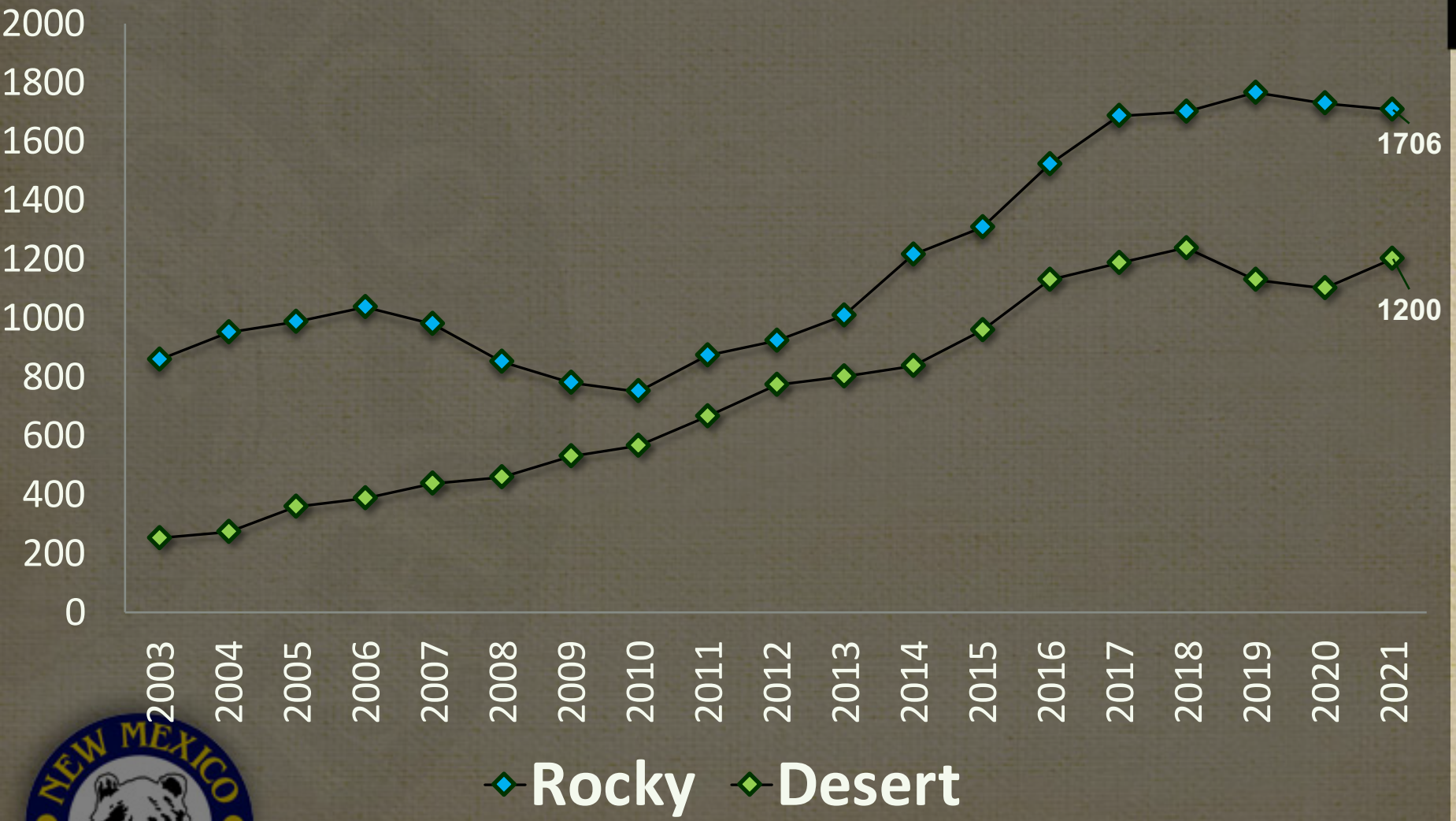


Bighorn Sheep Rule 19.31.17 NMAC

April 11, 2022
New Mexico State Game Commission
Meeting



Statewide Bighorn Estimate

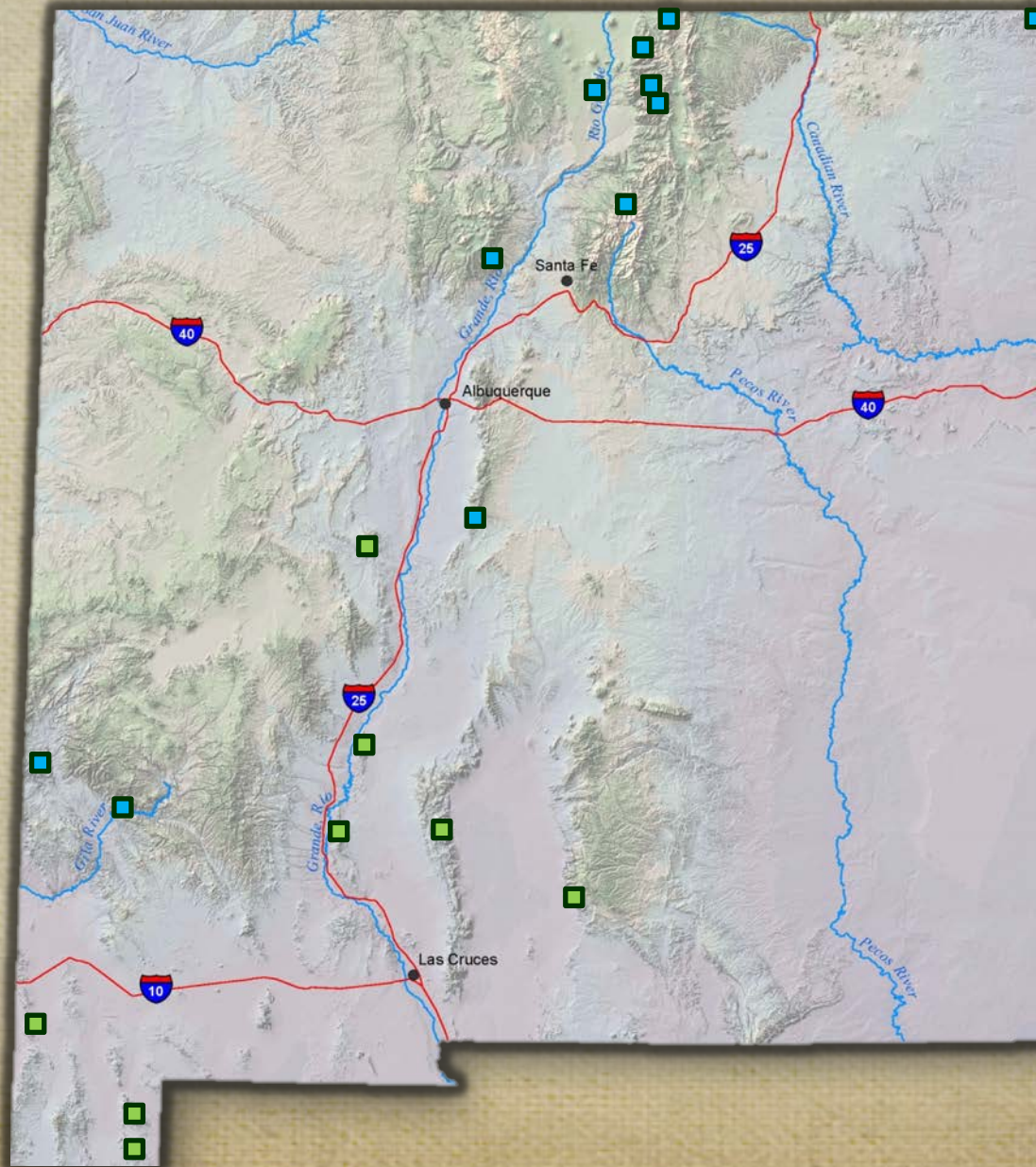


Bighorn Population Distribution

■ 8

Desert
Populations

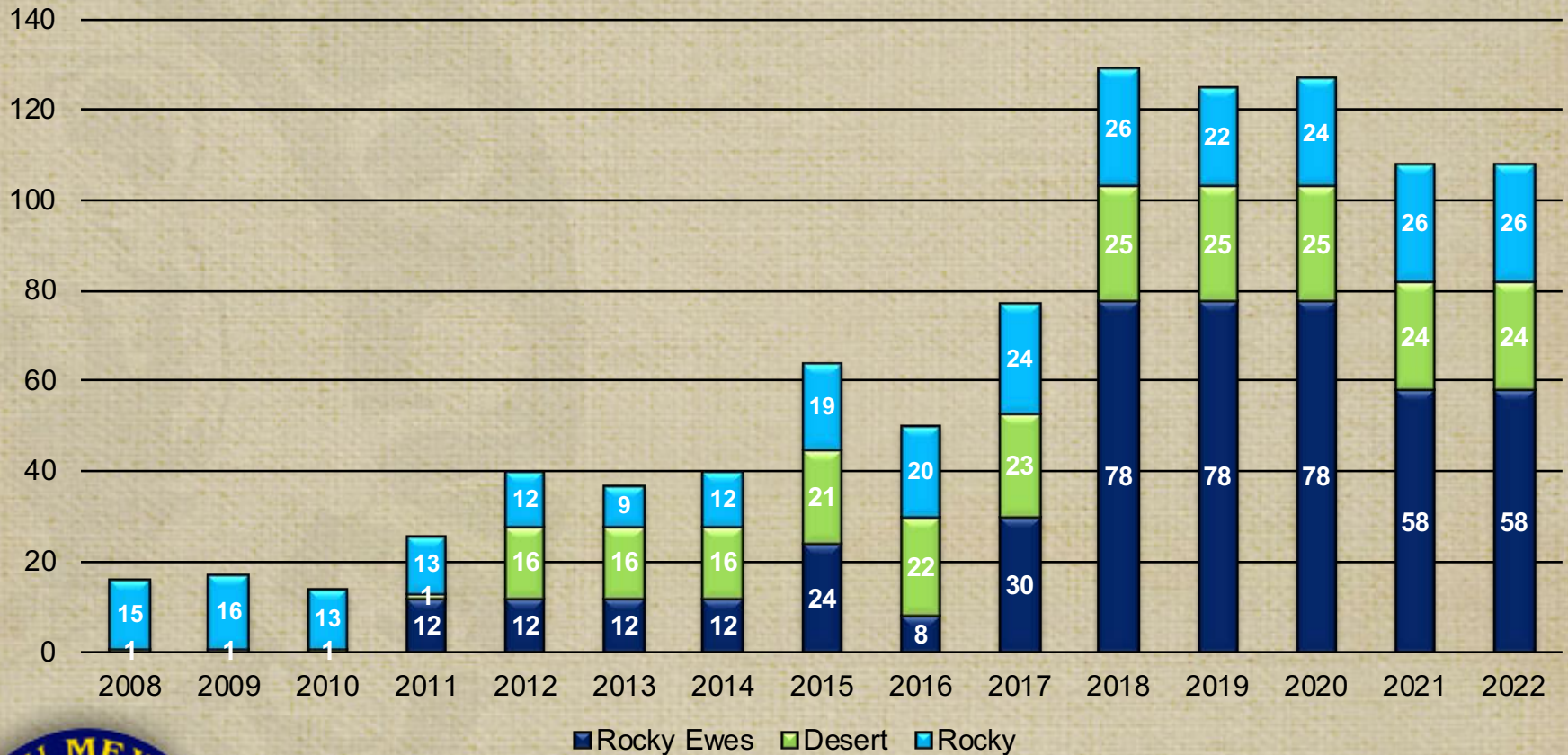
~1,200



■ 11

Rocky
Mountain
Populations
~1,706

NM Bighorn Sheep Hunting



Jemez Ram Hunt (BHS 1-201)



- 2014 original release followed by 2017 augmentation
- 150-200 (population estimate)
- Proposed Changes...
 - Aug. 10-24 & Sept. 1-15
 - Start ram hunt ~ 2024



Hatchet Ram Hunt (BHS 1-204)

- Harvest disproportionately occurs in easier to access Little Hatchets
- Proposed changes:
 - Shift dates to Sep 15-30 and Oct 1-15
 - Separate Little and Big Hatchets



Split Desert Ram Hunts

- **Ladron and Peloncillo**
- **Limit hunter density by creating 2nd hunt window**
- **Proposed changes...**
 - **Ladron: Dec. 1-15 & Dec. 16-31**
 - **Peloncillos: Nov. 1-15 & Nov. 16-30**



Rio Grande Gorge (BHS 1-201)

- Low elevation habitat in RGG
- Proposed change...
 - Add a third hunt window: Nov. 1-15



General

- **Open Double E WMA to hunters that hold a valid license**
- **Adjust season dates**



Public involvement

- Hosted 2 public meetings (virtual)
 - 118 signed up, 59 attended
- Received 13 emails
 - Support for proposals (7)
 - Support for current license allocation structure (4)
 - Question to biologists (1)
 - Against Hatchet split (1)
 - Other idea (1)



Questions

Comment on Proposals:
DGF-Bighorn-Rule@state.nm.us

