



PHOTO ESSAY

NEW MEXICO BIGHORN

G.T. Nunn

President of Frontier
Outfitting

Photos courtesy of author

I would like to share my excitement over the success of the New Mexico bighorn sheep program. The program has taken many Rocky Mountain bighorn herds from reintroduction to huntable populations that produce trophy Boone and Crockett rams. The program has also taken a near-extinct population of desert bighorn sheep statewide to a projected opening of six huntable populations in 2012.

I believe the heart of the program's success starts with biologists Eric Rominger and Elise Goldstein, who have both managed this program with sound science and an extreme passion for wild sheep. The program has been funded by many hunters who have bought enhancement tags, raffle tags, and hunting licenses. The program could not be where it is today without the support of volunteers and organizations such as the New Mexico Wild Sheep Foundation.

For more on the desert sheep program read Rominger's article on page 58 of this issue.

SHEEP HUNTING



Photos from Marc Heck's New Mexico bighorn hunt. Ram unofficially scores 185 points.



Another ram through the SPOTTING SCOPE



Wheeler Peak area in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in New Mexico.



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NEW MEXICO BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTING



Wheeler Peak area in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in New Mexico.

Photo of Greg Belig's New Mexico bighorn sheep. Ram unofficially scores 189 points.



Another ram through the SPOTTING SCOPE

Photo of Correy Knowlton's New Mexico bighorn sheep. Ram unofficially scores 186 points.