PERMITS--ISSUANCE--USE.--

RELATING TO GAME AND FISH; AMENDING A SECTION OF THE NMSA 1978 TO AUTHORIZE TWO ADDITIONAL BIGHORN SHEEP ENHANCEMENT PERMITS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 17-3-16.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 384, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read: "17-3-16.1. BIGHORN SHEEP ENHANCEMENT

- A. The state game commission shall direct the department of game and fish to authorize not more than four of the permits available for issuance in the license year for the taking of four bighorn rams for the purpose of raising funds for programs and projects to benefit bighorn sheep.
- B. The state game commission shall prescribe by regulation the form, design and manner of issuance of the bighorn sheep enhancement permits. The issuance of two permits shall be subject to auction by the department or by an incorporated nonprofit organization dedicated to conservation of wildlife, as determined by the commission, and shall be sold to the highest bidder. The issuance of the other two permits shall be subject to a lottery by the department or by an incorporated nonprofit organization dedicated to conservation of wildlife, as determined by the

1	commission
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C. All money collected from the issuance and sale	
of the bighorn sheep enhancement permits shall be credited to	
the game protection fund to be used exclusively for bighorn	
sheep preservation, restoration and management."	SB 33 Page 2