



PACE Bisonte. Bison reintroduction to historic range in Northern Mexico



COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS:

CONANP: José Bernal Stoppen,

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY: Laura Paulson, Antonio Esquer.

UNAM: Rodrigo Sierra

UAM: Rurik List

TMS: Cindy Tolle



Janos Valley Grasslands

- The Janos Valley Grasslands are located in Mexico's Chihuahuan Desert ecoregion. Some priority species are: BTPD, Mexican Gray Wolf, Pronghorn, Golden Eagle, Black Bear and Bison.
- In 2005, the Conservancy purchased a 46,000 acre ranch and created the Rancho El Uno Ecological Reserve
- Federal ANP decreed in 2009 – 500,000 ha (1.3. M acres)
- The decree marks the first time Mexico is officially protecting grasslands.



Bison in Rancho El Uno

Grasslands:

- BMP Ranching
- BMP Agriculture

Priority Species:

- BT Prairie Dog
- Golden Eagle
- Pronghorn
- Grasslands Birds



Environmental Education

- Schools
- Visitors
- Ecological Clubs

Academia

- Research
- Thesis
- Field trips/practices

“La Cien”



Celebrate the Herd!

We are excited to communicate a recent joyful moment that has taken place at El Uno Ecological Reserve, in Mexico. The Conservancy-owned ranch and regional demonstration site for sustainable grasslands management located in the heart of the Chihuahua Desert has reached its 100th bison count with the birth of a healthy female calf on May 3rd.

This symbolic milestone represents a new and promising era for the project. Despite encountering multiple challenges over the years, since the arrival of the first bison at the ranch in 2009, the herd is finally deemed healthy, mature and viable.

Bison is a keystone species for grassland ecosystems that once stretched across North America from Canada through northern Mexico. With its platform site at El Uno and a substantial "seed conservation herd", the Conservancy, together with Mexico's Commission on Protected Natural Areas and the National Bison Recovery Working Group are now poised to expand bison reintroduction in additional areas within their historic range in Mexico along with complementary strategies like sustainable ranching and community education.

Join us in celebrating the herd on its 100th member and unite fundraising efforts with the Mexico and Northern Central America conservation program to support ecosystem restoration, species reintroduction and sustainable productive practices on iconic prairie landscapes. For more information contact Laura Paulson (lpaulson@tnc.org)



In November of 2009, 23 bison were reintroduced at the El Uno Ecological Reserve, near Janos, Chihuahua, in northern Mexico. The 100th member of the herd is a female calf named La 100, pictured here with her mother. © [Jesús Antonio Esquer](#), The Nature Conservancy.

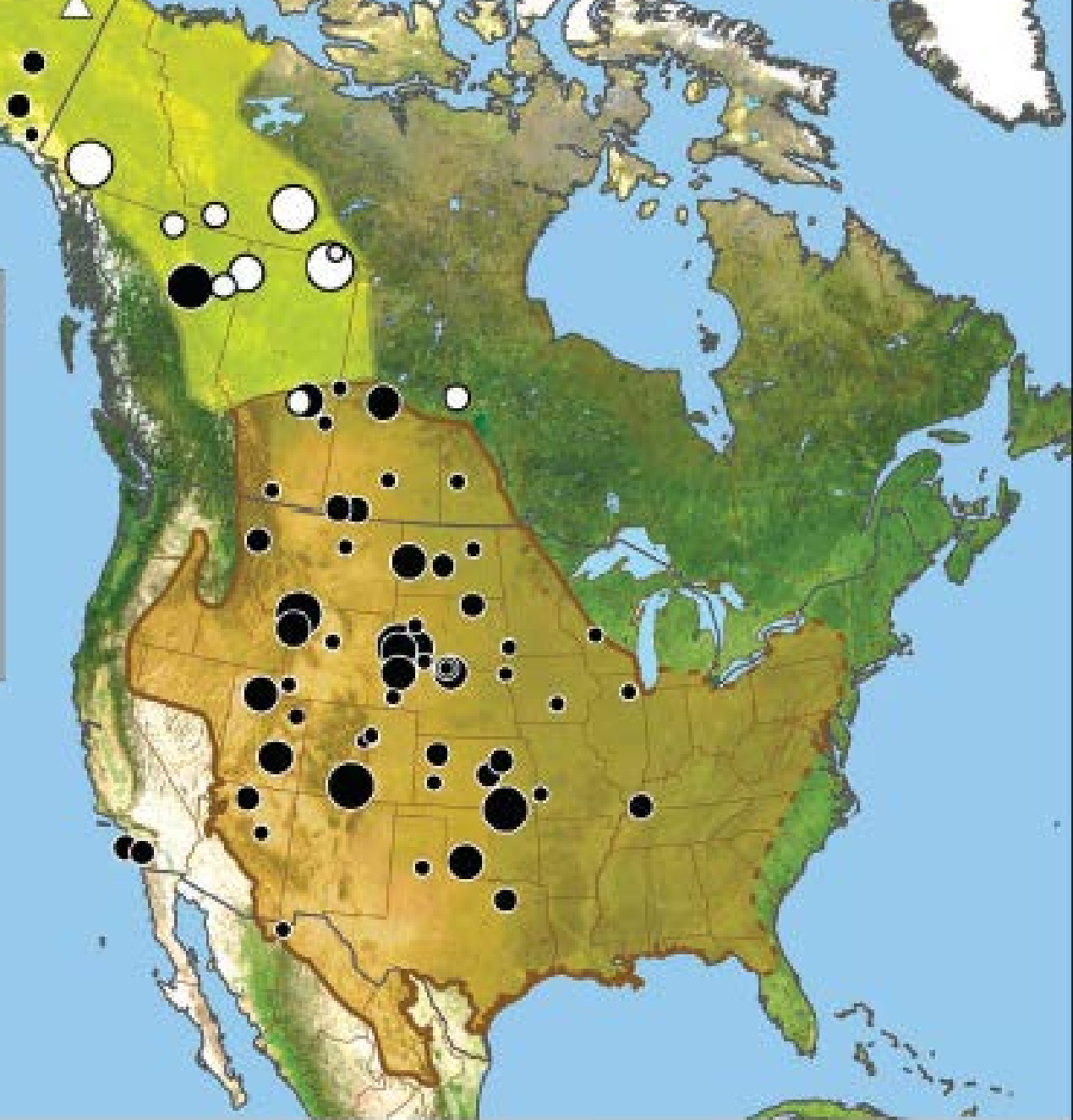
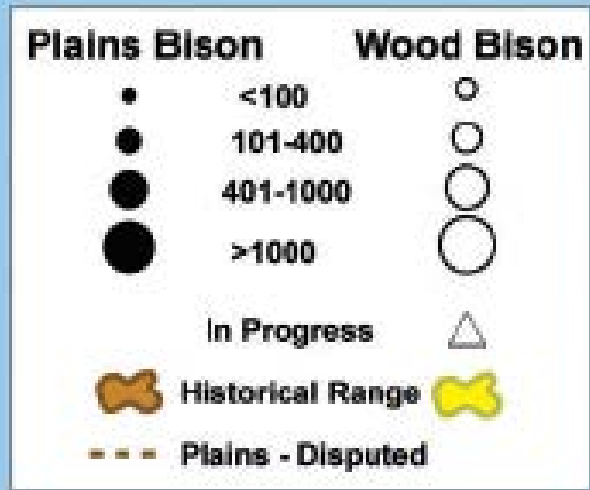


Figure 7.1 Locations and size classes of bison conservation herds in North America. Historic ranges of wood and plains bison were based on Stephenson et al. (2001) and Sanderson et al. (2009), respectively.

WHERE THE BISON ROAM

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S BISON HERDS

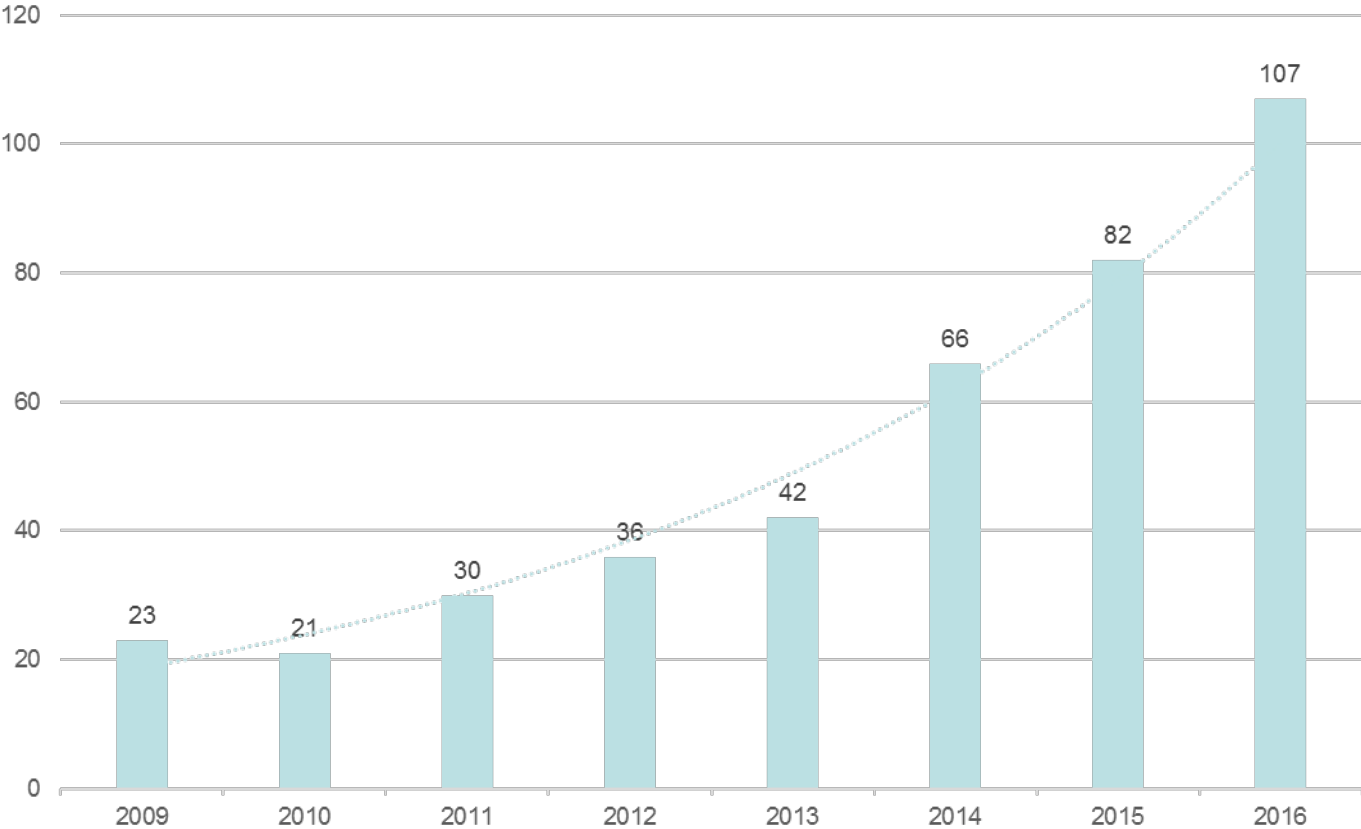


★ 13 HERDS

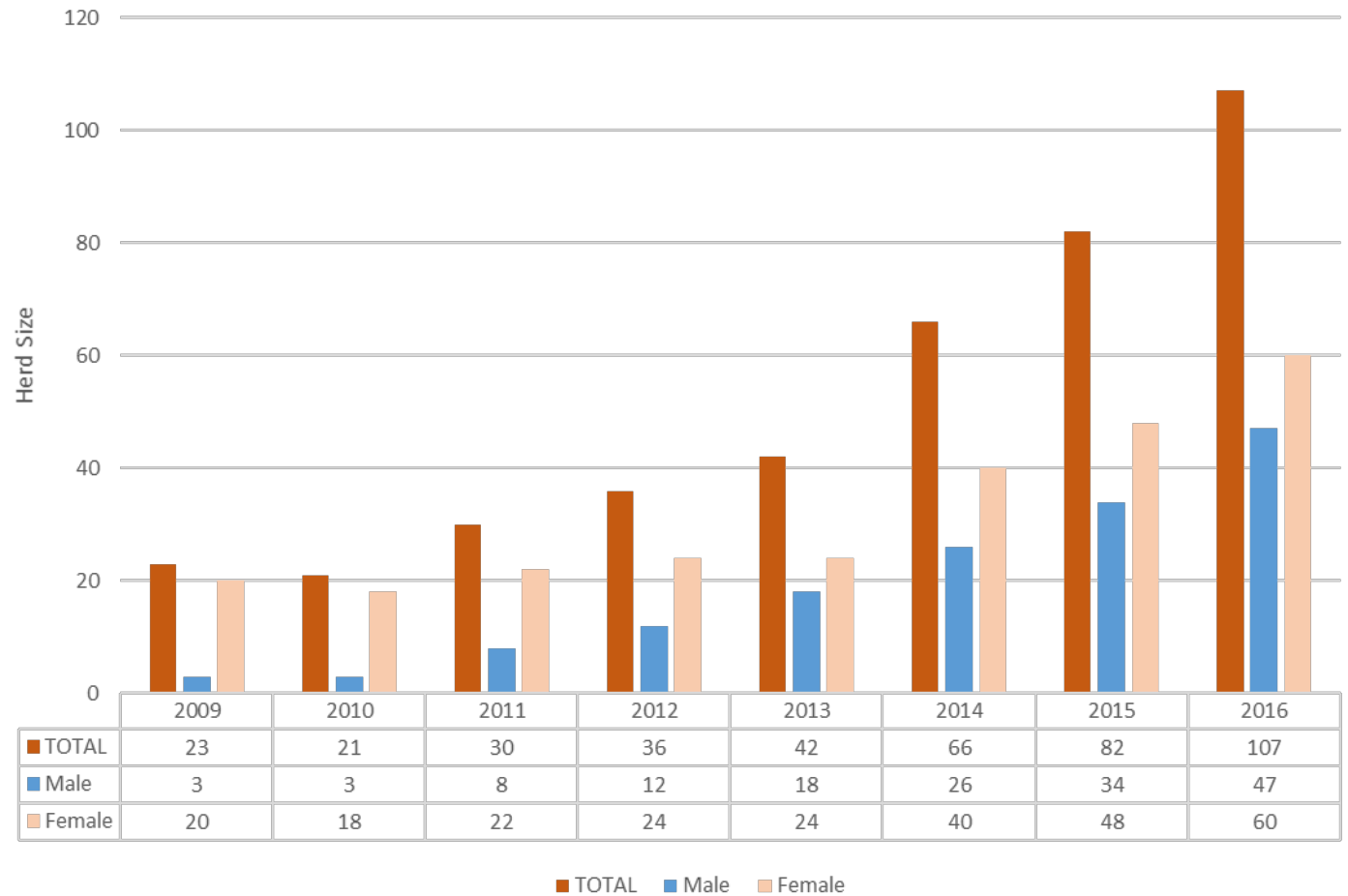
★ 5,830 BISON

★ 129,300 ACRES

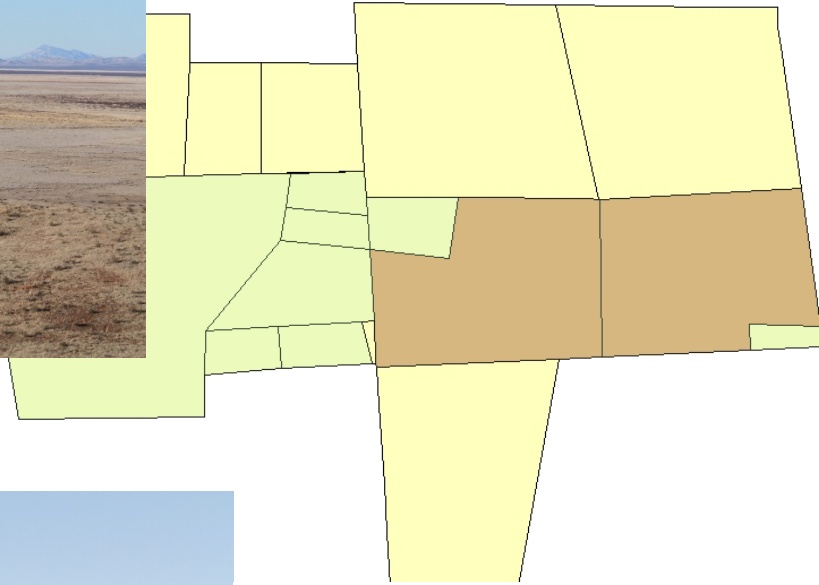
Bison Herd Growing

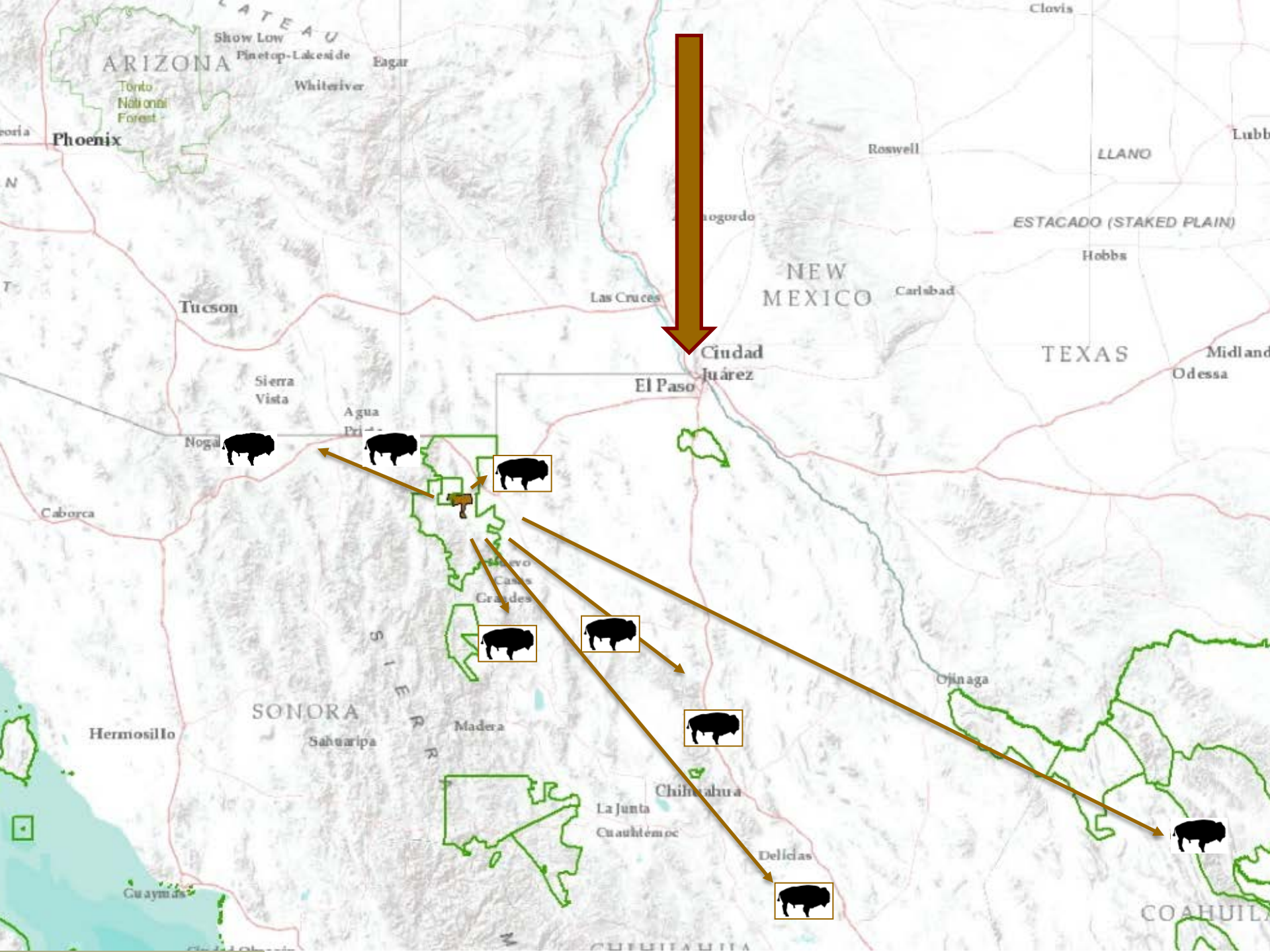


Herd Structure



Reserva Ecológica Rancho El Uno





2016 Next Steps	Results expected
Increase herd size to 150 bison	107 ...5 more expected in 2016
Explore availability with NPS	NPS & CONANP are advancing on agreement, expect to sign in 2016
Conduct an Analysis for new sites to host conservation herds or productive herds under good practices of management	Understand ranchers motivation and commitment. In addition, to know infrastructure needs and habitat quality
Improve infrastructure for new area in El Uno and develop a infrastructure plan for a selected site in preparation to establish a new herd by 2018	Expect to reach the goal (150) by 2018
Continue education, outreach and collaboration with ranchers	Several activities are planned to keep and scale the message about bison significance
To continue research on uses of bison and potential market.	An incentive for ranchers in Mexico could be to export bison calves or another products. This year Mexico Bison Group plan to have an international workshop with participation of executive and officers from CONANP, DGVS, NPS, USDA, etc. To explore mechanisms related at bison crossborder movement.
Increase collaboration (local, national and international)	Mexico is going to participate at ABS Conference next september to share our experience and looking for collaboration.



Request

- Connect projects related to bison habitat
- Support the next potential movement of bison from NP to Mexico

