House Resource Committee Presentation 3/6/2018

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GUIDED HUNTING IN ALASKA

"THE GOAL OF THIS PRESENTATION IS TO INTRODUCE GUIDED HUNTING AND THE ASSOCIATED ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF GUIDED HUNTING TO THE HOUSE RESOURECE COMMITTEE"

I WHAT IS A HUNTING GUIDE?

- A. Path to becoming licensed- mentorship and training
- B. What hunting guides do- cook, clean, pack and judge legal animals
- C. Who is required to hire a guide- visiting sheep, brown bear and goat hunters

II ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO ALASKA FROM GUIDED HUNTING

- A. Reference presentation packed for narration
- B. Reference *"Alaska's Guided Hunting Industry 2015"*
- C. Reference *"Economic Impacts of Guided Hunting in Alaska"*

III GUIDED HUNTING AND OTHER USERS

- A. Federally Qualified Rural Subsistence Hunters
- B. Alaska Resident Hunters
- C. Other Guides
- D. Other Commercial Recreational Users

IV THE FUTURE

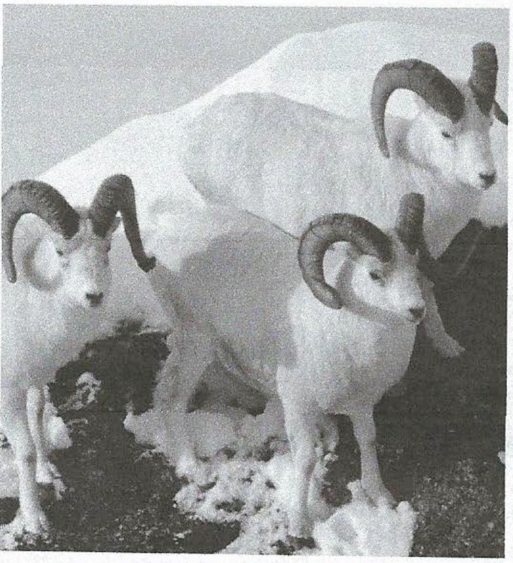
- A. Sustainable Harvest
- B. Social Perceptions of Hunting
- C. Alaska Land Management Policy

The Economic Importance of Hunters Visiting Alaska

Alaska's Guided Hunting Industry 2015

ALASKA PROFESSIONAL HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

SCI
FIRST FOR HUNTERS
Safari Club International



Total Guide Industry Economic Output

$87.2 million in total guided hunting industry economic activity including direct spending, wages and multiplier effects in 2015.

$37.5 million	**$49.7 million**
Total Labor Income	Goods & Services (Non-Payroll) Spending

New Dollars for Alaska's Economy

The guided hunting industry circulated **$52.5 million** in the Alaska economy as labor income and spending for goods and services.

3,242
Guided Hunters

520
Traveling Companions

Guide Industry Spending with Alaska Businesses

$29.7 million in direct guide and visiting hunter spending with businesses in Alaska. Multiplier effects generated an additional **$20.0 million** in economic activity for Alaska's support sector.

A significant portion of guide spending occurs in rural areas of Alaska in the form of wages, air transportation, fuel, food, and supplies.

Jobs for Alaska

1,550 people directly employed in the guided hunting industry.

$22.5 million in direct wages and guide income.

Multiplier effects generated another **570 jobs** and **$15 million** in wages for Alaska's support sector.

Guided Hunting Industry Employment, 2015

1,550 Direct Jobs

570 Indirect Jobs

2,120
Total Employment

Non-Hunting Companions

In addition to 3,207 hunters guided in 2012, an estimated 500 non-hunting companions accompanied these hunters in the field.[4] Many guide operations host non-hunting companions, charging a daily fee for lodging, transportation, and food expenses.

Number of Hunters by Geographic Region

In 2012, the most popular regions for guided hunting were Central/Southwest Alaska, with 1,018 guided hunters, and Interior Alaska, with 915 guided hunters. In Southeast and Southcentral Alaska, there were 505 and 471 guided hunters, respectively. The fewest number of guided hunters hunted in Northwest Alaska (298).

Number of Guided Hunters, by Geographic Region of Hunt, 2012

	# of Hunters	% of Total
Central/Southwest	1,018	32%
Interior	915	29
Southeast	505	16
Southcentral	471	15
Northwest	298	9
Total	**3,207**	**100%**

Source: Hunt record data, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, DCCED.
Due to rounding, percentage column does not equal 100 percent.

Size of Alaska Guiding Operations

Over the last three years there have been roughly 300 guides each year that contracted hunts. Most contracting guides (about 80 percent) serve 15 or fewer hunting clients each year. In fact, many (40 percent) contracted with five or fewer clients. In 2012, 18 contracting guides guided more than 25 hunters; the largest operator guided about 50.

Contracting Guides, by Number of Clients Served, 2010-2012

# of Hunters Served	2010 # of Guides	2011 # of Guides	2012 # of Guides
1 – 5	120	107	119
6 – 10	67	77	67
11 – 15	51	51	52
16 – 20	33	26	24
21 – 25	22	26	19
26+	22	20	18
Total	**315**	**307**	**299**

Source: Hunt record data, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, DCCED.

[4] McDowell Group estimates, Registered guide survey data.

Land Use

Guides must obtain permits from the State of Alaska to guide in specific Guide Use Areas (GUA). They may apply to guide in a maximum of three GUAs. If predator hunting, guides can apply for permits for more than three GUAs. A complex matrix of land ownership/management underlies Alaska's GUA system. Land can be managed by the State, federal government (Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, National Park Service), or by private landowners (including Alaska Native Corporations).

Guides pay fees to, and must have signed agreements with, relevant land managers prior to applying for a GUA permit where they wish to guide. Permits are often limited to specific species. Some land managers (through limited concessions) restrict the number of guides that may hunt in a specific area, or the overall number of hunts each year, to assure game sustainability and quality hunts.

Contracting guides reported that 46 percent of their 2012 revenues came from hunts conducted on land managed by the State of Alaska. Almost half of revenue was earned hunting on federal lands, including US Fish and Wildlife Service (22 percent), US Forest Service (11 percent), NPS (9 percent), and BLM (4 percent). Eight percent was derived from private land (including Alaska Native Corporation land).

Guide Revenue by Land Hunted, 2012

Land Manager	% of Guide Revenue
State of Alaska	46%
US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	22
US Forest Service (USFS)	11
National Park Service (NPS)	9
Private land owners (including Alaska Native Corps)	8
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	4

Source: Registered guide survey.

Alaska Guides' Place of Residency

Among Alaska's 575 registered guides in 2012, 89 percent (510) were Alaska residents, while 11 percent (65) were nonresidents. Guides' place of residence is dispersed throughout the state with more than half (52 percent) living outside Alaska's major urban areas (areas with populations of less than 30,000). The largest concentration of guides was in Southcentral, with 43 percent (217 guides). Central/Southwest was home to 28 percent (141 guides), the Interior 14 percent (73 guides), Southeast 13 percent (64 guides), and Northwest 4 percent (15 guides).

(see table next page)

Registered Hunting Guide Place of Residence, 2012

	# of Guides
Southcentral	**219 (43% of Total)**
Anchorage/Chugiak/Eagle River	118
Kodiak	24
Soldotna	21
Homer	8
Kenai (7), Kasilof (6), Girdwood (4), Sutton (4), Anchor Point (3), Nikolai (3), Ninilchik (3), Cordova (2), Nikiski (2), Port Lions (2), Seward (2), Sterling (2), Valdez (2), Alexander Creek (1), Cooper Landing (1), Ft. Richardson (1), Moose Pass (1), Old Harbor (1), Seldovia (1)	
Central/Southwest	**140 (28% of Total)**
Palmer/Wasilla	71
Dillingham	8
Talkeetna	8
Gakona (6), King Salmon (6), Port Alsworth (6), Willow (6), Chickaloon (5), Pedro Bay (4), Iliamna (3), Cantwell (2), Chitina (2), Cooper Center (2), Ekwok (2), Trapper Creek (2), Chignik (1), Cold Bay (1), Glennallen (1), Kokhanok (1), Nondalton (1), Port Moller (1), Skwentna (1)	
Interior	**72 (14% of Total)**
Fairbanks/North Pole	35
Delta Junction	9
Tok (6), Healy (5), Ester (4), Aniak (2), Manley Hot Springs (2), Salcha (2), Sleetmute (2), Bettles (1), McGrath (1), Nenana (1), Tanana (1), Two Rivers (1)	
Southeast	**64 (13% of Total)**
Juneau/Auke Bay/Douglas	18
Sitka	13
Haines (5), Hoonah (5), Ketchikan (5), Petersburg (5), Gustavus (4), Klawock (2), Elfin Cove (1), Throne Bay (2), Yakutat (2), Wrangell (2)	
Northwest	**15 (3% of Total)**
Huslia (2), Mekoryuk (2), Nome (2), Bethel (1), Galena (1), Holy Cross (1), Kaltag (1), Kobuk (1), Kotzebue (1), Red Devil (1), Two Rivers (1) Unalakleet (1)	

Source: DCCED, Division of Corporations, Business & Professional Licensing.

Distribution of Economic Impacts Within Alaska

It is beyond the scope of this study to measure all of the regional indirect and induced economic impacts of the guiding industry in Alaska. However, it is evident from available data that the industry has an important impact in areas outside the state's primary centers of commerce.

Guide Place of Residence

Revenues from guided hunting are distributed widely throughout the state in the form of payroll and owner's income as well as spending on goods and services. About half (52 percent) of registered guides live in areas outside Alaska's largest urban areas (Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau). A significant portion of their annual expenditures take place outside the urban centers. Additionally, many of the people employed by hunting guides (regardless of where the guides live) also live in rural and smaller communities.

Hunting Guide Area of Residence, 2012

Residence	# of Guides	% of Total
Urban centers	242	47%
All other areas of Alaska	264	52
Guides Living in Alaska	**510**	**100%**

Source: Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing, DCCED.

Guide Spending

In 2012, half of all guide spending in Alaska on goods and services (an estimated $12 million) took place in areas outside urban Alaska. At least an additional $13 million was distributed in payroll and income to guides and their employees living in these areas. In many of these communities, especially the remote rural locations, the opportunities to earn cash income are limited.

Impacts Outside Urban Alaska, 2012

	Expenditures
Purchases of goods and services	$12 million
Payroll and guide income	$13 million
Total	**$25 million**

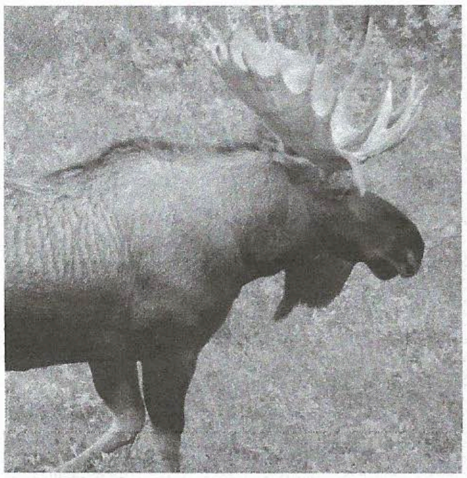
Source: Registered guide survey data and McDowell Group estimates.

Rural Community Support

In addition to the impacts of jobs, payroll, and spending for goods and services, hunting guides provide a significant level of voluntary support to residents of rural Alaska. The most important of these is the distribution of meat donated by hunters. Because of the expense and logistics of taking meat home from Alaska, the majority of all game meat harvested in the state is donated. While the total amount of meat distributed is unknown, it could reasonably be assumed to be tens of thousands of pounds annually. Guides also often provide in-kind assistance such as monitoring remote cabins, and moving people and materials.

Meat Sharing is a Long-Standing Tradition in Alaska.

In addition to the impacts of jobs, wages, and goods and services spending, hunting guides and their clients share a significant volume of high-quality game meat with Alaska residents every year. Recipients include Native communities, elders, needy families with children, organizations, and those who enjoy game meat but can no longer hunt. Game meat is a renewable resource that feeds Alaskans year after year.



230,000 pounds of game meat
was shared with Alaska residents in 2015.

$1.1 million
is the estimated value of replacing this game meat with beef.

$760,000
the replacement value of game meat shared with rural residents.

Recipients acknowledge the meat shared by guides and their clients provides nourishment for many families and is culturally important:

"We share a lot of meat with families that do not have a meat source. I look for people who live in the region where I guide to find those who really need it. I have flown over 100 miles to deliver meat to them when they are in need."

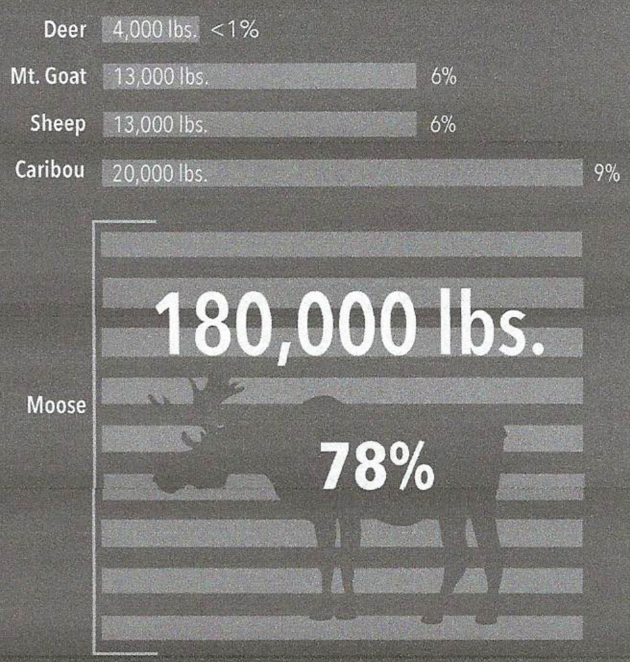
"The moose meat we share literally feeds a village."

"The priest at my church in Fairbanks is Yupik. He has really missed eating traditional subsistence foods since he moved from his village to Fairbanks. We share our meat with him."

"Often we share meat with elders in the villages we fly in and out of who can no longer hunt. They are tremendously appreciative."

"I just wanted to thank you for this wonderful goat meat. I am semi-retired and can no longer process game in the field, so this means a great deal to me. This meat will last me through the winter and saves me from paying the high price of meat from the grocery store."

Guide and Visiting Hunter Meat Sharing, 2015



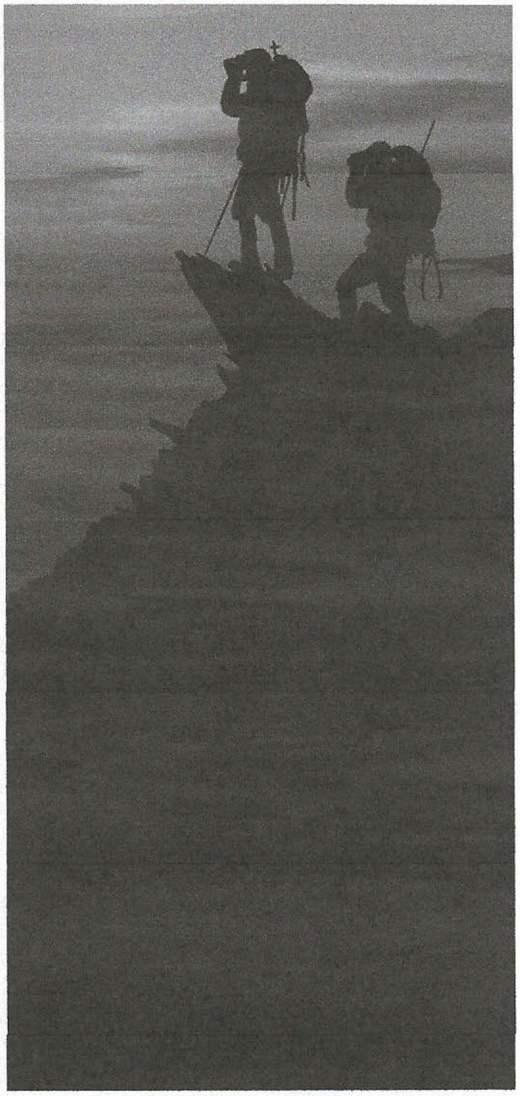
State Revenue Generated by Visiting Hunters, Guided and Unguided 2015

$5.3 million in total ADF&G Fish and Game Wildlife Fund revenue was generated by guided and unguided visiting hunter purchases of licenses and big game tags.

14,211 visiting hunters purchased Alaska hunting licenses totaling $1.3 million.

14,085 big game tags purchased by visiting hunters, generating $4 million in State revenue.

Not all hunters that purchase licenses actually hunted. Visiting hunters are required to buy licenses prior to applying for some hunts. An unknown number of hunters do not draw tags and therefore do not hunt.



Revenue for Wildlife Conservation in Alaska

Visiting hunters purchased **13%** of all Alaska big game hunting licenses and generated **72%** of ADF&G Fish and Game Wildlife Fund license and tag revenue in 2015.

ADF&G Fish and Game Fund License and Tag Revenue, 2015

$7.4 Million
Total Fish and Game Fund License and Tag Revenue

$2.1 million	**$5.3 million**
Resident Hunters 28%	Visiting Hunters 72%

Visiting hunter license and tag revenue of **$5.3 million**, when matched with Pittman Robertson funds, could generate as much as an additional **$16 million** for qualified wildlife conservation projects.

Pittman-Robertson funds are matched with ADF&G Fish and Game Funds and used for wildlife conservation projects that benefit license holders and those who view wildlife. For qualified projects, the State of Alaska receives $3 in Pittman-Robertson funds for every $1 in license and tag fees.

ADF&G implemented higher license and tag fees in 2017. If the same number of licenses and tags is sold under the new fee structure, revenue to ADF&G's Fish and Game Wildlife Fund is estimated to **nearly double** to about **$13.7 million.** These additional funds would be used to match additional Pittman-Robertson funds.

The **Alaska Professional Hunters Association** and **Safari Club International** supported legislation to increase license and tag fees to enhance wildlife conservation efforts in Alaska.

Summary of Guided Hunting Impacts in Alaska, 2015

Guided Hunters

Alaska residents	154
Nonresident US citizen	2,778
Foreign nationals	310
Total Guided Hunters	**3,242**
Estimated number of guided hunter traveling companions	520

Shared Meat

Pounds of meat shared by guides and their clients	230,000 lbs.
Estimated value of replacing shared game meat with beef	**$1.1 million**

Guided Hunting Industry Related Employment

Direct employment	1,550 jobs
Indirect and induced employment	570 jobs
Total Employment (direct, indirect, and induced)	**2,120 jobs**

Guided Hunting Industry Related Labor Income

Direct labor income (payroll and guide income)	$22.5 million
Indirect and induced labor income	$15.0 million
Total Labor Income (direct, indirect, and induced)	**$37.5 million**

Guided Hunting Industry Spending with Alaska Businesses

Guide spending with Alaska-based vendors	$26 million
Hunter and companion pre/post hunt spending	$3.7 million
Indirect and induced spending	$20 million
Total direct, indirect, and induced non-payroll spending	**$49.7 million**

Total Guide Industry-Related Economic Output, 2015 — $87.2 million

Summary of Visiting Hunter License and Tag Expenditures, 2015

All Visiting Hunter License and Game Tag Spending

# of licenses sold	14,211
License revenue	$1.3 million
# of tags sold	14,085
Game tag revenue	$4 million
Total Fish and Game Wildlife Fund revenue generated by visiting big game hunters	**$5.3 million**
% of ADF&G Fish and Game Wildlife Fund generated by visiting hunter license and tag purchases	**72%**

Guided Hunter License and Game Tag Spending

# of licenses sold	3,242
License revenue	$350,000
# of tags sold	4,570
Game tag revenue	$1.6 million
Total State revenue generated by guided big game hunters	**$2 million**

**Figures have been rounded.*

Information sources used in this report include: State of Alaska departments of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development; Fish and Game, and McDowell Group. This report was based on *The Economic Impacts of Guided Hunting in Alaska*, February 2014, McDowell Group. The 2014 study was based on industry data from 2012 and a registered guide survey conducted in 2013. A copy of the 2014 study can be found at: www.mcdowellgroup.net/publications

McDowell GROUP

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