

As shown in Exhibit 2, the board issued 350 new licenses from FY 20 through FY 22. As of January 2023, there were 1,438 active licenses, representing an 18 percent increase when compared to the prior 2018 sunset audit.³ The increase was mainly due to a 33 percent increase in the number of assistant guides and a 37 percent increase in transporters.⁴ Based on discussions with board members, the increase in transporter licenses was primarily due to vessel owners becoming licensed to allow for a secondary source of income. The cause of the increase in assistant guide licenses was unclear; however, the 2023 total was similar to the number reported in the 2015 sunset audit.⁵

Exhibit 2

Big Game Commercial Services Board Licensing Activity FY 20 through January 31, 2023				
	New Licenses Issued (Exclusive of Renewals)			Active Licenses as of January 31, 2023
	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	
Assistant Guide	71	88	101	776
Class-A Assistant Guide	8	3	8	96
Master Guide-Outfitter	-	-	-	105
Registered Guide-Outfitter	15	11	9	319
Transporter	10	9	17	123
Retired Assistant Guide	-	-	-	3
Retired Guide-Outfitter	-	-	-	13
Retired Master Guide-Outfitter	-	-	-	3
Totals	<u>104</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>1,438</u>

³ The prior sunset audit (ACN 08-20114-19) reported 1,219 total active licenses as of May 2018.

⁴ The prior sunset audit reported 583 assistant guide licenses and 90 transporter licenses as of May 2018.

⁵ The 2015 sunset audit (ACN 08-20093-15) reported 742 assistant guide licenses as of April 2015.