

Submitted by
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RC 083

The Economic Importance of Hunters Visiting Alaska

Alaska's Guided Hunting Industry 2015



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

Total Labor Income

\$49.7 million

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

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."

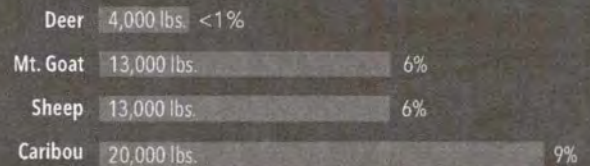
"The moose meat we share literally feeds a village."

"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."

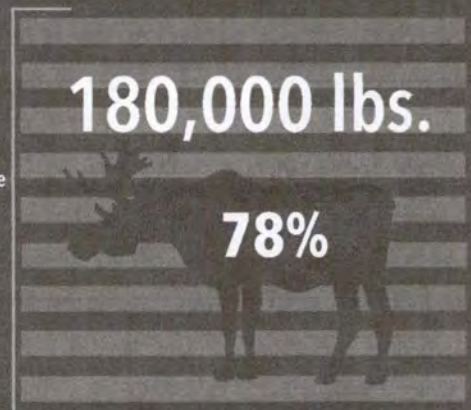
Guide and Visiting Hunter Meat Sharing, 2015



180,000 lbs.

Moose

78%



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.

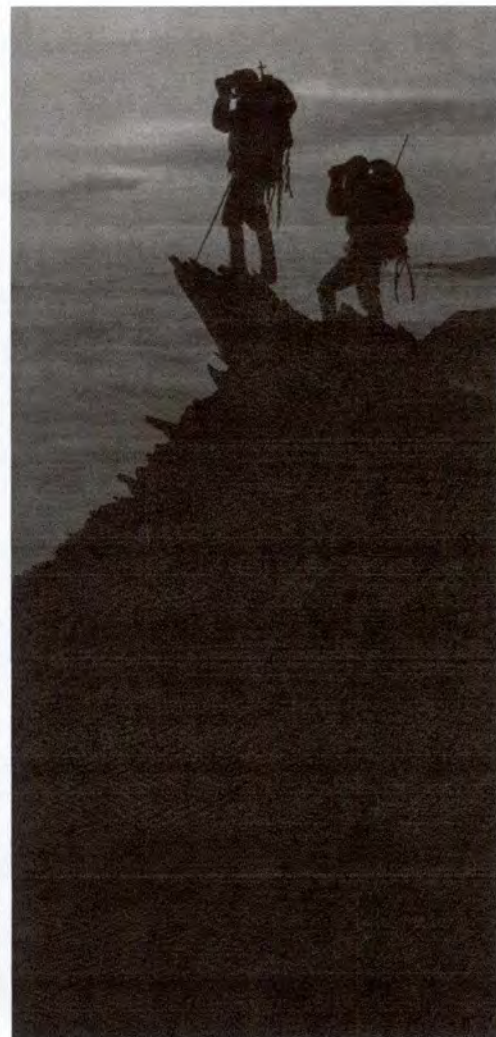


14,211 visiting hunters purchased Alaska hunting licenses totaling \$1.3 million.



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

Resident Hunters
28%

\$5.3 million

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



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