This policy replaces:


Staff, Organizations directly affected:

All Wildlife management staff
Regional Director
Hunters
Guide outfitters

Policy statement:

IT IS THE POLICY OF THE MINISTRY:

that, when the Regional Manager has determined that the upper limit of hunter numbers or of the allowable harvest for a game population has been, or may be, reached, hunting privileges are allocated in order to:

A) maintain the resource to meet management objectives; and

B) prevent or reduce causes for conflict between hunter residency groups such that:

1) residents are given first priority

2) non-residents and non-resident aliens are given second priority;

3) as a general provision non-residents are given a higher priority than non-resident aliens through having their basic hunting licence costs the same as for residents and through having a more liberal option of being accompanied by a resident while hunting under permit; and

4) changes of allocation between residents, non-residents and non-resident aliens are gradual and reflect wildlife population status and past use.
Definitions:

"Allowable harvest" - means the number of animals that can be removed each year by man from a herd or population which will be replenished through that population's natural production to meet management objectives.

"Hunter Residency Group" - means either residents, non-residents or non-resident aliens.

"Resident" - means a person who makes his home in the province and has been present in the province for 6 months in the 12 months immediately before making an application under the Wildlife Act or doing another thing relevant to the operation of that Wildlife Act.

"Non-Resident" - means a person who is not a resident of B.C., but who
a) is a Canadian Citizen, or
b) makes his or her home and is ordinarily present in Canada and who has resided in Canada for the 12 month period immediately before an application under the Wildlife Act or its regulations or the doing of another thing relevant to the operation of the Wildlife Act.

"Non-Resident Alien" - means a person who is neither a resident nor a non-resident.

"Regional Manager" - means a Regional Fish and Wildlife manager, Ministry of Environment.

Procedure Manual Cross-Reference:

Volume 4 Section 7
Subsection 01.02.1 Allocation of hunting privileges
Allocation of Hunting Privileges

Province of
British Columbia
Ministry of
Environment

Cross-References:

Policy Manual Volume 4 Section 7
Subsections 01.01 Allowable Harvest
01.02 Open Seasons
01.04 Permit Allocation - Non-resident hunting
01.05 Quota Allocation - Guided Hunting
01.06 Limited Entry Hunting
Wildlife Act (1982), Sections 20, 60, 71, 110 and 111

Reasons for Policy:

1. To state clearly the position of the Ministry on the allocation of hunting privileges in B.C.

2. To ensure the harvest of the wildlife resources of the province falls within the limits necessary to meet management objectives.

3. To provide Ministry personnel with guidelines that allow equitable and uniform allocation of hunting privileges to meet stated management objectives.

4. To maintain the opportunity for non-residents (Canadian and Aliens) to enjoy a hunting experience in British Columbia.

5. To support the economic viability of the guiding industry where consistent with the Wildlife Act and Ministry Wildlife Management objectives, policies and procedures.

NAME
D.R. Halladay

POSITION
Dep. Director

Wildlife

NAME
B.E. Marr

POSITION
Deputy Minister

DATE EFFECTIVE
Sept. 30, 1985

REVISION NO.
This Procedure Replaces:

Previous procedure to "Allocation of Hunting Privileges" policy February 29, 1980.

Staff, Organizations Directly Affected:

All Fish and Wildlife Management Staff
Regional Directors
Sportsmen
Guide Outfitters

Policy Cross-Reference:

Volume 4 Section 7
Subsections 01.01 Allowable Harvest
01.02 Open Seasons
01.03 Allocation of Hunting Opportunities
01.04 Permit Allocation - non-resident hunting
01.05 Quota Allocation - guided hunting
01.06 Limited Entry Hunting

Other Cross-References:

Wildlife Act S.B.C., 1982,
Sections 1, 2, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 25, 26, 41, 110 and 111

Purpose:

1. To set down the process and methods of allocating hunting opportunities for wildlife in B.C. where it has become necessary to limit the number of animals taken by hunters or to limit the number of hunters.

Definitions:

"Non-resident" - means a person who is not a resident.

"Regional Manager" - means the Regional Fish and Wildlife Manager, Ministry of Environment.
Definitions cont'd:

"Regional Wildlife Section Head" - means the Regional Wildlife Section Head, Ministry of Environment.

"Resident" - means a person who makes his home in the province and has resided in the Province for 6 months in the 12 months immediately before making an application under the Wildlife Act or doing another thing relevant to the operation of the Act.

Procedure:

1. Preamble:

   These Procedures apply to those situations where the Regional Manager has set limits for the number of animals to be killed by hunters or the number of hunters to hunt in an area.

2. Allocation of Hunting Rights

   2.1 Harvest allocations are determined on a regional basis by the Regional Manager.

   2.2 The Regional Manager sets the allocation for each residency group following consultation with representatives of resident hunters and guide outfitters.

   2.3 Where special circumstances are determined to exist as a result of negotiations by the Regional Manager or his delegate and representatives of resident hunters and guide outfitters, the Regional Manager may issue or deny non-resident harvest allocations for specific local populations or geographic areas in consultation with these groups.

   2.4 Within each Ministry administrative region the balance of the annual allowable harvest for a game population in excess of the resident harvest is allocated to non-residents with minimum non-resident allocations determined by the regional manager notwithstanding the level of resident demand.

   2.5 There is to be no more than a 20% change (increase or decrease) in the allocation to the smallest hunter residency group from one year to the following, unless a greater change is necessary to meet management objectives for a wildlife population, and then larger changes to allocations are applied to all residency groups proportionally.
2. Allocation of Hunting Privileges cont'd

2.6 Consistent with provisions of subsection 2-5, where an increase in resident harvest causes the allowable harvest of a game population within a management unit or other geographic area to be exceeded, the non-resident allocation is reduced at a rate not to exceed 20% annually of the former non-resident allocation in the management unit or the other geographic area.

2.7 Where the non-resident harvest is 30% or less of the allowable harvest and resident harvest is increasing, limitations are applied to residents and non-residents to reduce the rate of increase in the resident harvest and the decrease in non-resident harvest equally and within the limits set out in sub-sections 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 above.

2.8 The Regional Manager determines the annual allocation of big game harvest opportunities for a three (3) year period unless a shorter time period is required to meet management objectives and following consultation with representatives of resident hunters and guide outfitters.

2.9 The allocation of harvest to non-residents will be provided by quota as a condition of a guide licence (Wildlife Act, section 60; see Quota Allocation - Guided Hunting, policy no. 4, 7, 01.05 and procedure 01.05.1) or permit (see permit allocation policy, non-resident hunting number 4, 7, 01.04; procedure 01.04.1).

2.10 Adjustments to allocations will be made to the nearest whole animal, i.e., 0.5 to 0.9 is the next greater number and 0.1 to 0.4 is the next lower number.
3. Recommendation and Approval:

3.1 The Regional Wildlife Section Head provides factual information to representatives of resident hunters and guide outfitters concerning the allocation of hunting opportunities, in a manner directed by the Regional Manager and including, but not limited to, the following:
- management objectives for the wildlife population(s);
- population estimates;
- annual harvest by each residency group over the previous 5 years (where available);
- projected harvests by each residency group.

3.2 The Regional Wildlife Section Head recommends to the Regional Manager allocations for hunting opportunities following consultation with representatives of resident hunters and guide outfitters.

3.3 The Regional Manager determines the allocation of hunting opportunities within his region.