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SUBJECT					
Harvest Allocation					

Ministry of Environment

This Policy Replaces:

Previous policy "Harvest Allocation", January 1, 2007.

Staff, Organizations Directly Affected:

Wildlife Management Staff Regional Managers Director Resident Hunters Guide Outfitters

POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the Ministry:

That, when a regional manager has determined that a big game species, population, or animal class within the region that he or she manages is a category A species, the harvest is allocated in order to prevent or reduce causes for conflict between hunter groups. When allocating category A species:

- (a) resident hunters are given higher priority for harvest than guided hunters;
- (b) changes of allocation share between resident hunters and guided hunters are gradual, reflect relative importance and utilization, and will only occur after unnecessary barriers to achievement of harvest have been addressed.

Definitions:

"allocation" – means the division of the annual allowable harvest remaining after the legal rights of First Nations have been recognized and provided for, between resident hunters and guided hunters.

"animal class" – means a sub-group of a population or species sharing a similar characteristic such as sex, age, or antler configuration.

"annual allowable harvest" (AAH) – means the optimum number of animals that can be harvested annually by hunters from a herd or population which will be replenished through the population's natural reproduction to meet management objectives.

"big game" – means big game as defined in the *Wildlife Act*, RSBC 1996 c.488.

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Fish & Wildlife Branch	Environmental Stewardship Division					
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"category A species" – means a big game species, population, or class for which guided hunters' harvest is limited by quota in any portion of a region.

"**guided hunter**" – means a hunter guided by a licenced guide outfitter, excluding resident clients in possession of a limited entry hunting authorization and resident clients hunting open season species.

"hunter group" - means resident hunters or guided hunters.

POLICY

MANUAL

"regional manager" – means regional manager as defined in the Wildlife Act, RSBC 1996 c.488.

"relative importance" – means relative importance as defined in Step 2 of the Harvest Allocation Procedure (4-7-01.03.1).

"**resident hunter**" – means a hunter who is a resident as defined in the *Wildlife Act,* RSBC 1996 c.488, with the exception of a resident who hires the services of a guide outfitter to hunt in a season for which the resident would otherwise require but does not have a limited entry hunting authorization.

"utilization" – means utilization as defined in Step 3 of the Harvest Allocation Procedure (4-7-01.03.1).

Procedure Manual Cross-Reference:

Ministry Procedure Manual, Volume 4, Section 7 Subsections:

- 01.03.1 Harvest Allocation
- 01.05.1 Quota
- 01.05.2 Administrative Guidelines
- 01.06.1 Limited Entry Hunting

Other Cross-References:

Ministry Policy Manual, Volume 4, Section 7 Subsections:

- 01.01 Allowable Harvest
- 01.05 Quota Allocation Guided Hunting
- 01.06 Limited Entry Hunting
- 01.10 Resident Hunter Priority
- 01.11 Commercial Hunting Interests
- 01.12 Allocation of Previously Unopened Hunts
- 01.13 Under-Harvest of Allocated Share

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