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Harvest Allocation			

This Policy Replaces:

- Previous policy 4-7-01.03 – Harvest Allocation (2007)
- Previous policy 4-7-01.13 – Under-Harvest of Allocated Share (2007)

Staff and Organizations Affected:

- Director of Wildlife
- Regional Managers
- Wildlife Management Staff
- Conservation Officers
- Resident Hunters
- Guide Outfitters

Reasons for this Policy:

The Category A hunt designation is used to provide guidance on the management of harvest opportunities for some hunts where the combined resident hunter and guided hunter demand for harvest exceeds the desired annual allowable harvest. This is often associated with the use of quota to regulate guided harvest and/or the use of the Limited Entry Hunt Regulation or animal class (e.g. horn curl) restrictions to regulate resident harvest.

This policy provides clarity on the allocation splits and reflects the Province’s preferred approach regarding allocation splits announced in 2015 for existing Category A hunts. This policy will also help standardize the approach to implementing First Nations accommodation measures when they are applied against licenced, allocated species harvest.

POLICY

When determining harvest allocations and how allocation should be apportioned between resident and guided hunters, it is the policy of the Ministry that:

1. The Harvest Allocation Policy applies to all hunts which are identified as Category A hunts in the Harvest Allocation Procedure (4-7-01.03.1);
2. The Harvest Allocation Policy applies to the Population Management Units for Category A hunts which have a harvestable surplus based on an assessment of population objectives, population status, conservations concerns, and First Nations Harvest.
3. For Category A hunts, the harvest allocation calculations applied to the harvestable surplus for licenced, resident hunters and guided hunters are determined by clearly set, stable and predictable allocation splits which are outlined in Table A below and the Harvest Allocation Procedure (4-7-01.03.1);

PREPARED BY		AUTHORIZATION	
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			DATE EFFECTIVE
			2019/01/30



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4. Resident hunters are given a higher priority for allocation, through higher apportionment of the split, for harvest than guided hunters;
5. Regulation or licence conditions should not be implemented that unnecessarily restrict or impede the ability of a hunter group to achieve their harvest allocation;
6. Potentially affected persons or organizations must be consulted for any proposal to change the allocation splits as set out in Table A. below including the invitation to comment from the responsible minister.
7. Allocation splits for resident hunters and guided hunters are applied after the First Nations harvest has been accounted for, and therefore any accommodation measures must relate to other impacts to affected First Nations, not harvest calculation or hunting activity; and,
8. Any First Nations' accommodation measures which place restrictions on licenced hunters (for example, access closures or hunt closures) should apply equally to all licenced hunters, whether resident or guided.

TABLE A

REGION	SPECIES HUNT	RESIDENT HUNTER % SPLIT	GUIDED HUNTER % SPLIT
1	Bull Elk	85	15
1	Either Sex Elk	85	15
2	Bull Elk	80	20
3	Mountain Goat	65	35
3	Moose	85	15
3	Big Horn Sheep	70	30
4	Big Horn Sheep	60	40
4	Mountain Goat	65	35
4	Bull Moose	80	20
5	Moose	75	25
5	Bull Caribou	75	25
5	Mountain Goat	65	35
6 North	Thin Horn Sheep	60	40
6 South	Moose	75	25
6 North	Moose	75	25
6 South	Mountain Goat	65	35
6 North	Mountain Goat	65	35
6 North	Caribou	75	25
7 A	Bull Moose	77	23
7 B	Mountain Goat	65	35
7 B	Antlerless Elk	98	2
7 B	Bison	82	18
8	Bull Moose	80	20
8	Big Horn Sheep	70	30
8	Mountain Goat	65	35



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Definitions:

All definitions are consistent with definitions in the *Wildlife Act, RSBC 1996 c.488*. except as noted below.

"accommodation measure" – means the action taken, after discussion with a First Nation, to avoid or mitigate potential impacts on a claimed or proven Aboriginal right or interests linked to the impact of a claimed or proven right and can include measures to promote broader interests of a First Nation.

"allocation" — means the division between resident hunters and guided hunters of the remaining annual allowable harvest after First Nations' harvest has been provided for.

"allocation splits" - means the resident hunter percentage (e.g. 70%) and the guided hunter percentage (e.g. 30%) and that are applied to a hunt's annual allowable harvest in order to generate the harvest allocations for the two hunter groups.

"annual allowable harvest" — means the optimum or desired number of an animal class that can be removed each year by licenced resident, non-resident, and non-resident alien hunters from a management area.

"Category A hunts" — means a hunt that is identified in Table A of this policy.

"First Nations' harvest" – means the estimated harvest of a species by First Nations for food, social or ceremonial purposes, through the exercise of aboriginal or treaty rights (i.e. is not regulated under the *Wildlife Act, RSBC 1996 c.488*).

"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.

"harvest allocation" — means the number of animals from a Category A hunt that may be harvested by a hunter group.

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

"hunt" – for the purposes of this policy, means an animal class/area combination that is managed as a discrete entity through a regulation under the *Wildlife Act, RSBC 1996 c.488*.

"limited entry hunting authorization" – as defined in the *Wildlife Act RSBC 1996 c.488*, means an authorization issued under Section 16.

"non-resident" – means a hunter who is a non-resident as defined in the *Wildlife Act, RSBC 1996 c.488*.

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“non-resident alien” – means a hunter who is a non-resident alien as defined in the *Wildlife Act*, RSBC 1996 c.488.

“population management unit” – means the spatial scale at which a given big game population will be managed for hunting. This will normally be the geographic area that represents the year-round range of a big game population, while keeping interchange with other populations to a minimum.”

"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.

Policy Manual Cross-References:

Ministry Policy Manual, Volume 4, Section 7

Subsection:

- 01.01 Allowable Harvest
- 01.05 Quota Allocation – Guided Hunting
- 01.06 Limited Entry Hunting
- 01.07 Game Harvest Management
- 01.10 Resident Hunter Priority
- 01.11 Commercial Hunting Interests

Procedure Manual Cross-References:

Ministry Procedure Manual, Volume 4, Section 7

Subsection:

- 01.01.1 Allowable Harvest
- 01.03.1 Harvest Allocation
- 01.05.1 Quota
- 01.05.2 Administrative Guidelines
- 01.06.1 Limited Entry Hunting
- 01.07.1 Big Game Harvest Management
- 01.07.2 Southern Interior Mule Deer Harvest Management
- 01.07.3 Moose Harvest Management
- 01.07.4 Mountain Goat Harvest Management
- 01.07.5 Big Horn Sheep Harvest Management
- 04.04 Grizzly Bear Harvest Management

Other Cross-References:

Limited Entry Hunting Regulation, BC Reg 134/93

The *Wildlife Act*, RSBC 1996 c.488

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