Ministry of Environment

This Policy Replaces:

Staff, Organizations Directly Affected:
Wildlife Management Staff
Regional Managers
Director
Guide Outfitters

POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the Ministry:

That guide outfitters’ commercial interests in the harvest of big game species will be addressed by:
(1) requiring non-resident hunters to hire a guide outfitter to hunt big game in the province, except when permits to accompany have been issued;
(2) providing guided hunters with predictable, fair shares of the allocations of category A species in certificated areas;
(3) supporting the viability of the guide outfitting industry by committing to:
   a. the timely application of decision making processes regarding the transfer and disposition of guide territories;
   b. the timely review of the status of uncertificated areas;
   c. creating and maintaining a regulatory framework that maximizes guided hunters’ success, enjoyment, and participation;
   d. the maintenance of exclusive guided hunting rights for guide outfitters; and
(4) removing unnecessary barriers to achievement of allocation prior to reducing allocation.

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.

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

“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.

“certificated area” – means an area of the province where a guide outfitter certificate has been issued.
“guided hunter” – means a hunter guided by a licensed guide outfitter, excluding resident clients in possession of a limited entry hunting authorization and resident clients hunting open season species.

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

“uncertificated area” – means an area of the province where no guide outfitter certificate has been issued.

**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

**Other Cross-References:**
Ministry Policy Manual
Volume 4, Section 1, Subsection 01.01 Guiding Activities
Volume 4, Section 7, Subsections:
— 01.02 Open Seasons
— 01.03 Harvest Allocation
— 01.05 Quota Allocation – Guided Hunting