HUNTING POLICY

• 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.
  • (Ministry of the Environment, 2007, p.1)

CURRENT SITUATION

“Few residents are actually in favour of trophy hunting, even in the rural areas.” According to a 2015 online survey conducted by Insights West, ninety one percent of British Columbian do not support sport hunting and eighty one percent are opposed to killing animals for their fur. (Canseco, M, 2015)

WHY IS IT BEING CONDUCTED THIS WAY?

The current policy is being conducted this way “to prevent or reduce causes for conflict between hunter groups” (Minister of the Environment, 2017, p.1). “Large populations of [grizzly bears] in Russia, Japan, Canada, Alaska, and parts of eastern and northern Europe are legally hunted, and thus managed as a game animal” (McLellan, Proctor, Huber & Michel, 2017). Hunting regulations design issued to ensure a sustainable harvest of bears, by using a lottery for a limited number of permits (a quota system) and through a restricted season length (McLellan, Proctor, Huber & Michel, 2017).

RECOMMENDATIONS

• Classify Grizzly Bears as a threatened species
• Provide conservation and protected areas for captive and wild bears
• Ban exportation of whole or any parts of all bears

CONCLUSION

According to the Center for Responsible Travel (CREST) commercial bear viewing companies generated 12 times more ($15.1 million) in visitor spending, attracts more visitors overall and provide 11 times more in direct employment opportunities and returns to the government than bear hunting (CREST, 2014, p.12.; Talmazan, 2015).

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