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## A Study of the Potential Economic, Social, and Other Impacts of Expanding Sunday Hunting in Pennsylvania

Conducted Pursuant to HR 927 of 2004

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## **Report Summary**

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The prohibition on Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania has been in effect since 1873. Since that time, only three exceptions have been granted--for crows, foxes, and coyotes. The restriction also does not apply to hunting that occurs on noncommercial regulated hunting grounds holding a valid permit. Because the ban was created by statute, expanded Sunday hunting would require legislative action.

Sunday hunting is a topic that is receiving an increased level of public debate and legislative attention. For example, in 1999, the House Game and Fisheries Committee held four public hearings on the Sunday hunting question. Also in 1999, a bill was introduced that would have allowed deer hunting during the two Sundays in the general November-December season. Another bill, introduced in 2003, would have permitted Sunday hunting for deer only in the special regulation areas near Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and waterfowl hunting statewide.

Legislation drafted in 2004 approached the issue by proposing that all Sunday hunting provisions be removed from the state law and that the Game Commission be given the authority to decide if, when, and where Sunday hunting would be permitted. As of June 2005, three bills related to Sunday hunting were pending in the Legislature. One would repeal the provision prohibiting Sunday hunting; another would amend the Sunday hunting prohibition to allow Sunday hunting on commercial hunting grounds; and the third would permit Sunday hunting of wood chucks with the written permission of the landowner or lessee.

House Resolution 2004-927 directed the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of the "social, economic, philosophical and practical impact of providing expanded hunting opportunities, including hunting on Sunday," in Pennsylvania. The LB&FC contracted with Southwick Associates, Inc., a company specializing in fish and wildlife economics, to conduct economic impact assessments and survey portions of the study. LB&FC staff conducted other related surveys and examined Sunday hunting practices in other states.

## **Survey Results**

### **Sunday Hunting Opinions and Preferences**

Surveys were sent to three groups: licensed hunters, landowners, and operators of regulated commercial hunting grounds. Positions and comments on Sunday hunting were also solicited from hunting/sportsmen organizations, religious

organizations, hiking and outdoors clubs, and various other organizations with an interest in Sunday hunting. Key responses follow:

**Licensed Hunters** (1,000 surveys sent, 486 useable responses, 49 percent response rate)

<b>Do You Support Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting?</b>			
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
All Respondents .....	53%	43%	5%
Residents .....	50	45	5
Non-Residents.....	78	20	3

Of those that support expanded Sunday hunting, most (85 percent) resident hunters chose deer as their top choice for the species that should be allowed to be hunted on Sunday. The typical hunter in favor of Sunday hunting reported they anticipated they would hunt an additional 7 days a year if Sunday hunting was allowed during all seasons.

For resident hunters that support some form of Sunday hunting, allowing Sunday hunting during all seasons was the most popular option, with 77 percent expressing some form of support (“strongly support” plus “slightly support”). Allowing Sunday hunting during the two-week general deer season was the next most popular option, with 64 percent support.

Hunters who were opposed to expanded Sunday hunting most often cited “Sunday is a day of rest/religious reasons” as the reason for their opposition. Other reasons cited by at least half of the hunters opposed to Sunday hunting were: “Wildlife needs a day free from hunting,” “Landowners/farmers need one day without hunters on their land,” “No hunting on Sunday is a long-time tradition that doesn’t need changed,” and “Landowners might post their land prohibiting all types of hunting.”

**Commercial Regulated Hunting Grounds** (113 surveys sent, 83 useable responses, 73 percent response rate)

Seventy-five percent of the commercial hunting ground operators responding to our survey expressed support for at least some form of expanded Sunday hunting; 25 percent were against expanded Sunday hunting.

Commercial hunting ground operators that were against expanded Sunday hunting most often cited “Sunday hunting would have a negative effect on my relationship with neighbors” as the reason for their opposition.

**Landowners** (1,000 surveys sent, 448 useable responses, 45 percent response rate)

As shown below, landowners were overwhelmingly opposed to expanded Sunday hunting:

<b>Allow Sunday Hunting on Every Sunday of Every Season</b>	
Strongly Oppose .....	69%
Oppose .....	13
Neutral .....	4
Support .....	7
Strongly Support .....	7

<b>Allow Sunday Hunting Only During the Two Sundays of General Deer Season</b>	
Strongly Oppose .....	67%
Oppose .....	14
Neutral .....	7
Support .....	8
Strongly Support .....	5

The two most common concerns landowners cited regarding expanded Sunday hunting were: “privacy (do not want to be disturbed on Sunday),” cited by 77 percent of respondents and “religious/moral considerations,” cited by 61 percent of respondents.

If expanded Sunday hunting were enacted:

- 8 percent said they would allow the public to hunt on their land on most Sundays
- 4 percent stated they would allow the public to hunt on their land on a few Sundays
- 34 percent said they would not allow the public to hunt on their land on any Sundays
- 21 percent said they would post “No Sunday Hunting” signs on their land
- 16 percent stated they would remove their land for the PA Game Commission’s public access programs
- 18 percent stated they would not allow any hunting on any days (i.e., close their land to all public hunting)

When landowners were asked what steps the Legislature or Pennsylvania Game Commission could take to alleviate their concerns about expanded Sunday hunting,

- 15 percent stated that the State Legislature should require written permission of landowners for individuals to hunt on private lands on Sundays
- 15 would like to see the General Assembly increase fines for trespassing on private lands
- 15 percent believe the State Legislature should grant PGC law enforcement officers increased ability to enforce trespass laws
- 18 percent stated that they would like to be provided with “No Sunday Hunting” signs
- 7 percent indicated that they believe the State Legislature should limit Sunday hunting to a restricted number of days and for a select species or two
- 30 percent indicated that there is nothing the General Assembly could do to alleviate their concerns regarding Sunday hunting

***Other Interested Organizations and Stakeholder Groups.*** (57 surveys sent, 28 useable responses, 49 percent return rate)

Of the 28 organizations that replied:

- 11 described themselves as hunting/sportsmen organizations
- 10 described themselves as nature/outdoor recreation groups
- Three described themselves as both hunting/sportsmen related and nature/outdoor recreation related
- One described itself as involved with agritourism
- One described itself as a general farm organization
- One stated that they were an ecumenical organization
- One described itself as a state trade association

Because the responding organizations represent such varied interests, care should be taken in interpreting the aggregated results. Nevertheless, of the 28 organizations:

- 13 (46 percent) said that they support Sunday hunting
- 11 (39 percent) said that they do not support Sunday hunting
- 4 (14 percent) stated that they did not have or were not sure of their organization’s position on Sunday hunting

When organizations that were opposed to expanded Sunday hunting were asked to cite the reasons for their opposition,

- 6 (15 percent) stated that Sunday is a day of rest/religious reasons
- 5 (13 percent) stated that wildlife needs a day free from hunting
- 9 (23 percent) stated that landowners/farmers need one day without hunters on their land
- 4 (10 percent) stated that no hunting on Sunday is a long time tradition that does not need to be changed
- 7 (18 percent) stated that they thought landowners might post their land prohibiting all types of hunting
- 9 (23 percent) said that Sunday hunting may discourage/limit the use of lands for nonhunting recreational purposes

In addition to these surveys, we also solicited the positions of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation. As expressed by the Game Commission's Executive Director, the PGC does not oppose legislation to legalize Sunday hunting but the split on the issue among Game Commissioners reflects the current difference of opinion held by many in the Legislature and the public-at-large. The Executive Director stated that this is an issue that must be decided by the Legislature, landowners, hunters, and citizens of the Commonwealth. The Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation adopted a resolution in support of Sunday hunting in May 2004.

### Placement of Authority for Sunday Hunting Decisions

Each surveyed group was asked which governmental body they thought should have the ability to determine whether expanded Sunday hunting should be allowed in Pennsylvania. As the table below shows, the answers varied by group.

<b>Who Should Have the Ability to Expand Sunday Hunting?</b>			
	<u>PA Game Commission</u>	<u>Legislature</u>	<u>Other/ Don't Know</u>
Licensed hunters .....	50%	18%	32%
Commercial hunting grounds .....	49	26	26
Landowners .....	35	37	28
Other organizations .....	33	37	30

Hunters who support expanded Sunday hunting are more inclined to give the decision to the Game Commission. Hunters who report they are against expanded Sunday hunting also favor the Game Commission as the deciding body, but by a smaller margin.

## Potential Impacts of Sunday Hunting Alternatives

### Potential Economic Impacts

The report estimates the economic impacts for two major scenarios: open all seasons to Sunday hunting and opening only the two Sundays of general deer season. The estimates for Sunday hunting during all seasons were based on survey responses in which hunters reported their hunting activity would increase on average 4.7 days each if Sunday hunting was open for all seasons. The estimates assume that hunters would generate the same amount of economic activity per day for each additional Sunday of hunting as they do for other days. The average amount of economic activity generated per day for hunting (\$169.57) was developed from previous work done for the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, adjusted for increases in inflation.

As shown below, the estimated additional economic activity if Sunday hunting was expanded for all seasons is \$629 million, resulting in 5,300 new jobs (full and part-time) plus \$18 million in increased state tax revenues. The total estimated economic impact of allowing expanded Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays during the two-week general deer season is \$185 million, resulting in 1,627 new jobs (full and part-time) and \$5.4 million in additional state tax revenue.

#### Estimated Economic Impacts of Expanding Sunday Hunting in Pennsylvania (Based on 2003 Economic Impact Data)

		Number of Hunting Days	Retail Sales	Total Multiplier Activity	Earnings	Jobs	Sales Tax Revenues	State Income Tax Revenues
<b>A. Current Impacts (without Sunday hunting):</b>								
All Hunting:	Total:	13,725,912	\$1,191,754,354	\$2,327,501,264	\$533,388,227	19,644	\$52,035,629	\$14,934,870
	Per Day:	-	\$86.83	\$169.57	\$38.86	0.00143	\$3.79	\$1.09
Deer Hunting: <sup>a</sup>	Total:	7,291,180	\$512,435,564	\$1,009,034,534	\$238,280,642	8,898	\$22,832,165	\$6,671,858
	Per Day:	-	\$70.28	\$138.39	\$32.68	0.00122	\$3.13	\$0.92
<b>B. If Sunday Was Permitted:</b>								
All Hunting:	Total:	17,433,214	\$1,513,641,401	\$2,956,148,019	\$677,453,789	24,949	\$66,090,199	\$18,968,706
	Per Day:	-	\$86.83	\$169.57	\$38.86	0.00143	\$3.79	\$1.09
Deer Hunting: <sup>b</sup>	Total:	8,624,404	\$606,136,663	\$1,193,540,941	\$281,851,307	10,525	\$27,007,127	\$7,891,837
	Per Day:	-	\$70.28	\$138.39	\$32.68	0.00122	\$3.13	\$0.92
<b>C. Net Increase from Sunday Hunting:</b>								
All Hunting:	Total:	3,707,302	\$321,887,047	\$628,646,755	\$144,065,562	5,306	\$14,054,570	\$4,033,836
	%:	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%
Deer Hunting: <sup>b</sup>	Total:	1,333,224	\$93,701,099	\$184,506,407	\$43,570,664	1,627	\$4,174,962	\$1,219,979
	% growth	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%

<sup>a</sup> Represents current economic impacts from all deer hunting in all seasons (firearm, muzzleloading, bow-hunting).

<sup>b</sup> Represents estimated economic impacts from the addition of two days of Sunday hunting during the general deer season.



## Religious, Social, and Practical Impacts

In addition to the potential economic consequences, any considerations of expanded Sunday hunting must take into account an array of potential religious, social, and practical implications. Based on testimony provided at prior Sunday hunting hearings and on surveys conducted during this study, it is clear that many persons have concerns about Sunday hunting that go well beyond the issue of economics. These concerns and considerations can be broadly grouped as follows: religious considerations; social considerations; land-use considerations; and considerations related to trespass and disturbing the peace.

**Religious Considerations.** Much of the opposition to Sunday hunting is based on principled arguments regarding the sanctity of the day. The long-standing tradition of prohibiting Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania is a concern of many who oppose it on religious grounds. Many feel that Sunday hunting is antithetical to the tradition of the day as one of restfulness, regardless of religious beliefs. Those who support Sunday hunting, on the other hand, cite the repeal of many of Pennsylvania's "Blue Laws" regulating permissible activities.

**Social Considerations.** Given that many Pennsylvania hunters may have demanding work-related commitments, Sunday may provide an otherwise unavailable opportunity for hunting experiences. Sunday hunting may also provide families that have rigorous work schedules and minimal family time an extra opportunity to hunt, as well as offsetting the loss of other hunting days due to such factors as other recreational pursuits or inclement weather. Much support for Sunday hunting is also upon the perceived positive effect that it could have on recruiting and stimulating hunting interest among youth.

**Land Use Considerations.** A major concern frequently expressed by non-hunters is the impact that Sunday hunting may have on individuals who engage in other recreational activities, such as hiking, bicycling, bird-watching, and nature photography, on Sundays. Many perceive Sunday as a day during which they can be out in the field without being concerned about encountering hunters. They believe allowing Sunday hunting would be a human safety concern and would discourage non-hunting recreational activities. An added related concern involves the competing desire of some private landowners to use their property for personal recreation and hunting on Sundays.

**Considerations Related to Trespass and Disturbing the Peace.** Among landowners, in particular, a common concern is the general disturbance of the peace that could result from an expansion of Sunday hunting. Trespass is frequently cited as a major concern among landowners, as is poor hunter behavior and potential damage to property, livestock, and pets. Many landowners and farmers want to

retain one day a week free from hunters, and some indicated they might react to an expansion of Sunday hunting by prohibiting all hunting on their lands.

**Other Considerations.** In other areas, some persons stated that they believe prohibiting Sunday hunting gives wildlife a respite from hunting pressure, thereby allowing wildlife to return to a normal routine before the next hunting day. Others point out that allowing Sunday hunting would certainly have an impact on wildlife harvest levels and would have to be considered by the Game Commission before any decisions on expanding Sunday hunting opportunities was made.

### **Sunday Hunting in Other States**

Currently, 38 states allow unrestricted Sunday hunting. Pennsylvania is one of nine states that prohibit Sunday hunting for wild game. In addition to Pennsylvania, the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Virginia completely ban Sunday hunting for wild game. North Carolina prohibits Sunday hunting except for certain military installations under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government, and in Alabama, state law prohibits Sunday hunting, but, according to state officials, it is a "blue law" that is not enforced.

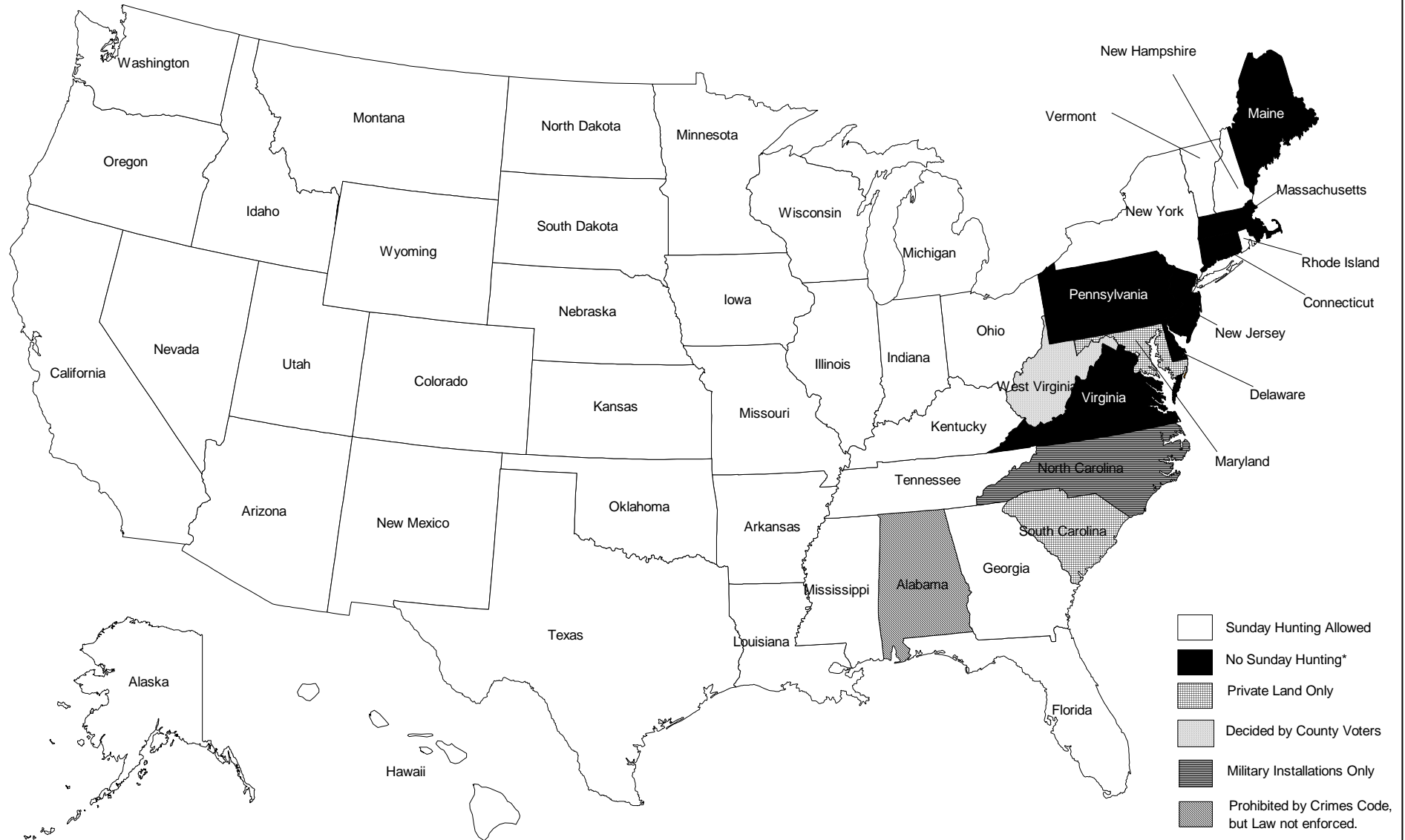
Three states allow limited Sunday hunting, as follows: Maryland allows hunting on private property on two Sundays during deer season; South Carolina allows Sunday hunting on private land only; and West Virginia allows Sunday hunting on private land, but each county can hold a referendum to ban Sunday hunting.

Four states bordering Pennsylvania--Maryland, New York, Ohio, and West Virginia--have recently expanded Sunday hunting. In none of these states does expanded Sunday hunting appear to have caused significant difficulties.

**Maryland:** Prior to 2003, Sunday hunting was prohibited in Maryland. After much support for Sunday hunting from the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, the Maryland Sportsmen's Association, and others, the Legislature introduced a bill permitting Sunday hunting only on private property with written permission from the landowner and only on the first Sunday of the deer bow hunting season in November and the first Sunday of the deer firearms season. Maryland currently permits such Sunday hunting in 12 of its 24 counties.

**New York:** In 1938, Sunday hunting was banned in the Central and Western Regions of the state. (Sunday hunting remained legal for those in the Catskill/Hudson Valley and Adirondacks Regions.) In 1993, the New York Assembly allowed Sunday hunting for a three-year trial period the Central Region of the state. In 1996, the Assembly made Sunday hunting permanent in the Central Region after little opposition during the trial period and further expanded Sunday hunting into the Western Region of the state. This bill also provided for a three year trial period.

## State Regulation of Sunday Hunting



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\*Except that there are some specifically designated exceptions in certain of these states. For example, Sunday hunting for crows, foxes, and coyotes, and Sunday hunting on validly permitted noncommercial-regulated hunting grounds are allowed in Pennsylvania. Also, exceptions are made in some states to permit falconry hunting on Sundays. (See Appendix E.)

In 1999, the Legislature voted to make this bill permanent, and as a result, Sunday hunting is now allowed throughout the state of New York in all designated open hunting areas during all open hunting seasons.

**Ohio:** Prior to 1998, Sunday hunting was permitted only for waterfowl, coyote, and groundhogs in Ohio. In 1998, legislation was enacted to allow Sunday hunting for all legal wildlife game species during their respective open hunting seasons. This law allowed for Sunday hunting on public hunting areas, including the majority of Ohio State Parks, and certain private lands. It also provided for stricter penalties for hunter trespassing.

**West Virginia:** Prior to 2001, Sunday hunting was banned in West Virginia. In 2001, West Virginia enacted legislation permitting Sunday hunting statewide on private lands with written permission from the landowner, with the provision that counties could prohibit it through a countywide vote. As of November 2004, 41 counties have voted to prohibit hunting on Sundays. The remaining 14 counties allow Sunday hunting on private lands during all open hunting seasons.

In other states, recent legislative attempts to authorize some form of Sunday hunting failed in Connecticut, Delaware, and Maine.

# **I. Introduction**

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## **Study Objectives**

Pennsylvania state law prohibits most forms of Sunday hunting. House Resolution 2004-927 calls on the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LB&FC) to examine the potential economic, social and other impacts of expanded Sunday hunting. Specific objectives included:

1. To identify, examine and analyze the potential economic, social, philosophical and practical impacts of removing the ban on Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania addressing, at a minimum, at least two different scenarios:
  - a. The potential impacts of allowing Sunday hunting on all Sundays in all of the various hunting seasons.
  - b. The potential impacts of allowing Sunday hunting only on specifically designated Sundays during specifically designated hunting seasons.
2. To examine and analyze potential impacts of allowing Sunday hunting on the more than 100 commercial regulated hunting grounds which operate across the Commonwealth.
3. To examine and analyze the potential impacts of Sunday hunting on private landowners, including possible remedies for landowners who would exclude their land from Sunday hunting.
4. To compile a written report and make public presentations of the study results to the LB&FC, the House Game and Fisheries Committee and, upon request, to other pertinent standing committees of the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

To help meet the objectives, the Committee contracted with Southwick Associates, Inc., of Fernandina Beach, Florida, to survey resident and non-resident hunters and estimate the various levels of potential economic impacts. Their work was combined in this report with information developed by LB&FC staff from a landowner survey and organization poll and an examination of Sunday hunting provisions in other states.

Although the report presents information on the economic and social impacts of Sunday hunting, it does not contain a recommendation as to whether the General Assembly should amend the Game and Wildlife Code to allow Sunday hunting. We consider this to be a policy decision beyond the purview of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee staff.

## **Methodology**

This section outlines the methodology employed to generate the results presented in this report. Surveys were used to collect the data required for the economic impacts estimates as well as opinions and preferences of hunters, commercial regulated hunting ground operators, landowners and a sample of other organizations with an interest in Sunday hunting. First, the hunter and commercial hunting ground survey methods are presented, followed by the other surveys.

### **Hunter and Commercial Hunting Ground Surveys**

The survey questionnaires were developed with input from Assembly members and key interest groups. Several versions of the questionnaires were drafted and reviewed by LB&FC staff and tested internally by Southwick Associates. Copies of the final questionnaires are presented in Appendix B.

Names and addresses of resident and non-resident hunters were provided by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Only licensed hunters were surveyed. For the licensed hunters survey, the first round of the survey was sent March 10<sup>th</sup> to 1,000 Pennsylvania hunters (880 residents and 120 non-resident hunters), and a second mailing was sent two weeks later (March 24<sup>th</sup>). Additional mailings were not possible due to the tight time frame for the study. By the cut-off date of April 7<sup>th</sup>, 486 usable responses were received, for an overall response rate of 49 percent (50 percent for residents, 35 percent for non-residents, plus 6 surveys that did not identify their state of residence). An additional 93 surveys were either received after the cut-off date or were unusable. The 95 percent confidence interval for the results of the licensed hunter survey is +/-4.4 percent.

Addresses for the commercial regulated lands survey were also obtained from the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The first round was sent on March 10<sup>th</sup> to all 113 commercial regulated hunting lands licensed by the PGC. The second round was sent March 24<sup>th</sup>. Overall, 83 usable responses were received for a response rate of 74 percent. The 95 percent confidence interval for the results of the commercial regulated lands survey is +/-5.6 percent.

Once all survey responses were entered into EXCEL spreadsheets, results were quantified analyzed using SPSS, version 13. Economic impact estimates were developed based on data produced previously by Southwick Associates, Inc. for the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. A detailed description of the economic impact analysis methods are presented in Appendix D.

## **Landowners Survey**

The landowner survey included farmers and other private landowners. On March 14, 2005, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee staff sent questionnaires to 1,000 landowners throughout Pennsylvania. Of this number, 500 were randomly selected from the membership list of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and 500 were randomly selected from those persons who participate in the PA Game Commission's public access programs, which include the Cooperative Farm-Game Program, the Safety Zone Program, and the Forest-Game Program.

As of April 18, 2005, LB&FC staff had received 448 completed surveys, a response rate of 45 percent. In some cases, a respondent did not answer every question, and in other cases, a respondent was free to choose as many options as desired for a particular question. Thus, not every question had 448 responses.

## **Organizations Survey**

On March 22, 2005, LB&FC staff sent surveys to a total of 57 selected hunting, outdoor recreation, religious organizations and others with an interest in the issue of Sunday hunting. Because the organizations were not selected at random and vary greatly in both size and purpose, the reader should be cautious in interpreting the aggregated results; they are presented only to help the reader understand where some organizations stand in regard to expanding Sunday hunting.

As of April 22, 2005, LB&FC staff had received 28 completed surveys, yielding a response rate of 49 percent. In some cases, a respondent did not answer every question, and in other cases, a respondent was free to choose as many options as desired for a particular question. Thus, not every question had 28 responses.

## **Sunday Hunting in Other States**

LB&FC staff researched state statutes and accessed state wildlife agency websites in order to determine Sunday hunting practices in other states. For states bordering Pennsylvania and for states in which Sunday hunting legislation has recently been considered, we contacted state officials and obtained information needed to develop brief case studies which are presented in Chapter IV of the report. The report includes summaries on Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, and West Virginia.

In response to a specific inquiry regarding falconry, we also collected information from other states on their Sunday hunting provisions as they apply to falconry. This information is presented in Appendix E.

## Acknowledgements

This report was possible due to the contributions of many Pennsylvania organizations and residents. In particular, Southwick Associates, Inc., and the LB&FC would like to thank the executive offices of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for their thoughts regarding the potential problems and benefits associated with Sunday hunting; the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau for their information regarding the potential effects Sunday hunting may have on agriculture; and the many hundreds of state residents who took the time to respond to the surveys and information requests that are the basis of the results presented in this study.

## Important Note

*This report was developed by Southwick Associates, Inc., and Legislative Budget and Finance Committee staff. The release of this report should not be construed as an indication that the Committee or its individual members necessarily concur with the report's findings and recommendations.*

*Any questions or comments regarding the contents of this report should be directed to Philip R. Durgin, Executive Director, Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, P.O. Box 8737, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-8737.*



## II. Survey Results

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### A. Licensed Hunters

Questionnaires were sent to 1,000 licensed hunters, 880 of whom were Pennsylvania residents and 120 of whom were non-residents. The return rate was 49 percent (486 useable responses). This section presents the questions as they were asked on the survey, followed by a brief interpretation of the results. The 95 percent confidence interval for the survey is +/-4.4 percent.

#### 1. Are you a resident of Pennsylvania?

90.5% = Yes	8.2% = No	1.2% = no answer
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Overall, 90.5 percent of the survey respondents were Pennsylvania residents. 1.2 percent of the survey respondents did not indicate their residency status.

#### 2. In 2004, did you hunt at least once *in Pennsylvania*?

95.5% = Yes	2.9% = No	1.6% = no answer
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Only 2.9 percent of the licensed hunters in this survey did not hunt last year, indicating the results of the survey speak for active hunters.

#### 3. Please estimate the total number of days you hunted *in Pennsylvania* in 2004.

Residents:	Mean:	18.1
	Median:	12.0
Non-Residents:	Mean:	8.9
	Median:	6.0
All Respondents:	Mean:	17.3
	Median:	11.0

We have two ways of interpreting this information. The median reports the days of hunting by the hunter who was in the "middle of the pack" once all hunters were ranked from the most active (in terms of days) to the least. Using this measure, the typical hunter hunted 11 days last season (12 days for residents and 6 for non-residents). This included all hunting seasons, not just deer. If we look at the average days of hunting, or the "mean days of hunting," the average hunter hunted 17 days a year (18 for residents and 9 for non-residents). This average number is skewed upwards by a small percentage of hunters who hunted a large number of days last season. Specifically, 11.1 percent of the resident hunters reported hunting

over 40 days last season. Both measures – median or average – are valid and can be used at the reader’s discretion. In this study, the median is used when presenting the opinion of the typical hunter, and the average is used when calculating the economic impacts of Sunday hunting when the actions of a few--in this case the expenditures from avid hunters--impact everyone.

**3.1 Of your total days hunted in 2004, how many were on weekends:**

Residents:	mean: 6.7	median: 7.0
Non-Residents:	mean: 2.8	median: 2.0

**Of your total days hunted in 2004, how many were on weekdays:**

Residents:	mean: 11.9	median: 7.0
Non-Residents:	mean: 5.0	median: 5.0

Weekdays are currently the most common time to hunt for Pennsylvania residents, with 57.1 percent of all hunting activity occurring at that time. Recognizing that most hunting in Pennsylvania occurs during the first few days of the general gun season for deer (the first day of deer season is always a Monday), this estimate likely reflects the relatively few number of weekends (Saturdays) available for hunting compared to weekdays. Non-residents are also more likely to hunt during weekdays.

**4. In 2004, please indicate which species you hunted, and estimate the number of days you hunted each:**

Species	Percent of Respondents Who Hunted This Species in 2004:	Average Days Respondents Hunted This Species in 2004:	Average Number of Saturdays These Species Were Hunted in 2004:
Deer	All respondents: 94.8% Residents: 95.4% Non-Residents: 88.9%	All respondents: Mean: 9.58 Median: 6.00 Residents: Mean: 9.83 Median: 7.00 Non-Residents: Mean: 6.23 Median: 4.00	All respondents: Mean: 2.71 Median: 2.00 Residents: Mean: 2.83 Median: 2.00 Non-Residents: Mean: 1.36 Median: 1.00
Turkey	All respondents: 46.9% Residents: 46.9% Non-Residents: 46.7%	All respondents: Mean: 2.37 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: 2.43 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: 1.46 Median: .00	All respondents: Mean: 1.03 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: 1.05 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .74 Median: .00
Bear	All respondents: 16.4% Residents: 17.6% Non-Residents: 4.5%	All respondents: Mean: .46 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: .49 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .0256 Median: 0	All respondents: Mean: .0232 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: .0256 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .00 Median: .00
Migratory Game Birds (ducks, geese, dove, woodcock)	All respondents: 11.6% Residents: 12.1% Non-Residents: 6.7%	All respondents: Mean: .60 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: .61 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .28 Median: .00	All respondents: Mean: .25 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: .25 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .18 Median: .00
Small game (quail, pheasant, grouse, rabbit, squirrel)	All respondents: 44.1% Residents: 45.6% Non-Residents: 28.9%	All respondents: Mean: 2.77 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: 2.82 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: 1.44 Median: .00	All respondents: Mean: 1.18 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: 1.23 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .62 Median: .00
Other game (groundhogs, coyote, crows, etc.)	All respondents: 23.4% Residents: 24.9% Non-Residents: 9.1%	All respondents: Mean: 1.85 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: 1.99 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .33 Median: .00	All respondents: Mean: .74 Median: .00 Residents: Mean: .79 Median: .00 Non-Residents: Mean: .075 Median: .00

Hunters are two times more likely to hunt deer than any other species. Of all species listed in the survey, bear is the least sought. Bear hunting is least likely to occur on Saturdays, while turkey is most likely, closely followed by small game and migratory bird hunting.

**5. In 2004, did you hunt at least once in any other state besides Pennsylvania?**

15.4% = Yes	72.8% = No	11.7% = no answer
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15.4 percent of all hunters in Pennsylvania (resident and non-resident) hunted in another state in 2004, including 11.6 percent of Pennsylvania’s resident hunters. This survey could only contact people who bought a Pennsylvania hunting license. Therefore, the results do not include Pennsylvania residents who hunted in other states in 2004 but not in Pennsylvania. It is not possible to estimate the number of Pennsylvania residents who only hunted out-of-state.

**5.1 If you hunted another state besides Pennsylvania, please complete the short table below.**

<i>(The results in the table below report the responses provided by Pennsylvania residents only.)</i>		
Please List The State(s) Where You Hunted in 2004, Not Including Pennsylvania: <i>(Top 5 States)</i>	% of PA Resident Hunters Who Hunted in This State in 2004	% of 2004 Hunting Days in This State That Were Sundays?
New York.....	2.6%	30.4%
West Virginia .....	2.2	22.2
Maryland (tied) .....	1.4	1.4
Wyoming (tied) .....	1.4	15.4
Colorado.....	1.2	11.9

When hunting out-of-state, Pennsylvania hunters prefer neighboring states versus traveling longer distances. Pennsylvania hunters are more likely to hunt on Sundays in neighboring states than other days of the week. This is shown above where 22 percent to 30 percent of hunting days by PA hunters in New York and West Virginia were Sundays, considering Sunday only represents 14.3 percent of a week (one day out of seven (1/7) = 14.3 percent). A review of Maryland’s hunting regulations indicates Sunday hunting is only allowed on private lands in certain counties.

**5.2 Why did you hunt in another state besides Pennsylvania in 2004? (please check all that apply):**

7.3%	- I live in that state, or I previously lived in that state
34.5	- I had friends/family inviting me to hunt in that state
32.8	- I could hunt on Sunday
53.5	- There were hunting experiences available there not available in Pennsylvania
46.6	- Hunting in another state provided me with additional hunting days when Pennsylvania's seasons were closed.
24.1	- Other reasons not listed above.

For the 15.4 percent of licensed Pennsylvania hunters who reported hunting in other states, the primary reason was to experience hunting opportunities not available in Pennsylvania. Being able to hunt on Sundays was cited by nearly one third of these hunters.

**5.3 If Sunday hunting was expanded in Pennsylvania for 2005, do you think your hunting activities in other states would increase or decrease next year?**

	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Stay the Same</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
All Respondents.....	8.7%	21.7%	55.8%	13.8%
Residents.....	9.0	18.9	55.0	17.1
Non-Residents.....	7.7	30.8	61.5	0

When asked if their levels of out-of-state hunting would change if Sunday hunting was allowed, just over half report they expected no change. Nearly a fifth of Pennsylvania hunters report they would not hunt as much in other states if they could hunt in-state on Sundays. Over 30 percent of non-residents indicate their hunting activities in other states would drop, possibly indicating their hunting activities in Pennsylvania might increase as a result.

**6. The State legislature is studying the issue of expanding Sunday hunting.**

**Please provide us your opinion about the following:**

**6.1 Do you support some form of expanded Sunday hunting?**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
All Respondents.....	52.6%	42.7%	4.6%
Residents.....	50.2	45.1	4.7
Non-Residents.....	77.5	20.0	2.5

Half of the surveyed Pennsylvania resident hunters slightly favor expanded Sunday hunting. Please note that respondents were asked this question again (question #8) after they had answered questions that discussed options for limited Sunday hunting. These options were not discussed prior to asking the question above.

**6.2 If Sunday hunting is only permitted for specific seasons or species, please rank which seasons you would like to see Sunday hunting allowed:**

<i>All Residents Who Responded to the Survey:</i>					
	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Turkey</u>	<u>Bear</u>	<u>Migratory Birds</u>	<u>Small Game</u>
<u>Ranking:</u>					
1st	67.6%	15.2%	15.7%	17.6%	25.0%
2nd	4.5	27.4	8.0	9.6	17.6
3rd	2.1	21.5	12.0	9.3	18.9
4th	3.5	12.0	16.8	17.6	11.4
5th	11.2	3.5	23.4	21.3	8.0
<i>All Residents Who Responded in Favor of Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting:</i>					
	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Turkey</u>	<u>Bear</u>	<u>Migratory Birds</u>	<u>Small Game</u>
<u>Ranking:</u>					
1st	84.7%	10.2%	7.9%	6.5%	15.3%
2nd	6.5	40.0	10.2	7.9	19.1
3rd	2.3	23.7	15.3	12.1	26.0
4 <sup>th</sup>	2.3	11.6	19.1	24.2	19.1
5 <sup>th</sup>	2.8	3.3	31.2	30.2	8.4
<i>All Residents Who Responded as Against Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting:</i>					
<i>(Note: about 1/3 of these respondents did not rank a preferred season)</i>					
	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Turkey</u>	<u>Bear</u>	<u>Migratory Birds</u>	<u>Small Game</u>
<u>Ranking:</u>					
1 <sup>st</sup>	52.3%	31.5%	36.9%	45.9%	52.3%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.7	9.0	7.2	16.2	17.1
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1.8	23.4	9.9	5.4	9.9
4 <sup>th</sup>	6.3	16.2	17.1	8.1	1.8
5 <sup>th</sup>	30.6	5.4	13.5	11.7	9.0
<i>All Non-Residents Who Responded in Favor of Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting:</i>					
	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Turkey</u>	<u>Bear</u>	<u>Migratory Birds</u>	<u>Small Game</u>
<u>Ranking:</u>					
1 <sup>st</sup>	83.9%	6.5%	3.2%	6.5%	9.7%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6.5	48.4	9.7	0.0	22.6
3 <sup>rd</sup>	0.0	22.6	29.0	16.1	19.4
4 <sup>th</sup>	3.2	12.9	12.9	25.8	29.0
5 <sup>th</sup>	6.5	0.0	32.3	35.5	6.5

Deer is certainly the top choice for the species or season which should allow Sunday hunting. Among resident hunters who favor Sunday hunting, 85 percent rated deer as their number one choice, and small game was second with a 15

percent rating. Please note that some respondents ranked more than one season as their top choice. Therefore, the sum of the rows in the tables above is greater than 100 percent.

Respondents who reported “Don’t know” in regards to their opinion about supporting some form of expanded Sunday hunting were left out of the analysis above.

**6.3 Thinking about the total days you hunted in 2004 (as reported in question #3), please estimate how many more Sundays, if any, you would hunt in Pennsylvania next year if Sunday hunting were allowed for *all* hunting seasons:**

All Residents:		
Mean:		4.8
Median:		2.0
Residents in Support of Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting		
Mean:		8.7
Median:		7.0
Residents Not Supporting Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting		
Mean:		0.6
Median:		0
Non-Residents in Support of Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting		
Mean:		4.3
Median:		3.0
All Pennsylvania Hunters, Resident and Non-Residents		
Mean:		4.7
Median:		2.5

According to the state hunting digest, the 2004 hunting season was open in some form from October 2<sup>nd</sup> through February 19<sup>th</sup>, and then from April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 28<sup>th</sup> for Spring turkey hunting. This period encompasses 25 Sundays. Therefore, the eight survey responses to question 6.3 that were in excess of 25 were switched to 25.

The question above asked how much each respondent’s hunting activities would increase next year if ALL hunting seasons were open on Sundays. The typical hunter in favor of Sunday hunting estimated that they would hunt an additional 7 days a year if all seasons were open.

Hunters who favor some form of expanded hunting opportunities tend to be more active, having hunted a median of 15 days in 2004 compared to 10 days for hunters opposed to expanding Sunday hunting. For the typical hunter who

responded in favor of Sunday hunting, the median 7 additional Sundays they indicate they might hunt would represent a 47 percent increase in their hunting activities. Using the mean, or average, their activity would increase 27 percent.

Respondents who reported “Don’t know” in regards to their opinion about supporting some form of expanded Sunday hunting were left out of the analysis above.

**6.4 If you are opposed to Sunday hunting, please check the reasons why:**  
*(45.1% of all PA resident hunters surveyed expressed opposition to Sunday hunting.)*

<u>Reason</u>	<u>All Hunters</u>	<u>Resident Hunters</u>	<u>Non-Res. Hunters</u>
Sunday is a day of rest /religious reasons .....	71.4%	71.7%	70%
Wildlife needs a day free from hunting.....	61.6	62.7	50
Landowners/farmers need one day without hunters on their land .....	56.9	57.3	50
No hunting on Sunday is a long time tradition that doesn't need changed.....	55.2	56.4	40
Landowners might post their land prohibiting all types of hunting .....	50.4	52.3	10
Discourages/limits the use of the land for non-hunting recreational purposes.....	34.1	34.1	30
Other:.....	14.7	14.5	20

Only hunters expressing opposition to Sunday hunting were asked to answer this question, which represented 45 percent of the respondents to question 6.1. Multiple answers were allowed. Religious reasons were the most frequently cited.

**7. Do you have any minors in your household, or did you hunt with a minor in 2004?**

44.1% = Yes	55.9% = No
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**7.1 If you answered “Yes” to #7, in your opinion would this minor (or minors) be more likely to hunt next season, or hunt more often, if Sunday hunting were expanded?**

53.4% = Yes	35.0% = No	11.7% = Don't know/not sure
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Almost half of the surveyed hunters reported minors either in their household or having hunted with them this past season. Of these, half indicate an increased likelihood for the minors to hunt or hunt more often if Sunday hunting were available. This question was included in the survey in response to a concern that many youths face a barrier to hunting presented by the many other competing youth activities that take place on Saturdays.



**8. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that could be implemented. These are only a few of the many scenarios that may be discussed in upcoming months. Please rate each option by checking the appropriate box below.**

Before rating the scenarios, please check if you are "For" or "Against" any form of Sunday hunting:  
 56.9% = For      43.1% = Against      ("Don't Know" was not offered as a choice)

This question was asked for one primary purpose: to allow each person to express their overall opinion about Sunday hunting before being asked questions about specific, limited hunting scenarios. In question 6.1, 50.2 percent of resident hunters responded as supporting expanded forms of Sunday hunting. At this point in the survey, 56.9 percent expressed support for any form of Sunday hunting. Please note there is a difference in the two questions. Question 6.1 allowed for "Don't know" as an answer. The opportunity was taken with this question to see if people could be more definitive in their answers. The alternative was to not answer this question, an alternative that was exercised by 7.3 percent of the residents and 2.5 percent of the non-residents who responded to this survey. The respondents who marked they were in favor of some form of Sunday hunting were then asked to complete 8b through 8d.

**8b-d. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that could be implemented. These are only a few of the many scenarios that may be discussed in upcoming months. Please rate each option by checking the appropriate box below.**

- b. Allow Sunday hunting every Sunday of every season**
- c. Allow Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays of general deer season**
- d. Allow Sunday hunting only for junior hunters accompanied by an adult, for senior citizens, and for disabled hunters**

<u>Responses From Residents Who Are For Some Form of Sunday Hunting:<sup>a</sup></u>			
	<u>b. Every Sunday, All Seasons</u>	<u>c. General Deer Season Only</u>	<u>d. Juniors, Seniors, Disabled Only</u>
Strongly Opposed.....	8.2%	21.4%	35.9%
Slightly Opposed .....	6.4	3.7	8.3
Neutral .....	8.2	9.8	19.8
Slightly Support .....	16.4	16.3	10.1
Strongly Support.....	60.3	48.4	24.0
Don't Know .....	0.5	0.5	1.8
<u>Non-Residents:</u>			
	<u>b. Every Sunday, All Seasons</u>	<u>c. General Deer Season Only</u>	<u>d. Juniors, Seniors, Disabled Only</u>
Strongly Opposed.....	8.3%	16.2%	35.1%
Slightly Opposed .....	5.6	5.4	2.7
Neutral .....	8.3	16.2	27.0
Slightly Support .....	16.7	8.1	10.8
Strongly Support.....	61.1	54.1	24.3
Don't Know .....	0.0	0.0	0.0

<sup>a</sup> Respondents expressing opposition to Sunday hunting were asked to skip questions 8b through 8d and move ahead to question 9. Regardless, some of these respondents marked questions 8b through 8d. During the analysis process, these responses were removed from the dataset, as these few responses may not fairly represent the opinions of all hunters opposed to expanding Sunday hunting.

For residents who support any form of Sunday hunting, expanding all seasons to allow Sunday hunting was the most popular option, with 76.7 percent expressing some form of support (“strongly support” plus “slightly support”). 64 percent supported Sunday hunting during the two-week general deer season. The general deer season had nearly twice the level of opposition among hunters favoring Sunday hunting, some of which may be attributable to hunters who want all seasons opened to Sunday hunting. Opening to just youth, senior citizens, and disabled hunters only drew support from 34.1 percent. Non-resident responses mirrored the opinions of resident hunters in favor of some form of Sunday hunting.

**9. If the Legislature approves Sunday hunting, on which types of land should Sunday hunting be allowed:**

- a. Allow Sunday hunting on all types of lands:**
- b. Allow Sunday hunting only on public lands:**
- c. Allow Sunday hunting only on private lands:**
- d. Allow Sunday hunting only on State Game Lands:**

<u>All Residents:</u>				
	<u>9a. All Types of Land</u>	<u>9b. Public Lands Only</u>	<u>9c. Private Lands Only</u>	<u>9d. State Game Lands Only</u>
Strongly Opposed .....	39.2%	49.4%	57.2%	50.4%
Slightly Opposed.....	2.6	5.8	6.1	5.8
Neutral .....	5.7	14.8	15.9	15.3
Slightly Support.....	5.9	8.3	5.9	10.0
Strongly Support.....	43.3	18.7	11.2	15.8
Don't Know.....	3.3	2.9	3.7	2.7
<u>Residents Who Are For Some Form of Sunday Hunting:</u>				
	<u>9a. All Types of Land</u>	<u>9b. Public Lands Only</u>	<u>9c. Private Lands Only</u>	<u>9d. State Game Lands Only</u>
Strongly Opposed .....	7.7%	30.3%	44.5%	34.9%
Slightly Opposed.....	4.1	10.0	9.0	9.9
Neutral .....	5.0	17.5	17.5	17.5
Slightly Support.....	8.6	11.4	9.0	12.7
Strongly Support.....	73.3	29.9	18.5	24.1
Don't Know.....	1.4	0.9	1.4	0.9
<u>Residents Who Are Against Some Form of Sunday Hunting:</u>				
	<u>9a. All Types of Land</u>	<u>9b. Public Lands Only</u>	<u>9c. Private Lands Only</u>	<u>9d. State Game Lands Only</u>
Strongly Opposed .....	80.2%	73.8%	72.9%	70.3%
Slightly Opposed.....	1.2	1.2	2.4	1.2
Neutral .....	7.6	9.9	14.1	11.0
Slightly Support.....	2.3	4.7	1.8	7.0
Strongly Support.....	3.5	5.8	2.4	5.2
Don't Know.....	5.2	4.7	6.5	5.2

<u>Non-Residents:</u>				
	9a. All Types of Land	9b. Public Lands Only	9c. Private Lands Only	9d. State Game Lands Only
Strongly Opposed .....	15.0%	38.5%	47.4%	44.7%
Slightly Opposed.....	5.0	15.4	10.5	18.4
Neutral .....	5.0	12.8	13.2	18.4
Slightly Support.....	7.5	17.9	13.2	10.5
Strongly Support.....	67.5	15.4	15.8	7.9
Don't Know.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Compared to question 8b through 8d, all respondents were asked to complete this question, and most responders did. Overall, 49.2 percent of resident hunters surveyed supported opening all lands to Sunday hunting, 41.8 percent opposed opening all lands, and 5.7 percent were neutral. The rest were undecided. This division of hunters essentially reflects the proportion of hunters favoring or opposing expanded Sunday hunting. The "Private Lands Only" option has the least support and greatest opposition among all resident hunters. Preferences of hunters who favor some form of Sunday hunting are distributed in the same general fashion (most favoring All Types of Lands and least favoring Private Lands Only), but at a much higher level of support. Resident hunters opposing any form of expanded Sunday hunting tend to slightly prefer that expansion, if it is to occur, be limited to state game lands, followed by public lands.

#### 10. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?

	All Respondents	Resident Hunters	Non-Resident Hunters
Pennsylvania Game Commission.....	50.0%	47.1%	82.1%
Pennsylvania Legislature.....	17.9	18.8	10.3
Other:.....	16.2	17.4	0%
Don't know/don't have an opinion.....	15.9	16.7	7.7

<u>Residents Who Favor Some Form of Sunday Hunting:</u>	
Pennsylvania Game Commission.....	60.8%
Pennsylvania Legislature.....	16.7
Other .....	9.9
Don't know/don't have an opinion.....	12.6
<u>Residents Against Some Form of Sunday Hunting:</u>	
Pennsylvania Game Commission.....	28.6%
Pennsylvania Legislature.....	21.4
Other .....	28.6
Don't know/don't have an opinion.....	21.4

Nearly half of the resident hunters surveyed think the Game Commission should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting. Hunters reporting this

preference outnumber hunters preferring the Legislature 2.8 to 1. Hunters who support expanded Sunday hunting are more inclined to give the decision to the Game Commission. Hunters who report they are against expanded Sunday hunting also favor the Game Commission as the deciding body, but by a smaller margin. A listing of the "other" ideas offered included hunters (40 responses); public vote (14 responses); and landowners vote (7 responses).

**11. Please check the box that best expresses your opinion: "If Sunday hunting were permitted, I would be  for or  against an increase in fines given to people who hunt private lands without landowner permission?"**

71.1% = For	28.9% = Against
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Support for increased trespassing fines comes from both hunters who favor expanded Sunday hunting and from those who are opposed.

**12. To help us understand how hunter opinions vary, please complete the following:**

	<u>Residents For Expanded Sunday Hunting</u>	<u>Residents Against Expanded Sunday Hunting</u>
Average Age.....	46	51

Those who favor expanded Sunday hunting are slightly younger than those opposed to Sunday hunting.

## **B. Commercial Regulated Hunting Grounds (CRHG)**

This section presents the results from the survey of Commercial Regulated Hunting Ground (CRHG) operators.

**1. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that could be implemented. These are only a few of the many scenarios that may be discussed in upcoming months. Please rate each option by checking the appropriate box below.**

**a. Before rating the scenarios, please check if you are "For" or "Against" any form of Sunday hunting:**

75.0% = For	25.0% = Against
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Commercial regulated hunting land operators are much more in favor of expanding Sunday hunting opportunities than are hunters.

**1b-d. Responses from CRHG operators who are "For" some form of Sunday hunting:**

	b. Every Sunday, <u>All Seasons</u>	c. General Deer <u>Season Only</u>	d. Juniors, Seniors, <u>Disabled Only</u>
Strongly Opposed .....	5.1%	49.1%	53.7%
Slightly Opposed.....	1.7	1.8	9.3
Neutral .....	3.4	12.7	7.4
Slightly Support.....	8.5	16.4	3.7
Strongly Support.....	79.7	20.0	25.9
Don't Know.....	1.7	0.0	0.0

CRHG operators who support expanding Sunday hunting opportunities are more unified in their desires than hunters who support Sunday hunting. A higher percentage of these survey respondents want Sunday hunting for all seasons, and not limited to just general firearm season for deer. This is not too surprising, considering few CRHGs make a living from deer hunting compared to bird and other hunting opportunities that were not listed as one of the choices.

<u>All CRHG Operators Who Responded to the Survey:</u>				
	9a. All Types <u>of Land</u>	9b. Public <u>Lands Only</u>	9c. Private <u>Lands Only</u>	9d. State Game <u>Lands Only</u>
Strongly Opposed .....	23.7%	61.4%	44.3%	58.6%
Slightly Opposed.....	0.0	4.3	1.4	8.6
Neutral .....	10.5	10.0	8.6	15.7
Slightly Support.....	2.6	10.0	5.7	7.1
Strongly Support.....	63.2	14.3	40.0	10.0
Don't Know.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>CRHG Operators Who Are For Some Form of Sunday Hunting:</u>				
	9a. All Types <u>of Land</u>	9b. Public <u>Lands Only</u>	9c. Private <u>Lands Only</u>	9d. State Game <u>Lands Only</u>
Strongly Opposed .....	6.8%	52.8%	30.2%	49.1%
Slightly Opposed.....	0.0	3.8	1.9	9.4
Neutral .....	11.9	13.2	9.4	20.8
Slightly Support.....	3.4	13.2	7.5	7.5
Strongly Support.....	78.0	17.0	50.9	13.2
Don't Know.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>CRHG Operators Who Are Against Some Form of Sunday Hunting:</u>				
	9a. All Types <u>of Land</u>	9b. Public <u>Lands Only</u>	9c. Private <u>Lands Only</u>	9d. State Game <u>Lands Only</u>
Strongly Opposed .....	93.3%	93.3%	100.0%	93.3%
Slightly Opposed.....	0.0	6.7	0.0	6.7
Neutral .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slightly Support.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Strongly Support.....	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Don't Know.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

On average, CRHG operators state a preference for opening Sunday hunting on all lands. "Private lands" was the second choice. Over three quarters of the operators who favor expanding Sunday hunting reported "strongly supporting" Sunday hunting on all types of lands. For the 25 percent of CRHG operators who oppose Sunday hunting, nearly all opposed Sunday hunting on any type of land.

**3. Please check the statement that best describes the likely impact of Sunday hunting on your business:**

<u>All CRHG Operators:</u>	
Sunday hunting would help my business .....	71.2%
Sunday hunting would hurt my business .....	5.5
Sunday hunting will have no effect on my business .....	11.0
Sunday hunting would have a negative effect on my relationship with neighbors .....	8.2
Don't know / Not sure .....	4.1
<u>CRHG Operators Who Support Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting:</u>	
Sunday hunting would help my business .....	90.9%
Sunday hunting would hurt my business .....	0.0
Sunday hunting will have no effect on my business .....	5.5
Sunday hunting would have a negative effect on my relationship with neighbors .....	0.0
Don't know / Not sure .....	3.6
<u>CRHG Operators Who Are Against Some Form of Expanded Sunday Hunting:</u>	
Sunday hunting would help my business .....	6.3%
Sunday hunting would hurt my business .....	18.8
Sunday hunting will have no effect on my business .....	31.3
Sunday hunting would have a negative effect on my relationship with neighbors .....	37.5
Don't know/Not sure .....	6.3

The reason CRHG operators primarily give regarding why they support Sunday hunting is it would help their business (90.9 percent). For the operators who are against Sunday hunting expansion, the reasons were varied. The top reason is their concern about its effect on their relationship with neighbors, followed by its neutral or negative business impacts.

**4. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?**

	<u>All Operators</u>	<u>Operators Favoring Sunday Hunting</u>	<u>Operators Against Sunday Hunting</u>
Pennsylvania Game Commission.....	48.6%	57.4%	18.8%
Pennsylvania Legislature.....	26.4	24.1	31.3
Other, please specify .....	12.5	3.7	43.8
Don't know/don't have an opinion.....	12.5	14.8	6.3

Nearly half of all operators prefer the PGC to have the ability to expand Sunday hunting. This is especially true for those operators in favor of expansion.

However, operators against expansion of Sunday hunting prefer the Legislature over the PGC as the deciding body. More operators against expansion marked "Other" rather than the PGC or legislature. This possibly may indicate dissatisfaction with both entities.

**5. Please check the box that best expresses your opinion: "If Sunday hunting were permitted, I would be  for or  against an increase in fines given to people who hunt private lands without landowner permission?"**

All Operators .....	85.3%
Operators For Expansion .....	84.9
Operators Against Expansion .....	92.9

CRHG operators are even more inclined to support an increase in trespassing fines than hunters.

### C. Pennsylvania Landowners

**1. How many acres of land do you own in Pennsylvania?**

Of the 448 respondents (out of 1,000 mailed questionnaires), 441 answered this question. For those respondents who owned land, answers ranged from a low of one-half an acre to a high of 4,000 acres. The average number of acres owned per respondent was 189.5. Acreage ownership fell into the following breakout:

<u>Number of Acres</u>	<u>Number of Respondents</u>
½ - 10 acres.....	23
11 – 30 acres.....	21
31 – 50 acres.....	35
51 – 75 acres.....	55
76 – 100 acres.....	54
101 – 150 acres.....	74
151 – 200 acres.....	42
201 – 250 acres.....	40
251 – 300 acres.....	18
301 – 400 acres.....	31
401 – 500 acres.....	11
501 – 1,000 acres.....	19
1000+ acres.....	11
No Land Owned.....	7
Did Not Respond .....	7

## **2. In which county or counties is this parcel(s) of land located?**

Of the 448 respondents, 435 answered this question. In some cases, their land spanned more than one county. For counting purposes, the county containing the predominant acreage was selected.

Respondents' land encompassed 59 of the 67 counties. The most responses came from persons owning land in Franklin County (20), followed by Somerset County (18), Mercer County (16), Adams County (14), and Lancaster County (14). The remaining counties had between one and 12 responses.

The counties of Bucks, Cameron, Delaware, Forest, Monroe, Philadelphia, Pike, and Sullivan were not listed on any of the respondents' questionnaire responses.

## **3. Please indicate whether any of your property described above is currently enrolled in one or more of the PA Game Commission's public access programs (these include the Cooperative Farm-Game Program, the Safety Zone Program, and the Forest-Game Program)?**

Of the 448 respondents, 424 answered this question, for a response rate of 94.6 percent.

Of the 424 who answered this question, 264, or 62.3 percent, said they are enrolled in one or more of the PA Game Commission's public access programs. The remaining 160 respondents are not enrolled in such a program.

## **4. If none of the property(ies) cited above are enrolled in a Game Commission public access program, what, if any, hunting do you allow on your land?**

Because this question asks "if none of the property is enrolled in a PGC public access program . . ." it would be expected that 160 persons would respond to this question since that is the number that answered such in question #3 above. However, 286 persons answered this question.

From these 286 respondents, some chose more than one answer to the question for a total of 307 responses.

Of the 307 responses:

- 77 landowners (25.1 percent) reported that they open their land to the public for hunting.
- 116 landowners (37.8 percent) said they have their land open to the public for hunting, but with permission.



- 88 landowners (28.7 percent) stated that their property is hunted but open only to family and friends.
- 25 landowners (8.1 percent) stated that no hunting is allowed on their property.

One respondent stated that they have property that is a non-commercial regulated shooting ground.

**5. Do you currently post your land “No Hunting”?**

Of the 448 total respondents, 427 answered this question, for a response rate of 95.3 percent.

Of the 427 landowners who answered this question, 18.3 percent (78) stated that they post their land “No Hunting.” The other 81.7 percent (349 respondents) do not post their land.

**6. The State Legislature is studying the issue of expanded Sunday hunting. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that may be considered. *These are only a few of the many scenarios that might be discussed in upcoming months.* (Please indicate your position on each of these potential scenarios by checking the appropriate box.)**

**6a. Allow Sunday hunting on every Sunday of every season.**

Strongly Oppose .....	68.9%	(304 out of 441 responses)
Oppose .....	13.2	(58 out of 441 responses)
Neutral .....	4.3	(19 out of 441 responses)
Support .....	6.6	(29 out of 441 responses)
Strongly Support .....	7.0	(31 out of 441 responses)

**6b. Allow Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays of general deer season.**

Strongly Oppose .....	66.7%	(290 out of 435 responses)
Oppose .....	13.6	(59 out of 435 responses)
Neutral .....	6.9	(30 out of 435 responses)
Support .....	7.6	(33 out of 435 responses)
Strongly Support .....	5.3	(23 out of 435 responses)

**6c. Allow Sunday hunting only for junior hunters accompanied by an adult, for senior citizens, and for disabled hunters.**

Strongly Oppose .....	68.6%	(297 out of 433 responses)
Oppose .....	15.2	(66 out of 433 responses)
Neutral .....	8.3	(36 out of 433 responses)
Support .....	4.2	(18 out of 433 responses)
Strongly Support .....	3.7	(16 out of 433 responses)

**6d. Allow Sunday hunting on all types of lands.**

Strongly Oppose .....	67.0%	(293 out of 437 responses)
Oppose .....	13.0	(57 out of 437 responses)
Neutral .....	5.5	(24 out of 437 responses)
Support .....	8.2	(36 out of 437 responses)
Strongly Support .....	6.2	(27 out of 437 responses)

**6e. Allow Sunday hunting only on public lands.**

Strongly Oppose .....	64.0%	(277 out of 433 responses)
Oppose .....	15.0	(65 out of 433 responses)
Neutral .....	12.9	(56 out of 433 responses)
Support .....	5.3	(23 out of 433 responses)
Strongly Support .....	2.8	(12 out of 433 responses)

**6f. Allow Sunday hunting only on private lands.**

Strongly Oppose .....	68.4%	(297 out of 434 responses)
Oppose .....	17.1	(74 out of 434 responses)
Neutral .....	8.3	(36 out of 434 responses)
Support .....	4.3	(19 out of 434 responses)
Strongly Support .....	1.8	(8 out of 434 responses)

**6g. Allow Sunday hunting only on state game lands.**

Strongly Oppose .....	60.6%	(262 out of 432 responses)
Oppose .....	16.0	(69 out of 432 responses)
Neutral .....	16.0	(69 out of 432 responses)
Support .....	5.1	(22 out of 432 responses)
Strongly Support .....	2.3	(10 out of 432 responses)

**7. If Sunday hunting opportunities were expanded in PA, would you on your property (check all that apply):**

Of the 448 respondents, 413 answered this question, a response rate of 92.2 percent. Many respondents chose more than one answer since they were encouraged to select all options that would apply to them. A total of 727 answers were received for this question.

Of the 727 responses:

- 59 landowners (8.1 percent) said that they would allow the public to hunt on their land on most Sundays if Sunday hunting opportunities were expanded in PA.
- 30 respondents (4.1 percent) stated that they would allow the public to hunt on their land on a few Sundays if Sunday hunting opportunities were expanded in PA.

- 244 landowners (33.6 percent) said that they would not allow the public to hunt on their land on any Sundays if Sunday hunting were to be expanded.
- 153 landowners (21.0 percent) said they would post “No Sunday Hunting” signs on their land if Sunday hunting were expanded.
- 113 landowners (15.5 percent) stated that they would remove their land from the PA Game Commission’s public access programs if Sunday hunting were expanded.
- 128 landowners (17.6 percent) stated that they would not allow any hunting on any days (i.e., close their land to all public hunting) if Sunday hunting were expanded in PA.

A few respondents wrote in an answer. Several persons said that if Sunday hunting opportunities were expanded in PA, they would allow junior and disabled hunters on their property on Sundays. Others said they would allow only family and friends on their land on Sundays, while others would open their land only during deer season.

**8. What are your concerns regarding expanded Sunday hunting? Please check below to indicate the extent to which you consider each of the following to be a concern:**

Of the 448 respondents, 431 answered this question, for a response rate of 96.2 percent. Each landowner was encouraged to answer each part of this question; however, many only replied to those sections that would be a primary concern to them. Therefore, tallies for each answer are based on the number of respondents to each particular concern and not on 431. The percentage that replied to each section is marked below.

	<u>Major Concern</u>	<u>Moderate Concern</u>	<u>Not a Concern</u>
Trespassing (Responses = 336).....	47.3%	29.5%	23.2%
Religious/Moral Considerations (Responses = 375) ...	61.1	17.6	21.3
Poor Hunter Behavior (Responses = 318).....	45.9	31.1	23.0
Damage to Property/Livestock/Pets (Responses = 313) .....	39.3	31.6	29.1
Privacy (do not want to be disturbed on Sundays) (Responses = 405) .....	76.5	10.9	12.6
Human Safety Concerns (Responses = 328).....	49.4	25.3	25.3
Negatively impact my use of state game lands or state forests for other purposes (Responses = 271) ...	29.5	27.3	43.2

Some respondents wrote that they are concerned about a conflict of interest on private lands, as well as public lands, if Sunday hunting were expanded in Pennsylvania. Because many landowners and their families hike, horseback ride, and enjoy other recreational activities on their land on Sundays, they are concerned how the land would be shared with hunters.

**9. What steps, if any, could the State Legislature or the Game Commission take to alleviate your concerns regarding Sunday hunting (please mark all that apply)?**

Of the 448 respondents, only 370 landowners marked an answer to this question, for a response rate of 82.6 percent. Respondents were encouraged to mark all options that applied to them, which resulted in the 370 landowners providing a total of 632 responses.

Of the 632 responses:

- 96 landowners (15.2 percent) stated that the State Legislature should require written permission of landowners for individuals to hunt on private lands if Sunday hunting were expanded throughout the state.
- 92 landowners (14.6 percent) would like to see the General Assembly increase fines for trespassing on private lands if Sunday hunting is expanded.
- 92 landowners (14.6 percent) believe the State Legislature should grant PCG law enforcement officers increased ability to enforce trespass laws if Sunday hunting is expanded.
- 115 landowners (18.2 percent) stated that they would like to be provided with "No Sunday Hunting" signs if Sunday hunting were expanded.
- 45 landowners (7.1 percent) indicated that they believe the State Legislature should limit Sunday hunting to a restricted number of days and for a select species or two.
- 30 percent, or 192 of the 632 responses, indicated that there is nothing the General Assembly could do to alleviate their concerns regarding Sunday hunting.

Some respondents chose to submit written comments to this question, and the majority of these comments stated that the General Assembly should ban Sunday hunting altogether.

**10. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?**

Of the 448 questionnaires received, 272 landowners responded to this question, a response rate of 60.7 percent.

Of those 272 who replied to this question, 95 landowners (34.9 percent) believe the Pennsylvania Game Commission should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting.

Another 101 of the 272 respondents (37.1 percent) believe the Pennsylvania Legislature should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting.

The remaining 27.9 percent (76 respondents) stated that they either did not know or did not have an opinion on who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting.

## D. Wildlife/Recreational Organizations and Stakeholder Groups

### 1. Names of responding organizations and position expressed on the question: "Does your organization support some form of expanded Sunday hunting?"

A total of 28 organizations submitted a completed questionnaire but three did not provide identifying information. The 25 identified responses were received from the following:

<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Support</u>
Allentown Hiking Club	Deer Recovery of PA
Appalachian Trail Advisory Committee	Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau
Environmental Fund for PA	PA State Chapter Quality Deer Management Association
Keystone Trails Association	PA State Fish and Game Protective Association
PA Equine Committee	Pennsylvania Falconry and Hawk Trust
Penn-Dutch Sportsmen, Inc.	Pennsylvania Farm Vacation Association, Inc.
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau	Safari Club International
Pennsylvania Gun Owners Association	Ted Nugent United Sportsmen of America
Sierra Club/PA Chapter	Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania
Southern Alleghenies Conservancy	United Bowhunters of PA
<u>Don't Know/Not Sure</u>	<u>No Position</u>
PA Deer Association	PA Council of Churches
PA Division of Izaak Walton League of America	PA Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*
PA Tourism & Lodging Association	

\*No position on a broad authorization of Sunday hunting in all forms at all times; rather, would prefer to consider the question on the basis of specific types of Sunday hunting (e.g., during deer season).

**2. Please indicate which of the following best describes the type of organization you represent.**

Of the 28 organizations that replied:

- 11 of them described themselves as hunting/sportsmen organizations;
- 10 described themselves as nature/outdoor recreation groups;
- Three of them described themselves as both hunting/sportsmen related and nature/outdoor recreation related;
- One described itself as involved with agritourism;
- One described itself as a general farm organization;
- One stated that they were an ecumenical organization; and
- One described itself as a state trade association.

**3a. Does your organization support some form of expanded Sunday hunting?**

Of the 28 organizations that responded to this question:

- 13, or 46.4 percent, said that they support Sunday hunting.
- 11, or 39.3 percent, said that they do not support Sunday hunting.
- 3, or 10.7 percent, stated that they did not know or were not sure of their position on Sunday hunting.
- One respondent stated that they had no position on Sunday hunting.

Readers should be aware that the organizations were not selected randomly and the responses are not weighted for the size of the organization. Also, the purpose of these organizations varies widely, so aggregated statistics are of only limited value.

**3b. If your organization opposes Sunday hunting, please check the reasons why:**

The 11 respondents from question #3a who stated that they did not support Sunday hunting answered this question. Because they could list as many reasons as they liked for their opposition, 40 responses were given.

Of the 40 responses:

- 6 organizations, or 15.0 percent, stated that Sunday is a day of rest/religious reasons.
- 5 organizations, or 12.5 percent, stated that wildlife needs a day free from hunting.
- 9 organizations, or 22.5 percent, stated that landowners/farmers need one day without hunters on their land.
- 4 organizations, or 10.0 percent, stated that no hunting on Sunday is a long time tradition that does not need to be changed.

- 7 organizations, or 17.5 percent, stated that they thought landowners might post their land prohibiting all types of hunting.
- 9 organizations, or 22.5 percent, said that Sunday hunting may discourage/limit the use of lands for nonhunting recreational purposes.

**4a. Is your organization “For” or “Against” any form of Sunday hunting?**

Of the 28 respondents, 23 answered this question, for a response rate of 82.1 percent.

Of the 23 organizations who answered this question, 12 of them, or 52.2 percent were “For” any form of Sunday hunting, while 47.8 percent (11 respondents) were “Against” it.

**4b. Allow Sunday hunting on every Sunday of every season.**

Strongly Oppose .....	44.4%	(12 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Oppose .....	7.4	(2 out of 27 responses)
Neutral .....	3.7	(1 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Support .....	7.4	(2 out of 27 responses)
Strongly Support.....	33.3	(9 out of 27 responses)
Don't Know .....	3.7	(1 out of 27 responses)

**4c. Allow Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays of general deer season.**

Strongly Oppose .....	48.1%	(13 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Oppose.....	3.7	(1 out of 27 responses)
Neutral .....	14.8	(4 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Support.....	11.1	(3 out of 27 responses)
Strongly Support .....	14.8	(4 out of 27 responses)
Don't Know.....	7.4	(2 out of 27 responses)

**4d. Allow Sunday hunting only for junior hunters accompanied by an adult, for senior citizens, and for disabled hunters.**

Strongly Oppose .....	51.9%	(14 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Oppose.....	7.4	(2 out of 27 responses)
Neutral .....	11.1	(3 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Support.....	7.4	(2 out of 27 responses)
Strongly Support .....	14.8	(4 out of 27 responses)
Don't Know.....	7.4	(2 out of 27 responses)

**5a. Allow Sunday hunting on all types of lands.**

Strongly Oppose .....	51.9%	(14 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Oppose .....	0.0	(0 out of 27 responses)
Neutral .....	0.0	(0 out of 27 responses)
Slightly Support .....	3.7	(1 out of 27 responses)
Strongly Support.....	37.0	(10 out of 27 responses)
Don't Know .....	7.4	(2 out of 27 responses)

**5b. Allow Sunday hunting only on public lands.**

Strongly Oppose.....	60.0%	(15 out of 25 responses)
Slightly Oppose .....	12.0	(3 out of 25 responses)
Neutral.....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)
Slightly Support.....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)
Strongly Support.....	4.0	(1 out of 25 responses)
Don't Know.....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)

**5c. Allow Sunday hunting only on private lands.**

Strongly Oppose.....	48.0%	(12 out of 25 responses)
Slightly Oppose .....	12.0	(3 out of 25 responses)
Neutral.....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)
Slightly Support.....	12.0	(3 out of 25 responses)
Strongly Support.....	12.0	(3 out of 25 responses)
Don't Know.....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)

**5d. Allow Sunday hunting only on State Game Lands.**

Strongly Oppose .....	52.0%	(13 out of 25 responses)
Slightly Oppose.....	12.0	(3 out of 25 responses)
Neutral .....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)
Slightly Support.....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)
Strongly Support.....	12.0	(3 out of 25 responses)
Don't Know.....	8.0	(2 out of 25 responses)

**6. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?**

Of the 28 questionnaires received, 27 organizations responded to this question, for a response rate of 96.4 percent.

Of those 27 organizations who replied to this question, 9 of them, or 33.3 percent, believe the Pennsylvania Game Commission should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting.

Another 13 of the 27 replying organizations (37.1 percent) believe the Pennsylvania Legislature should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting.

One respondent stated that they either did not know or did not have an opinion on who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting.

And, four organizations, or 14.8 percent, said that “no one” should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting.



In addition to these surveys, we also solicited the positions of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation.

As stated by the PGC Executive Director at a June 9, 2005, hearing of the House Game and Fisheries Committee, the Game Commission's position on Sunday hunting is as follows:

The Pennsylvania Game Commission does not oppose legislation to legalize Sunday hunting. Our Board of Game Commissioners is split—some supporting and others opposing—on this issue, which reflects the current difference of opinion held by many in the General Assembly and the public at large. Over the years, the Game Commission has surveyed hunters on this issue. Traditionally, they have been split 50-50 but support seems to be increasing in recent years particularly among younger hunters. The whole issue of Sunday hunting is a matter that must be decided by the Legislature, landowners, hunters, and citizens of the Commonwealth. If the legislation is enacted, the agency will seek to implement Sunday hunting when and where appropriate.

At the June 9, 2005, hearing, the PGC Executive Director also made the following comments:

- We feel that with input from our biologists, the public and thoughtful consideration by our Commissioners that we can make all decisions regarding seasons and bag limits including what species could possibly be hunted on Sundays and which species may not be appropriate to hunt on that day.
- Although we need to think about what impact Sunday hunting would have on our Farm-Game, Forest-Game and Safety Zone programs, in which we have several million acres of private lands signed up to provide public hunting and trapping opportunities. Many of these landowners have said that if Sunday hunting is approved, they will leave the program and post their land. I would like to point out that nothing in HB 904<sup>1</sup> would change the fact that the landowner has control over who hunts on his or her land and when they hunt. Landowner control of private property remains exactly as it is today.
- On a positive note, with additional time given to hunters, we may see an increase in license sales such as we've see with muzzleloader sales in the past few years. Also, increased opportunities may help with retaining the hunters we currently have and should further our efforts at recruiting new hunters.

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<sup>1</sup>HB 904 would repeal the provisions prohibiting Sunday hunting.

According to the Director of the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation, the Council passed a resolution in support of Sunday hunting at its May 2004 meeting. The resolution reads as follows:

Motion stating Council support for Sunday hunting seasons. Motion passed unanimously for Council to support the removal of all Sunday hunting language from Title 34.

### **III. Potential Impacts of Sunday Hunting Alternatives**

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#### **A. Economic Impacts**

The economic impacts of expanded Sunday hunting are presented in this section. There are many possible Sunday hunting scenarios (all Sundays in all seasons, general deer season, archery and muzzleloader deer seasons, small game, etc.). Each one of these alternative seasons could be modified by allowing hunting by only youth, senior, and disabled hunters, or by allowing Sunday hunting only on specific types of lands (public lands only, state game lands, etc.). Based on the large number of possible Sunday hunting scenarios and based on the limited information available regarding how hunters would react to each of the many scenarios, estimating the impacts for all scenarios is nearly impossible. Therefore, economic impacts are estimated for the two major scenarios favored by hunters: open all seasons to Sunday hunting and opening only the two Sundays of general deer season.

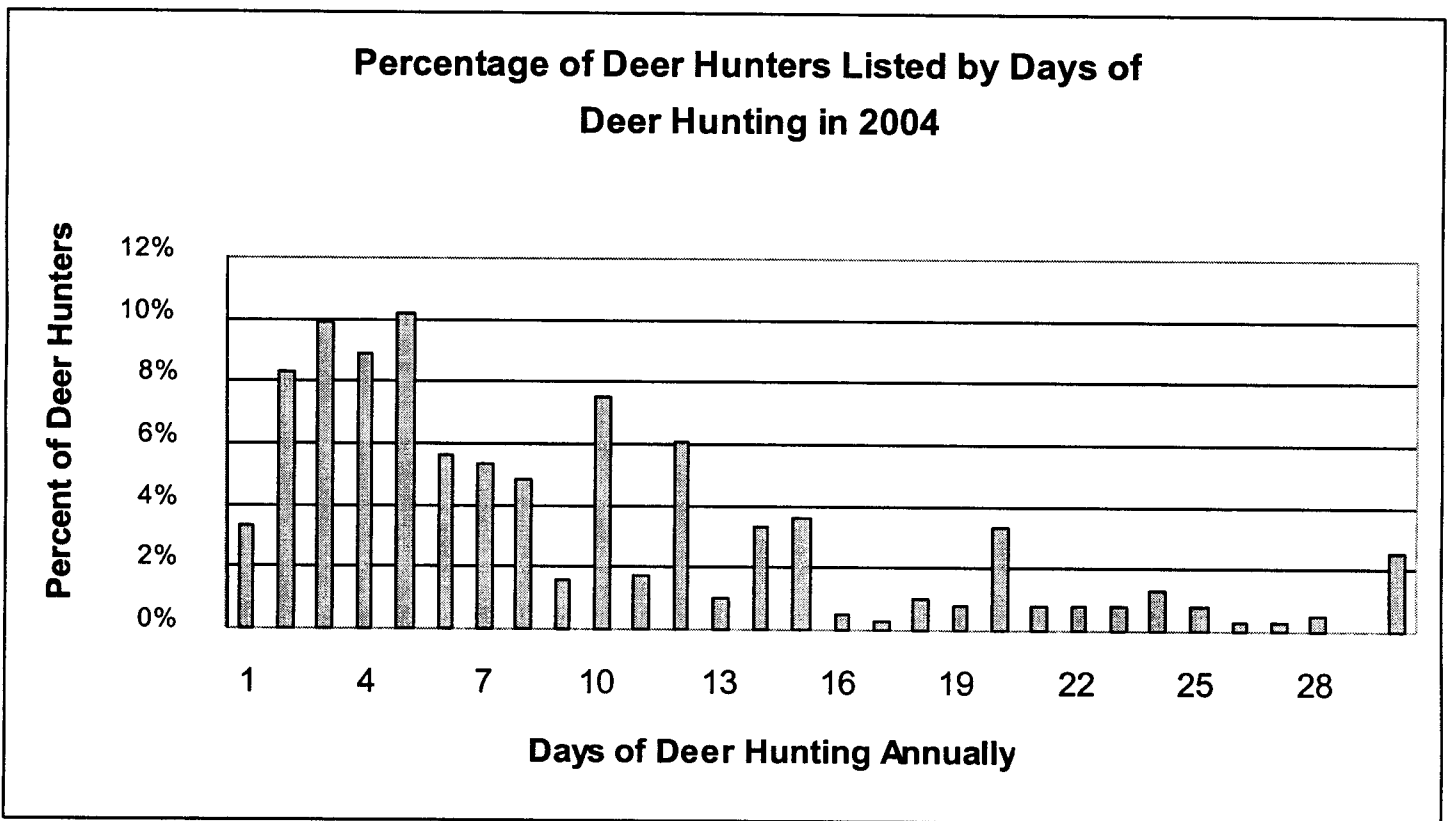
The economic impacts of all hunting activities in Pennsylvania were previously calculated in 2002 by Southwick Associates, Inc., for the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. These estimates are based on the *2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation* (survey) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2001. This survey reported the total dollars spent by hunters in Pennsylvania and other states individually. Economic models were developed using multipliers provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Appendix C describes the economic impact analysis used to develop Pennsylvania's economic impacts, and Appendix D lists Pennsylvania's hunting expenditures by itemized category.

Section A of Table 1 on page 34 presents the 2003 economic impacts of hunting in Pennsylvania. The 2001 data described above were updated to the latest year possible (2003) based on the rate of change in hunter numbers from 2001 to 2003 (down 1.64 percent). Hunter expenditures and economic impacts were also adjusted for inflation from 2001 to 2003 (up 4 percent).

Section B of Table 1 presents the estimated impacts if Sunday hunting was expanded. The estimates for all Sunday hunting were based on survey question 6.3 where all Pennsylvania resident and non-resident hunters report their hunting activity would increase on average 4.7 days each if Sunday hunting was open for all seasons. Compared to question 3 that reports the typical hunter hunted 17.3 days in 2004, the additional 4.7 days represents an additional 27.0 percent days of hunting. Based on a lack of better data, the assumption is made that hunters would spend the same amount of dollars per day for each additional Sunday of hunting as they do for other days. Therefore, the economic impacts in Pennsylvania from expanding Sunday hunting to all seasons would increase 27.0 percent.

Estimating the additional economic impacts that might be created by allowing Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays within the general deer firearm season required a few additional calculations. Even though adding two Sundays to the 12-day general gun season would increase the days available for hunting by 16.67 percent, we simply cannot assume that the current levels of deer hunting economic impacts (as presented Table 1, Section A) would increase by this amount. A portion of deer hunting occurs during the archery and muzzleloading seasons, which would not experience an increase in days available for hunting under this scenario, and therefore no additional economic impacts. No data were available regarding the percentage of deer hunting days that occur during the archery and muzzleloading seasons compared to the general firearms season, therefore, estimates had to be made. Exhibit 1, which shows the percentage of deer hunters who hunt X days per year, shows that most hunters are in the woods 12 days or less pursuing deer, which corresponds to the number of days available during the general firearms season for deer. However, some of these days may be spent during the longer archery or muzzleloading seasons.

Exhibit 1



Based on data provided by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC), 67.6 percent of all licenses sold (general hunting, archery, and muzzleloading licenses) were general hunting licenses, with the remaining 32.4 percent composed of archery and muzzleloading licenses. Each hunter may have purchased more than one of these licenses. In addition, based on PGC data, 76.6 percent of deer harvested last season were culled during the general firearm season. It is reasonable to expect a higher hunting success rate during this season based on the increased efficiency of modern firearms compared to bows and muzzleloading firearms. Without better data, and recognizing there is some unknown level of error in this estimate, it is reasonable to assume that 67.6 percent of hunting activity takes place during the two-week general firearm season based on the distribution of licenses sold.

The potential net growth in economic impacts from allowing Sunday hunting during the two-week firearm season for deer is estimated by the following steps:

Step 1: Multiply the 2003 estimated economic impacts of deer hunting (Section A of Table 1) by 67.7 percent (the estimated amount of deer hunting during the two-week firearm season). The results are the economic impacts generated during the two-week general firearm season for deer.

Step 2: Multiply the results of Step 1 by 27.01 percent. This represents the potential increase in annual deer hunting days if Sunday hunting was allowed, based on the overall increase in hunting activity projected by hunters in survey question 6.3. The two extra days of hunting that would be provided if Sunday hunting was allowed for the general deer season represents a minimum increase of 16.67 percent in hunting activity for those hunters currently able to hunt every day of general deer season, up to a maximum increase of 100 percent for those hunters only able to hunt Saturdays. Based on this wide range (16.67% to 100%), 27.01 percent is a reasonable estimate and coincides with the potential increase reported in "All Hunting Activities" scenario in Table 1.

The bottom portion of Table 1 presents the potential net new impacts Pennsylvania could receive from expanding Sunday hunting to all seasons, including estimated additional economic activity of \$629 million, the equivalent of 5,300 new jobs (full- and part-time) plus \$18 million in increased state tax revenues. This represents a 27 percent increase. These impact estimates assume hunters will increase their personal expenditures by hunting on Sundays rather than stay at home and not spend these dollars. Expanding Sunday hunting to only the two Sundays of the general firearm deer season could result in estimated additional economic activity of \$185 million, the equivalent of 1,627 new jobs, and \$5.4 million in additional state tax revenues.

Table 1

<b>Estimated Economic Impacts of Expanding Sunday Hunting in Pennsylvania</b> (Based on 2003 Economic Impact Data)								
		<b>Number of Hunting Days</b>	<b>Retail Sales</b>	<b>Total Multiplier Activity</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>Jobs</b>	<b>Sales Tax Revenues</b>	<b>State Income Tax Revenues</b>
<b>A. Current Impacts (without Sunday hunting):</b>								
All Hunting:	Total:	13,725,912	\$1,191,754,354	\$2,327,501,264	\$533,388,227	19,644	\$52,035,629	\$14,934,870
	Per Day:	-	\$86.83	\$169.57	\$38.86	0.00143	\$3.79	\$1.09
Deer Hunting: <sup>a</sup>	Total:	7,291,180	\$512,435,564	\$1,009,034,534	\$238,280,642	8,898	\$22,832,165	\$6,671,858
	Per Day:	-	\$70.28	\$138.39	\$32.68	0.00122	\$3.13	\$0.92
<b>B. If Sunday Was Permitted:</b>								
All Hunting:	Total:	17,433,214	\$1,513,641,401	\$2,956,148,019	\$677,453,789	24,949	\$66,090,199	\$18,968,706
	Per Day:	-	\$86.83	\$169.57	\$38.86	0.00143	\$3.79	\$1.09
Deer Hunting: <sup>b</sup>	Total:	8,624,404	\$606,136,663	\$1,193,540,941	\$281,851,307	10,525	\$27,007,127	\$7,891,837
	Per Day:	-	\$70.28	\$138.39	\$32.68	0.00122	\$3.13	\$0.92
<b>C. Net Increase from Sunday Hunting:</b>								
All Hunting:	Total:	3,707,302	\$321,887,047	\$628,646,755	\$144,065,562	5,306	\$14,054,570	\$4,033,836
	%:	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%
Deer Hunting: <sup>b</sup>	Total:	1,333,224	\$93,701,099	\$184,506,407	\$43,570,664	1,627	\$4,174,962	\$1,219,979
	% growth	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%	18.3%

<sup>a</sup> Represents current economic impacts from all deer hunting in all seasons (firearm, muzzleloading, bow-hunting).  
<sup>b</sup> Represents estimated economic impacts from the addition of two days of Sunday hunting during the general deer season.

## B. Religious, Social, and Practical Impacts

In addition to the potential economic consequences, any consideration of expanded Sunday hunting must take into account an array of potential religious, social, and practical implications.

### Religious Considerations

Much of the opposition to Sunday hunting is based on principled arguments regarding the sanctity of the day. In the 1999 hearings of the House Game and Fisheries Committee on Sunday hunting, many concerned citizens indicated Sunday hunting could reduce church attendance and religious devotion. Many were concerned that Sunday hunting would intrude upon the religious segment of the population that wishes to preserve one day of restfulness.

In a March 2005 survey of 1,000 Pennsylvania landowners, 61 percent of respondents indicated "religious/moral considerations" were a "major concern" regarding expanded Sunday hunting. Among hunters who were surveyed in March

2005, of those opposed to Sunday hunting, 71 percent of both resident and non-resident hunters cited Sunday being a "day of rest" as at least one reason for their opposition.

Many feel that Sunday hunting is antithetical to the tradition of the day as one of restfulness, regardless of their specific religious beliefs. Among hunters who stated an opposition to Sunday hunting, 55 percent of both resident and non-resident hunters indicated that the long-standing tradition of this prohibition is one reason for their opposition.

Those who support Sunday hunting cite the repeal of many of Pennsylvania's "Blue Laws" regulating permissible Sunday activities. The permissibility of purchasing and consuming alcohol and legalized gambling on Sundays are also cited for comparative purposes. Also cited by many is the fact that Pennsylvania is one of only nine states that currently prohibit Sunday hunting, leading many proponents of Sunday hunting to note that even many highly traditional midwestern states permit Sunday hunting.

### **Social Considerations**

Given that many Pennsylvania hunters may have demanding work-related commitments, Sunday may provide an otherwise unavailable opportunity for hunting experiences. Sunday hunting may also provide families that have rigorous work schedules and minimal family time an extra opportunity to hunt, as well as offsetting the loss of other hunting days due to such factors as other recreational pursuits or inclement weather. In the 1999 House Game and Fisheries Committee testimony, some hunters stated that permitting Sunday hunting solely within the current deer season could double their current available hunting time.

Much support for Sunday hunting is based upon the perceived positive effect that it could have on recruiting and stimulating interest among youth hunters. Of the hunters surveyed as part of this study, 44 percent either have a minor in the household or hunted with a minor in 2004. Of these, over half (53 percent) reported the minor(s) would be more likely to hunt or hunt more often if Sunday hunting was available.

In fact, the Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania have taken the position that bans on Sunday hunting may hinder the recruitment of future hunters. Stress may be placed upon families when attempting to make time for hunting in addition to children's extracurricular activities and school-related commitments throughout the week. Sunday hunting may provide an additional day for youths to hunt, thereby reducing incidences of school absenteeism for hunting purposes. The increase in youth hunting that Sunday hunting may provide could have the added effect of increasing youth hunting license sales. The perceived familial and educational

benefits provided by Sunday hunting are also cited as favorable arguments in the 1999 testimony.

## **Land-Use Considerations**

A major concern conveyed by non-hunters in the 1999 House Game and Fisheries Committee testimony was the impact that Sunday hunting may have upon alternative recreational activities on state lands. Specifically, the desire of non-hunters to engage in Sunday recreational activities free from the fear of stray bullets or general contact with hunters was frequently cited.

The Keystone Trails Association expressed concern that Sunday hunting would discourage those who engage in alternative recreation, such as hiking, bicycling, and photography, and cause others “to stay at home on the one day a week currently available to them for hunting-free recreation.” The Pennsylvania Appalachian Trail Advisory Committee Chair indicated that many members “do not feel safe or comfortable leading hiking groups or volunteer work trips during hunting seasons, except on Sundays.” The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau cited possible ridership and revenue loss to horse stables statewide that coordinate Sunday rides. The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau noted that, inevitably, either hunters or recreational users will feel excluded from their desired activity regardless of an expansion of Sunday hunting.

Among hunters surveyed in March 2005, 34 percent cited the limiting of land for non-hunting recreational purposes as a reason for their opposition to Sunday hunting. Among organizations that stated their opposition to Sunday hunting, 23 percent were opposed for the same reason.

A related land-use concern involves the competing desire of private landowners to use their property for personal recreation on Sundays; some landowners expressed in 1999 testimony that Sunday remains the only available day to fully enjoy their property free of concerns generated by nearby hunters. Conversely, some landowners and those representing organizations that support Sunday hunting expressed a desire to hunt on their property on Sundays.

Some testimony provided by landowners in 1999 cited the possibility of an increase in hunting-related accidents as both hunters and non-hunters may be on the same public or private land on Sundays for opposing purposes. Many landowners who testified in the 1999 hearings expressed concern for their children’s safety if Sunday hunting is expanded. Indeed, 49 percent of landowners cited “human safety concerns” as a major concern regarding expanded Sunday hunting when surveyed in March 2005.



## **Considerations Related to Trespass and Disturbing the Peace**

A common concern among landowners is the general disturbance of the peace that might occur from an expansion of Sunday hunting. Many landowners expressed in the 1999 testimony the desire to preserve one day per week free of any potential unwanted encroachment by hunters. Negative effects cited in the 1999 testimony include hunters' disregard for obtaining permission from and harassment of landowners and the destruction or deterioration of private property from excess trash and refuse deposited by hunters. In March 2005, trespassing was cited as a major concern among 47 percent of hunters opposed to expanding Sunday hunting. Similarly, poor hunter behavior (46 percent) and damage to property, livestock, and pets (39 percent) were cited as major concerns among hunters in opposition.

Privacy was a major concern for 77 percent of landowners in March 2005 regarding expanded Sunday hunting. Views of landowner interests varied among surveyed hunters opposed to Sunday hunting. Sunday hunting may provide the impetus for landowners to post their land "no hunting" who previously granted hunters permission to use their land. Related to religious concerns, testimony provided in 1999 suggested that many landowners may especially want to prohibit hunting during Sunday worship services.

The desire of landowners and farmers to have one day per week free from hunters was cited in 2005 as a reason for opposition by 57 percent of all opposed hunters, while the possibility of landowners "prohibiting all types of hunting" in response was a concern among 50 percent of all hunters in opposition to Sunday hunting.

## **Other Considerations**

In other areas, some persons stated that they believe prohibiting Sunday hunting gives wildlife a respite from hunting pressure, thereby allowing wildlife to return to a normal routine before the next hunting day. Others point out that allowing Sunday hunting would certainly have an impact on wildlife harvest levels and would have to be considered by the Game Commission before any decisions on expanding Sunday hunting opportunities was made.

## **IV. Sunday Hunting in Other States**

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Currently, 38 states allow unrestricted Sunday hunting. Pennsylvania is one of nine states that prohibit Sunday hunting for wild game. In addition to Pennsylvania, the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Virginia completely ban Sunday hunting for wild game. North Carolina prohibits Sunday hunting except for certain military installations under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government, and in Alabama, state law prohibits Sunday hunting, but, according to state officials, it is a “blue law” that is not enforced.

Three states allow limited Sunday hunting, as follows: Maryland allows hunting on private property on two Sundays during deer season; South Carolina allows Sunday hunting on private land only; and West Virginia allows Sunday hunting on private land, but each county can hold a referendum to ban Sunday hunting. (Exhibit 2 shows state regulation of Sunday hunting in all 50 states.)

As part of this study, we examined Sunday hunting-related developments in states bordering Pennsylvania and in those states in which changes have recently been made or attempted.

### **Connecticut**

Connecticut general statutes prohibit Sunday hunting. An exception is made for trapping and for hunting artificially propagated birds on licensed private shooting preserves subject to regulations the Commissioner may apply. In such cases, the operator of the private shooting preserve must obtain permission for Sunday shooting from the town or towns where the preserve is located.

During the 2003-04 legislative session, a bill was introduced which would have allowed bowhunting on private property on Sundays with the landowner’s permission. Another bill introduced during that session would have removed the restrictions on Sunday hunting. Neither bill passed.

At the start of the 2005-06 session, legislation was introduced to allow Sunday bowhunting on private property with the landowner’s permission. Under this proposal, the Sunday hunts would be permitted during the state’s regular bowhunting season in areas selected by the commissioner of the state’s Department of Environmental Protection. A similar bill introduced in the House would also allow Sunday bowhunting for deer on private property with written permission.

Five other bills were also reportedly introduced which would allow Sunday hunting in certain circumstances. However, as of April 1, 2005, all of these bills had died in committee.

Exhibit 2

**State Regulation of Sunday Hunting**

<u>State</u>	<u>Allowed</u>	<u>Not Allowed*</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Allowed</u>	<u>Not Allowed*</u>
Alabama		X <sup>a</sup>	Montana	X	
Alaska	X		Nebraska	X	
Arizona	X		Nevada	X	
Arkansas	X		New Hampshire	X	
California	X		New Jersey		X
Colorado	X		New Mexico	X	
Connecticut		X	New York	X	
Delaware		X	North Carolina		X <sup>c</sup>
Florida	X		North Dakota	X	
Georgia	X		Ohio	X	
Hawaii	X		Oklahoma	X	
Idaho	X		Oregon	X	
Illinois	X		Pennsylvania		X
Indiana	X		Rhode Island	X	
Iowa	X		South Carolina	X <sup>b</sup>	
Kansas	X		South Dakota	X	
Kentucky	X		Tennessee	X	
Louisiana	X		Texas	X	
Maine		X	Utah	X	
Maryland	X <sup>b</sup>		Vermont	X	
Massachusetts		X	Virginia		X
Michigan	X		Washington	X	
Minnesota	X		West Virginia	X <sup>d</sup>	
Mississippi	X		Wisconsin	X	
Missouri	X		Wyoming	X	

\*Except that there are some specifically designated exceptions in certain of these states. For example, Sunday hunting for crows, foxes, and coyotes, and Sunday hunting on validly permitted noncommercial-regulated hunting grounds are allowed in Pennsylvania. Also, exceptions are made in some states to permit falconry hunting on Sundays. (See Appendix E.)

<sup>a</sup>Alabama law prohibits Sunday hunting. However, state officials indicated that it is a “Blue Law” that is not enforced.

<sup>b</sup>Limited to private property only.

<sup>c</sup>Sunday hunting is prohibited except for certain military installations under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government.

<sup>d</sup>Decided by county. Presently allowed in 14 of the 41 counties on private lands.

Source: Developed by LB&FC staff based on research of state statutes and contacts with state wildlife agency personnel.

## **Delaware**

Delaware state law prohibits Sunday hunting but provides for exceptions for trapping, training dogs, and hunting red foxes with dogs. A bill was introduced in 2003 to allow hunting on private property on Sundays (between noon and dark). This bill passed the state House but did not move out of committee in the Senate.

As of April 2005, no new Sunday hunting bills had been introduced in the Delaware General Assembly for consideration in the 2005-06 legislative session.

## **Maine**

State law prohibits hunting in any manner on Sundays in Maine. In 2003, legislation was introduced to provide limited Sunday hunting. This bill would have allowed hunting on Sundays in Maine's far northwestern corner, but only for small game, which includes grouse and rabbits. The districts listed in the bill for Sunday hunting were contained entirely in the North Maine Woods, which is a corporation run by a group of timberland owners who allow the use of their private roads and forests for recreation. The North Maine Woods charges entry fees at a system of gates. The entire area includes about 6,000 square miles and there are no residential properties in this area.

The bill would have allowed for this limited Sunday hunting for a two-year period, giving the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the opportunity to review the impacts of Sunday hunting in that area before deciding if they wanted to continue it. This bill was approved by the state House in 2004, but did not pass the Senate. Also during the 2003-04 legislative session, a bill was introduced to open Sunday hunting throughout the state. This bill also did not pass.

With the start of the 2005-06 session, a bill was introduced which would allow resident landowners to hunt on Sunday on their own land if they own 20 or more acres and the land is open to hunting by the public. The landowner would have to register with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

## **Maryland**

Prior to 2003, Sunday hunting was prohibited in Maryland. With support from the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, the Maryland Sportsmen's Association, and other conservation groups, the Legislature introduced a bill permitting Sunday hunting. In early 2003, the Governor signed into law legislation that allows limited Sunday hunting. These limits include:

- Hunting only on private property with written permission from the landowner. The bill also increased penalties for trespassing on private lands. Sunday hunting on public lands was not authorized.

- Hunting deer on private property on the first Sunday of the bow hunting season in November and the first Sunday of the deer firearms season. No other Sundays were permitted.
- Hunting in specified geographic regions. The Sunday deer hunting provision is not applicable in certain urban areas of the state, including Baltimore City and the Washington D.C. area.

Maryland currently permits Sunday hunting in 12 of the state's 24 counties. Representatives of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources told us they consider the introduction of limited Sunday hunting to have been very successful. Although Maryland has, to date, had only two hunting seasons in which Sunday hunting has been permitted, department personnel made the following observations:

- the agency has not experienced an increase in landowner complaints or other related trespassing problems and have not seen an increase in landowners closing their land to Sunday hunting;
- increased involvement by youth hunters as a result of Sunday hunting is not evident but they believe it is too early to determine with certainty; and
- Sunday hunting has had an impact on harvests. In particular, they noted that an additional 3,000 deer are harvested as a result of Sunday hunting. This has been helpful when inclement weather has significantly affected deer harvests. In particular in 2003, the first year of Sunday hunting, opening day deer harvests were down by 18 percent. However, with the addition of Sunday hunting, and a resulting harvest of an additional 2,900 deer, the harvest was equal to that of the prior year.

Officials of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources told us they are not seeking to further expand Sunday permitting at this time. They believe sportsmen and interest groups are largely satisfied with the Sunday hunting regulations on private lands and see no need to expand Sunday hunting to state park lands or public wildlife management areas which are generally hunted more heavily than private lands.

## **New York**

New York State is divided into several regions, each with its own history regarding Sunday hunting. The northern zone contains the Adirondack Mountains. The Catskills and the Hudson Valley comprise the Catskill/Hudson Valley Region of the state. The remainder of the state is broken into a central region and a western Region. The Catskill/Hudson Valley, central, and western regions together comprise the southern zone.

In the early 1900s, Sunday hunting was allowed throughout the state of New York. However, in 1938 Sunday hunting was banned for the central and western

regions of the state. Sunday hunting remained legal for those in the Catskill/Hudson Valley and Adirondacks Regions.

The ban on Sunday hunting for the central and western regions remained in effect until 1993. At that time, organized sportsmen's groups who wished to expand the recreational hunting opportunities in these regions pushed for a change. A bill was passed in 1993 allowing Sunday hunting for the central region of the state, with a three-year trial period. In 1996, the state legislature made Sunday hunting permanent in the central region after little opposition was apparent during the trial period.

In 1996, New York passed an additional bill expanding Sunday hunting into the Western Region of the state. This bill also had a three-year trial period. In 1999, the Legislature voted to make this bill permanent, and as a result, Sunday hunting is now allowed throughout the state of New York in all designated open hunting areas during all open hunting seasons.

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation has not conducted any formal studies to quantify the impact Sunday hunting has had in the state. However, department officials told us they believe Sunday hunting has provided many benefits to the state since it was authorized statewide in 1999. They report that Sunday hunting continues to be accepted in New York, and there have been very few problems as a result of expanding it statewide. There have been no concerted, organized efforts asking them to readdress the Sunday hunting provisions. New York officials further report that:

- Because Sunday hunting increases the total number of weekend hunting days, more hunting opportunities are available for youth hunters. With a decline in deer hunters because of an aging population, New York officials believe they need to entice more youth hunters to the sport;
- weekend hunting opportunities result in increased harvests, which has helped them control their deer herd;
- they have not seen an increase in posted land as a result of Sunday hunting; (They report, however, that posting is generally increasing slowly on weekends, mostly due to individuals who live in urban areas during the week and come to rural homes on weekends and do not want to be disturbed during their weekend retreat. They characterize this form of posting as “urban values transposed on a rural environment.”)
- they have not found an increase in trespassing violations with the expansion of Sunday hunting; and
- because law enforcement officials had to be afield when the Sunday hunting ban was in effect to look for illegal Sunday hunters, there has not been an increase in the workload for law enforcement officers with the expansion of Sunday hunting.

## Ohio

Prior to 1998, Sunday hunting was permitted only for waterfowl, coyote, and groundhogs in Ohio. In March 1998, legislation was signed into law allowing Sunday hunting in Ohio for all legal wildlife game species during their respective open hunting seasons. This law allowed for Sunday hunting on public hunting areas, including the majority of Ohio's state parks, and certain private lands. It also provided for stricter penalties for hunter trespassing.

Sunday hunting on private lands included allowing family members to hunt on Sundays on their own property if they possessed 20 or more contiguous acres. Family members include landowner and spouse, parents, siblings, children, and grandchildren. Sunday hunting on private lands also included private land enrolled in the Division of Wildlife's Hunter Access Program (HAP). The HAP required 100 or more contiguous acres for enrollment. For these lands, the landowner may allow non-family members to hunt on their property.

The Sunday hunting legislation also increased the penalty for hunting without permission. Trespassing is now a third-degree misdemeanor for the first offense and the maximum penalty could be 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine. For a second trespassing offense, it is a second-degree misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail and a \$750 fine.

In 2002, the Sunday hunting legislation was amended to eliminate the Hunter Access Program and the need for the registration of private land for Sunday hunting, thereby permitting Sunday hunting on all property subject to landowners permission.

In the mid-1990s, the Ohio Division of Wildlife approached several Legislators and the Governor of Ohio about the possibility of allowing Sunday hunting. The Governor stated that if the proposal was acceptable to the Ohio Farm Bureau, it would be acceptable to him.

While the Division reportedly had a somewhat tenuous relationship with the Farm Bureau, the Farm Bureau listened to the Division of Wildlife on the issue of Sunday hunting. The Division wanted to maximize Sunday hunting opportunities, which the Farm Bureau had traditionally opposed, except for nuisance species (groundhogs and coyotes). After several meetings, a negotiated proposal emerged upon which both the Division of Wildlife and the Farm Bureau agreed. This package was introduced in legislation, and during this time the Farm Bureau agreed to remain neutral on the legislation.

Committee hearings were conducted and were consistently filled with sportsmen and -women supporting the bill along with some landowners who opposed the bill. The Committee passed the bill onto the full Legislature. The Senate passed the bill 32-1, and the House passed it 91-6. The bill was signed by the Governor on March 2, 1998, and it became effective June 1, 1998.

In 2000, when West Virginia was considering the issue of Sunday hunting, they looked to other states for guidance. In a document published by West Virginia in 2000, they made the following comments regarding Ohio's 1998 experience in legalizing Sunday hunting:

1. While economic impact arguments were made in support of the Ohio bill, they were not quantitatively specific, nor were they the primary focus of bill supporters.
2. Rather, Ohio chose instead to focus on what were termed the sociological benefits of Sunday hunting, notably the family values argument. Numerous persons reportedly testified that hunting is a positive, family-oriented activity that should be promoted.
3. Landowners also testified in Ohio in support for the bill, emphasizing that they desired access to Sunday hunting opportunities on their own land as a property right. The Ohio Farm Bureau ultimately supported the bill.
4. Concerns were voiced during consideration of the bill that Sunday hunting might cause an increase in landowner complaints regarding hunter trespass and other illegal activities on private land. In deference to that concern, the bill required a multi-year tracking of such complaints, an analysis of that data, and a reconsideration of the Sunday hunting issue after five years.
5. Ohio Division of Wildlife law enforcement officials report that implementation of the bill is proceeding smoothly, with very few landowner complaints.

There have not been any studies conducted on the economic impact of Sunday hunting in Ohio; however, staff from the Ohio Division of Wildlife discussed their Sunday hunting experience.

Ohio's experience in authorizing Sunday hunting has generally been positive. They believe it is a private property rights issue and that landowners have the right to hunt on their own property, allow family and friends to hunt on it, or decline it if they so desire.

They have not found groups strongly opposing Sunday hunting, nor have they found an increase in trespassing on private property or trespassing arrests with the expansion of Sunday hunting. They believe that increased trespassing penalties have deterred such violations. Additionally, while some landowners initially predicted that more land would be posted with the passage of Sunday hunting, they have found this to not be the case.

Further, the Ohio hunters and their families appreciate the extra day afield, and the businesses in Ohio reportedly like Sunday hunting because it increases their sales, in areas such as gasoline, lodging, and restaurant meals. Many busi-



nesses also appreciate Sunday hunting because their workers are less likely to take off during the week to hunt.

Ohio staff also report that they have not experienced an increase in license sales as a result of Sunday hunting, and they have not noticed an impact on wildlife populations with the advent of Sunday hunting.

While the original statute required a re-evaluation of the Sunday hunting issue after five years, the amendments to the Sunday hunting legislation in 2002 changed this requirement. As a result, a re-evaluation was not necessary.

## **South Carolina**

Prior to 2003, Sunday hunting was only allowed for small game on private lands and on all other lands that are subject to open season regulations. No big game hunting, which includes deer, was allowed on Sundays.

In 2003, a bill was introduced to increase hunting opportunities by permitting Sunday hunting for deer on private lands. This bill passed the Legislature, and it became effective on May 15, 2003.

The 2004-05 hunting regulations for South Carolina as issued by the Department of Natural Resources listed the following for “Sunday Hunting”:

Hunting is prohibited on Sundays on all Wildlife Management Area lands. On private lands statewide Sunday hunting for all game is legal except in Game Zones 1 and where turkey hunting is prohibited on Sundays, and bear hunting is prohibited on Sundays in Game Zone 1.

## West Virginia

Prior to 2001, Sunday hunting was banned in West Virginia. In April 2001, the Governor of West Virginia signed legislation permitting Sunday hunting statewide on private lands with written permission from the landowner with the provision that counties could prohibit it through a countywide vote.

Since 2001, the counties in West Virginia have placed Sunday hunting referendums on the ballot and, as of November 2004, 41 counties had voted to prohibit hunting on Sundays. The remaining 14 counties allow Sunday hunting on private lands. This Sunday hunting is permitted during all open hunting seasons.

Where there has been opposition to Sunday hunting, many have cited religious reasons, stating that "Sunday is a day of rest." Additionally, the West Virginia Farm Bureau has opposed Sunday hunting stating that "it is an issue of being able to use land on Sunday without having to worry about hunters."

While no economic impact studies on Sunday hunting have been conducted since its implementation in West Virginia in 2001, the Supervisor of Game Management for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources discussed Sunday hunting with LB&FC staff.

The supervisor reports that as of April 2005, no counties in West Virginia are planning to place Sunday hunting referendums on any upcoming ballots. Those counties that have banned Sunday hunting have done so because there has been a lack of public support. The West Virginia Farm Bureau and various church groups continue to oppose Sunday hunting citing Sunday as a day of rest. However those counties that have allowed Sunday hunting have found that the citizens of their counties believe Sunday hunting provides an opportunity for hunting for those persons who work six days a week. The general view in those counties has been that "people can do everything else on Sunday--why not hunting."

For those 14 counties that allow Sunday hunting, there has not been an increase in trespassing on private lands nor have division officials found an increase in posted lands. West Virginia has not had to increase their law enforcement efforts with Sunday hunting by either hiring more law enforcement officers or providing overtime to existing officers.

Because youth under the age of 15 are not required to have a hunting license except for antlerless deer, West Virginia has not been able to determine if Sunday hunting has allowed for an increase in youth hunting licenses. Also, because only 14 counties allow Sunday hunting, West Virginia has not been able to quantify whether Sunday hunting has resulted in an increase in nonresident license sales.

West Virginia has found that Sunday hunting has not had an impact on their deer herd size or any other wildlife. Because only 14 counties remain open to Sun-

day hunting, the number of additional hunters on Sundays has not been significant enough to impact their deer management goals as they had projected.

West Virginia officials state that there have been no problems in any manner with Sunday hunting in the 14 counties that are open to it. Their experience has found that Sunday hunting provides an opportunity for hunting for people who work six days a week. In this regard, Sunday hunting has allowed them to retain hunters they might have otherwise lost during a time of declining license sales.



## **V. Appendices**

# APPENDIX A

## House Resolution 927 of 2004

PRINTER'S NO. 4737

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 927 Session of  
2004

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INTRODUCED BY B. SMITH AND PHILLIPS, NOVEMBER 17, 2004

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, NOVEMBER 17, 2004

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### A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to  
2 conduct a study on the social, economic, philosophical and  
3 practical impact of providing expanded hunting opportunities,  
4 including hunting on Sunday, in this Commonwealth.

5 WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians traditionally work Monday through  
6 Friday and pursue some form of outdoor activity on Saturday and  
7 Sunday; and

8 WHEREAS, Sporting and recreational activities of all forms  
9 provide a healthy way to escape hectic lifestyles and spend more  
10 time with family and friends; and

11 WHEREAS, With the exception of hunting, the State places no  
12 limits on sporting activities during the first day of the week,  
13 a day frequently set aside specifically for sports; and

14 WHEREAS, It has become statistically evident that  
15 participation in hunting is declining, especially among young  
16 people; and

17 WHEREAS, Young residents of this Commonwealth, including  
18 students from grades 7 through 12, are finding it increasingly  
19 difficult to free their schedules from Monday through Saturday

## Appendix A (Continued)

1 to find time to hunt; and

2 WHEREAS, Working Pennsylvanians from all vocations routinely  
3 cite lack of time as the primary reason they do not participate  
4 in hunting more frequently; and

5 WHEREAS, Many Pennsylvanians are required by their employers  
6 to work through all or a portion of the weekend; and

7 WHEREAS, Expanded hunting, boating and fishing opportunities  
8 would enhance the ability of our sportsmen and sportswomen to  
9 pass down their love of the outdoors to the next generation; and

10 WHEREAS, Many individuals have the opportunity to hunt only  
11 on Saturday, and on many Saturdays the weather is inclement; and

12 WHEREAS, The sale of hunting licenses has brought innumerable  
13 benefits to this Commonwealth by preserving land, habitat and  
14 multiple game and nongame species; and

15 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth currently allows limited Sunday  
16 hunting for crow, coyote and fox and hunting on noncommercial  
17 regulated shooting grounds; and

18 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is second only to Texas in the total  
19 number of gun owners; and

20 WHEREAS, Limiting Sunday hunting has placed the Commonwealth  
21 at an economic disadvantage in terms of competing with  
22 neighboring states that allow Sunday hunting; and

23 WHEREAS, According to the Congressional Sportsmen's  
24 Foundation, Pennsylvania hunters and anglers had total  
25 expenditures of more than \$2 billion, providing a ripple effect  
26 on the State economy of \$3.89 billion; and

27 WHEREAS, The economic loss associated with limited hunting  
28 through lost license fees, lost gas tax, hotel tax and income  
29 tax revenue and lost jobs is thought to be staggering but has  
30 never been measured; and

20040H0927R4737

- 2 -

## Appendix A (Continued)

1       WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians believe that the Commonwealth and the  
2       Pennsylvania Game Commission should not impede a person's  
3       ability to enjoy an activity; therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the  
5       Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the issue of  
6       sport hunting relating to the economic advantages the  
7       Commonwealth could realize if the ban on expanded hunting were  
8       lifted; and be it further

9       RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
10      explore the economic impact of the more than 600 regulated  
11      hunting grounds across this Commonwealth and the economic impact  
12      of regulated hunting grounds on other outdoor recreation  
13      facilities in this Commonwealth; and be it further

14      RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
15      consider the impact of expanded hunting on private landowners  
16      and examine possible remedies for landowners who would exclude  
17      their land from Sunday hunting; and be it further

18      RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee,  
19      upon completion of its report, make a public presentation and  
20      make committee staff available, upon request, for public  
21      presentations to the Game and Fisheries Committee, the Commerce  
22      Committee, the Tourism and Recreational Development Committee  
23      and the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee; and be it  
24      further

25      RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
26      report to the House of representatives on its activities,  
27      findings and recommendations within 180 days of the adoption of  
28      this resolution.



## APPENDIX B

### **Survey Questionnaires**

## Appendix B-1 Licensed Hunters Survey

### Legislative Budget and Finance Committee



A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
 Offices: Room 400 • Finance Building • Harrisburg • Tel: (717) 783-1600  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8737 • Harrisburg, PA 17105-8737  
 Facsimile (717) 787-5487

This survey is being conducted at the request of the Pennsylvania Legislature to improve understanding of hunters' opinions about expanding hunting opportunities. Your Response will remain fully confidential and will only be seen by the contractor, Southwick Associates, Inc. ([www.southwickassociates.com](http://www.southwickassociates.com)). Please return your completed survey in the postage-paid envelope within the next five days. If you have any questions, please call 904-277-9765 between 9 a.m. and 5p.m. weekdays, or email [rob@southwickassociates.com](mailto:rob@southwickassociates.com). Thank you very much for your help.

1. Are you a resident of Pennsylvania?  Yes  No
2. In 2004, did you hunt at least once *in Pennsylvania* (any types of hunting in any season)?  
 Yes  No
3. Please estimate the total number of days you hunted *in Pennsylvania* in 2004: \_\_\_\_\_ days
  - a. Of your total days hunted in 2004, how many were on weekends: \_\_\_\_\_ days
  - b. Of your total days hunted in 2004, how many were on weekdays: \_\_\_\_\_ days
4. In 2004, please indicate which species you hunted, and estimate the number of days you hunted each:

Species	Did you hunt this species in 2004?	How many days did you hunt this species?	How many of these days were Saturdays?
Deer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Turkey	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Bear	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Migratory Game Birds (ducks, geese, dove, woodcock)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Small game (quail, pheasant, grouse, rabbit, squirrel)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Other game (groundhogs, coyote, crows, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

5. In 2004, did you hunt at least once *in any other state* besides Pennsylvania?  
 Yes  No (If you answered "No", please skip to question #6.)

**Appendix B-1 (Continued)**

5.1 If you hunted another state besides Pennsylvania, please complete the short table below. If you did not hunt another state, skip to question #6.

Please list the state(s) where you hunted in 2004, not including Pennsylvania:	How many days do you estimate you hunted <i>in this state</i> in 2004?	How many of these days were Sundays?

5.2 Why did you hunt in another state besides Pennsylvania in 2004? (please check all that apply):

- I live in that state, *or* I previously lived in that state
- I had friends/family inviting me to hunt in that state
- I could hunt on Sunday
- There were hunting experiences available there not available in Pennsylvania
- Hunting in another state provided me with additional hunting days when Pennsylvania's seasons were closed.
- Other reasons not listed above

5.3 If Sunday hunting was expanded in Pennsylvania for 2005, do you think your hunting activities *in other states* would increase or decrease next year?

- Increase     Decrease     Stay the same     Don't know

6. The State legislature is studying the issue of expanding Sunday hunting. Please provide us your opinion about the following:

6.1 Do you support some form of expanded Sunday hunting?

- Yes     No     Don't know / not sure

6.2 If Sunday hunting is only permitted for specific seasons or species, please rank which seasons you would like to see Sunday hunting allowed. Please rate your top choice as #1, and your last choice as #5.

- |              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| <u>Rank:</u> | <u>Species:</u>      |
| _____        | Deer                 |
| _____        | Turkey               |
| _____        | Bear                 |
| _____        | Migratory game birds |
| _____        | Small game           |

6.3 Thinking about the total days you hunted in 2004 (as reported in question #3), please estimate how many more Sundays, if any, you would hunt in Pennsylvania next year if Sunday hunting were allowed for *all* hunting seasons: \_\_\_\_\_ days.

**Appendix B-1 (Continued)**

6.4 If you are opposed to Sunday hunting, please check the reasons why:

- Sunday is a day of rest / religious reasons
- Wildlife needs a day free from hunting
- Landowners/farmers need one day without hunters on their land
- No hunting on Sunday is a long time tradition that does not need to be changed
- Landowners might post their land prohibiting all types of hunting
- Discourages/limits the use of the land for non-hunting recreational purposes.
- Other: Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you have any minors in your household, or did you hunt with a minor in 2004?:

Yes  No

7.1 If you answered "Yes" to #7, in your opinion would this minor (or minors) be more likely to hunt next season, or hunt more often, if Sunday hunting were expanded?

Yes  No  Don't know / not sure

8. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that could be implemented. *These are only a few of the many scenarios that may be discussed in upcoming months.* Please rate each option by checking the appropriate box below.

a. Before rating the scenarios, please check if you are "For" or "Against" any form of Sunday hunting:

For  Against (if you marked "Against," please skip to question #9)

b. Allow Sunday hunting every Sunday of every season

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

c. Allow Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays of general deer season:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

d. Allow Sunday hunting only for junior hunters accompanied by an adult, for senior citizens, & for disabled hunters:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***Please complete the last questions on the back of this page***

**Appendix B-1 (Continued)**

9. If the Legislature approves Sunday hunting, on which types of land should Sunday hunting be allowed:

*a. Allow Sunday hunting on all types of lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*b. Allow Sunday hunting only on public lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*c. Allow Sunday hunting only on private lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*d. Allow Sunday hunting only on state game lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?

\_\_\_ Pennsylvania Game Commission

\_\_\_ Pennsylvania Legislature

\_\_\_ Other, please specify:

\_\_\_ Don't know / don't have an opinion \_\_\_\_\_

11. Please check the box that best expresses your opinion: "If Sunday hunting were permitted, I would be  for or  against an increase in fines given to people who hunt private lands without landowner permission?"

12. To help us understand how hunter opinions vary, please complete the following:

12.1 What is your age?: \_\_\_\_\_

12.2 Male?: \_\_\_\_\_ Female?: \_\_\_\_\_

12.3 Please list the county where you most frequently hunt: \_\_\_\_\_

12.4 If you are a Pennsylvania resident, please list your county of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return the survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.***

***Thank you very much for your Response!***

**Return Address:**

Southwick Associates, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6435  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035

## Appendix B-2 Commercial Regulated Hunting Grounds Survey



### Legislative Budget and Finance Committee

A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
 Offices: Room 400 • Finance Building • Harrisburg • Tel: (717) 783-1600  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8737 • Harrisburg, PA 17105-8737  
 Facsimile (717) 787-5487

The Pennsylvania Legislature seeks your opinion about expanding hunting opportunities. Please provide us your opinion about the following issues. *All Responses will remain confidential with the contracted survey company, Southwick Associates, Inc. ([www.southwickassociates.com](http://www.southwickassociates.com)).* This survey is being sent to all commercial regulated hunting grounds in Pennsylvania. Non-commercial regulated hunting grounds are not receiving this survey as they are already allowed to hunt on Sundays.

1. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that could be implemented. *These are only a few of the many scenarios that may be discussed in upcoming months.* Please rate each option by checking the appropriate box below.

*a. Before rating the scenarios, please check if you are "For" or "Against" any form of Sunday hunting:*

For       Against (*if you marked "Against," please skip to question #2*)

*b. Allow Sunday hunting every Sunday of every season*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*c. Allow Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays of general deer season:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*d. Allow Sunday hunting only for junior hunters accompanied by an adult, for senior citizens, & for disabled hunters:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. If the Legislature approves Sunday hunting, on which types of land should Sunday hunting be allowed:

*a. Allow Sunday hunting on all types of lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*b. Allow Sunday hunting only on public lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Appendix B-2 (Continued)**

*c. Allow Sunday hunting only on private lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*d. Allow Sunday hunting only on state game lands:*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Please check the statement that best describes the likely impact of Sunday hunting on your business:

- Sunday hunting would help my business
- Sunday hunting would hurt my business
- Sunday hunting will have no effect on my business
- Sunday hunting would have a negative effect on my relationship with neighbors
- Don't know / Not sure

4. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?

- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Legislature
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know / don't have an opinion

5. Please check the box that best expresses your opinion: "If Sunday hunting were permitted, I would be  for *or*  against an increase in fines given to people who hunt private lands without landowner permission?"

6. Please list the county state where your commercial regulated hunting ground is located:

County: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return the survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.  
Thank you very much for your Response!***

**Return Address:**  
Southwick Associates, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6435  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035

## Appendix B-3 Landowners Survey



### Legislative Budget and Finance Committee

A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Offices: Room 400 • Finance Building • Harrisburg • Tel: (717) 783-1600  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8737 • Harrisburg, PA 17105-8737  
Facsimile (717) 787-5487

This survey is being conducted at the request of the Pennsylvania Legislature to help better understand landowners' opinions about the issue of expanding hunting opportunities. Your response will remain fully confidential and will only be seen by LB&FC staff and Southwick Associates, Inc., ([www.SouthwickAssociates.com](http://www.SouthwickAssociates.com)), the contractor the LB&FC is consulting with on this study. Please fax or return your completed survey in the postage-paid envelope within the next five days. If you have any questions, please call us at 717-783-1600 or email [info@lbfc.legis.state.pa.us](mailto:info@lbfc.legis.state.pa.us). Thank you very much for your help.

1. How many acres of land do you own in Pennsylvania? \_\_\_\_\_ acres.
  
2. In which county or counties is this parcel(s) of land located?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Please indicate whether any of your property described above is currently enrolled in one or more of the PA Game Commission's public access programs (these include the Cooperative Farm-Game Program, the Safety Zone Program, and the Forest-Game Program)?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No
  
4. If none of the property(ies) cited above are enrolled in a Game Commission public access program, what, if any, hunting do you allow on your land?  
\_\_\_\_\_ just open to the public for hunting,  
\_\_\_\_\_ open to the public for hunting, but with permission,  
\_\_\_\_\_ property is hunted but open only to family and friends,  
\_\_\_\_\_ no hunting is allowed on my property,  
\_\_\_\_\_ property is a non-commercial regulated shooting grounds
  
5. Do you currently post your land "No Hunting"? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No
  
6. The State Legislature is studying the issue of expanded Sunday hunting. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that may be considered. *These are only a few of the many scenarios that might be discussed in upcoming months.* (Please indicate your position on each of these potential scenarios by checking the appropriate box.)

6a. Allow Sunday hunting on every Sunday of every season.

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Appendix B-3 (Continued)**

6b. *Allow Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays of general deer season.*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6c. *Allow Sunday hunting only for junior hunters accompanied by an adult, for senior citizens, and for disabled hunters.*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6d. *Allow Sunday hunting on all types of lands.*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6e. *Allow Sunday hunting only on public lands.*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6f. *Allow Sunday hunting only on private lands.*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6g. *Allow Sunday hunting only on state game lands.*

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. If Sunday hunting opportunities were expanded in PA, would you on your property (check all that apply):

- allow the public to hunt on your land on most Sundays
- allow the public to hunt on your land on a few Sundays
- not allow the public to hunt on your land on any Sundays
- post "No Sunday Hunting" signs
- remove my land from the Game Commission's public access programs
- not allow any hunting on any days (i.e., close your land to public hunting)
- Other (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Appendix B-3 (Continued)**

8. What are your concerns regarding expanded Sunday hunting? Please check below to indicate the extent to which you consider each of the following to be a concern:

	<u>Major Concern</u>	<u>Moderate Concern</u>	<u>Not a Concern</u>
Trespassing .....	_____	_____	_____
Religious/Moral Considerations .....	_____	_____	_____
Poor Hunter Behavior .....	_____	_____	_____
Damage to Property/Livestock/Pets .....	_____	_____	_____
Privacy (do not want to be disturbed on Sundays) .....	_____	_____	_____
Human Safety Concerns .....	_____	_____	_____
Negatively impact my use of state game lands or state forests for other purposes .....	_____	_____	_____
Other ( _____ )	_____	_____	_____
Other ( _____ )	_____	_____	_____

9. What steps, if any, could the State Legislature or the Game Commission take to alleviate your concerns regarding Sunday hunting (please mark all that apply)?

- Require written permission to hunt private lands.
- Increase fines for trespassing
- Grant Game Commission officers increased ability to enforce trespass laws
- Be provided with "No Sunday Hunting" signs
- Limit Sunday hunting to a restricted number of days and for a select species or two
- Other: ( \_\_\_\_\_ )
- There is nothing the Legislature or Game Commission could do to alleviate my concerns

10. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?

- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Legislature
- Other, Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know/don't have an opinion

County of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your assistance and cooperation with this study.**

# Appendix B-4 Survey of Wildlife/Recreational Organizations and Stakeholder Groups



## Legislative Budget and Finance Committee

A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Offices: Room 400 • Finance Building • Harrisburg • Tel: (717) 783-1600  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8737 • Harrisburg, PA 17105-8737  
Facsimile (717) 787-5487

This survey is being conducted at the request of the Pennsylvania Legislature to help better understand the opinions of various statewide groups and associations on the issue of expanding hunting opportunities. Your response will remain fully confidential and will only be seen by LB&FC staff and Southwick Associates, Inc., ([www.SouthwickAssociates.com](http://www.SouthwickAssociates.com)), the contractor the LB&FC is consulting with on this study. *The responses you provide below should reflect the positions of the organization you represent.* Please fax or return your completed survey in the postage-paid envelope within the next five days. If you have any questions, please call us at 717-783-1600 or email [info@lbfc.legis.state.pa.us](mailto:info@lbfc.legis.state.pa.us). Thank you very much for your help.

1. Name of your organization: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Please indicate which of the following best describes the type of organization you represent:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ Hunting/Sportsman
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Nature/Conservation
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor Recreation
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ Other (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_ )
3. The State Legislature is studying the issue of expanding Sunday hunting. Please provide us your opinion about the following:
  - a. Does your organization support some form of expanded Sunday hunting?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_\_\_ No    \_\_\_\_\_ Don't know / not sure
  - b. If your organization opposes Sunday hunting, please check the reasons why:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday is a day of rest/religious reasons.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Wildlife needs a day free from hunting.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Landowners/farmers need one day without hunters on their land.  
\_\_\_\_\_ No hunting on Sunday is a long time tradition that does not need to be changed.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Landowners might post their land prohibiting all types of hunting.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Discourages/limits the use of lands for nonhunting recreational purposes.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_ )

**Please also complete the questions on the back of this page.**

**Appendix B-4 (Continued)**

4. Below is a list of Sunday hunting scenarios that could be considered. *These are only a few of the many scenarios that may be discussed in upcoming months.*

a. Before rating the scenarios, please check if your organization is "For" or "Against" any form of Sunday hunting:  For  Against

b. Allow Sunday hunting every Sunday of every season:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

c. Allow Sunday hunting only during the two Sundays of general deer season:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

d. Allow Sunday hunting only for junior hunters accompanied by an adult, for senior citizens, & for disabled hunters:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. If the legislature approves Sunday hunting, on which types of land should Sunday hunting be allowed:

a. Allow Sunday hunting on all types of lands:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. Allow Sunday hunting only on public lands:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

c. Allow Sunday hunting only on private lands:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

d. Allow Sunday hunting only on state game lands:

<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Slightly Oppose</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Slightly Support</u>	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Who should have the ability to expand Sunday hunting?

<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania Game Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know/Don't Have an Opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania Legislature	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify: _____)

**Note: If your organization has adopted a written statement or position on the Sunday hunting question or wishes to submit other related materials, please include them as attachments to this survey. Thank you.**

# APPENDIX C

## Economic Impact Methodologies

The methods used to generate the economic impact estimates are separated into four stages:

1. tabulate the expenditures made by Pennsylvania hunters (16 years old and older) from the 2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (Survey);
2. disaggregate the expenditures into retail, wholesale, and manufacturer portions;
3. generate economic impact estimates by applying the multipliers from the RIMS model to the adjusted expenditures; and
4. calculate state income and sales tax revenues.

### 1. Tabulating Expenditures

Hunters, anglers and wildlife watchers' expenditures were obtained from the 2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (Survey). This survey is conducted approximately every five years by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Bureau of the Census. The survey provides data required by natural resource management agencies, industry and private organizations at the local, state, and national levels to assist in optimally managing natural resources. The survey is funded through excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment through the Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Acts.

To generate the statewide economic results, expenditures were categorized into resident and nonresident files. Both included information on trip-related and equipment expenditures. Together, the resident and nonresident files represent all expenditures made in Pennsylvania in 2001 for hunting.

Survey respondents reported expenditures for dozens of categories of product and services. In most cases—except the indices—expenditures for individual categories are not reported due to small sample sizes. When using the data from the appendices, do so with caution. Aggregated, the expenditure estimates are reliable.

#### Data Adjustments and Assumptions

The survey does not have separate expenditure categories for activity related to specific species, such as deer hunting. Therefore, these had to be estimated.

Deer hunting will be used as the example here to explain methods. Deer hunting expenditures were included in the survey with all other big game hunting expenditures. However, information on the days of hunting by species were included. Therefore, for each respondent's data in the survey database, the ratio of deer hunting days to all big game hunting days was developed, then applied to that respondent's big game hunting expenditure data. This was done for all survey respondents, and the results were totaled to estimate the statewide dollars spent on deer hunting.

## Appendix C (Continued)

The survey also contains data on equipment expenditures (such as firearms), including equipment expenditures (such as boats, camping equipment) made by sportsmen that can be used for both hunting and fishing. Only the portions of expenditures that could be attributed to hunting were included in this analysis. For individuals who indicated their equipment expenditures were for unspecified fishing and hunting purposes, we allocated these expenditures evenly across hunting and fishing. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service did not attempt to allocate unspecified hunter expenditures. Therefore, the equipment expenditures reported here are slightly higher than those reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Statistical analyses such as those reported here are based upon samples of the population contacted through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Survey. Because the primary purpose of the survey was not to specifically contact hunters for specific species but rather hunters, anglers and wildlife viewers, some species categories have small samples of respondents. Small samples can lead to results that are influenced by a single, unusual observation or results that are not representative of the population at large. Results dependent on small samples are footnoted in the tables and should be interpreted with extra caution.

### 2. Disaggregating Expenditures

Retail sales (expenditures) were separated into manufacturing, wholesale and retail subcategories because economic impact analysis treats each segment as separate industries. The amount of each retail sale attributed to each segment is known as a trade margin. A trade margin is the percentage (mark-up) of a sale attributable to either the retail, wholesale or manufacturing sector. A gross margin is the revenue remaining after the cost of the goods sold is subtracted. Data used to calculate gross margins are from the U.S. Department of Commerce (census of wholesale and retail trade). These sources contain national sales figures for most retail and wholesale industry sectors. To derive margins, each wholesale and retail industry's gross margin was divided by its total sales. This produces the typical price mark-up for that industry. Next, two formulas are applied to estimate the value added (price mark-up) for each sector:

$R/(1+R)$  = retail margin, where R = retail mark-up

$W/\{(1+W)(1+R)\}$  = wholesale margin, where W = wholesale mark-up.

These formulas estimate the percentage of a product's final selling price that accrue to each sector. The manufacturing margin is derived by summing the retail and wholesale margins and subtracting the total from 100 percent. Since there are no wholesale or manufacturing activities in the service sector, services are not subjected to the above process.

### 3. Applying the Economic Model

To estimate the economic impacts, the data were analyzed with the RIMS-II Regional Input-Output model. The RIMS-II model was developed by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis for primary use by the Federal government. Input-output models describe how sales in one industry impact other industries. For example, once a sportsman makes a purchase, the retailer buys more merchandise from wholesalers, who buy more from manufacturers, who, in turn, purchase new inputs and supplies. In addition, the salaries and wages paid by these businesses stimulate more benefits. Simply, the first purchase creates numerous rounds of purchasing. Input-output analysis tracks how the various rounds of purchasing benefits other industries and generates economic benefits.

## Appendix C (Continued)

The relationships between industries are explained through multipliers. For example, an income multiplier of .09 for industry X would indicate that for every dollar received by the industry under study, nine cents would be paid to the employees of industry X for its products or services. The RIMS-II model provides multipliers for all major industries in the U.S. and for each state. The RIMS-II model includes output, earnings and employment multipliers. The **output** multiplier measures the total economic effect created by the original retail sale. The **earnings** multiplier measures the total salaries and wages generated by the original retail sale. The **employment** multiplier estimates the number of jobs supported by the original retail sale.

To apply the RIMS-II model, angler expenditures are each matched to the appropriate output, earnings and employment multipliers. For example, dollars attributed to gasoline refining are multiplied separately by the earnings, output and employment multipliers specific to gasoline refinement. The resulting estimates describe the salaries and wages, total economic effects, and jobs supported by the refining industry as a result of fuel purchases made by anglers. This same process is repeated for all reported expenditures. After all expenditures and multipliers have been applied together, the retail, wholesale and manufacturing results for each category are summed together.

### 4. Calculating Tax Estimates

State sales tax estimates are based on state general and fuel sales tax rates. Sales tax revenues are calculated by multiplying all retail purchases, except guides, contributions, fuel, land access fees and license fees, by the 2001 state tax rate (excluding local and city taxes). This was added to fuel tax revenues, which were determined by multiplying total fuel purchases by the 2001 state fuel tax rate. Due to widely differing fees, wholesaler/manufacturer and use taxes were not included in this study.

Federal income tax revenues were calculated by dividing the total income generated by anglers' expenditures by the total number of jobs supported by anglers' expenditures. The result was the average income per job. From this, a standard 2001 deduction was subtracted. The applicable tax rate was then applied according to the 2001 IRS tax schedule for single filers to determine the average tax paid per job. Finally, the average tax paid per job was multiplied by the total number of jobs to determine the total Federal income tax revenue generated by anglers in 2001. Efforts were not made specifically to account for deductions such as itemized expenses (house/mortgage interest, etc.) due to the widely divergent nature of these deductions. To generally account for such deductions, a larger standard deduction was applied to income tax calculations.

Hunting provides other sources of state revenue besides taxes. Hunters are required to buy a state hunting licenses and often one or more specialized state/federal permits and/or stamps. The revenues from these license/permit sales are used to wildlife management and habitat conservation efforts. In addition, there is a federal excise tax on many hunting, angling and boating purchases which are distributed back to Pennsylvania as well.

The economic impact results from the process generally described above produced estimates for 2001. These were updated to 2003 based on changes in the number of hunters buying licenses and inflation.

## APPENDIX D

### Hunters' 2001 Expenditures in Pennsylvania

#### ALL HUNTING ACTIVITIES TOTAL: Residents + Non-Residents

	<u>Retail Sales</u>	<u>Output</u>	<u>Earnings</u>	<u>Jobs</u>	<u>Sales Tax</u>	<u>State Income tax</u>
Food .....	\$ 89,932,402	\$ 191,565,563	\$ 45,641,528	1,762	\$ 1,798,630	\$ 1,339,894
Lodging .....	14,082,000	30,076,336	9,074,441	438	844,920	333,109
Public Transportation .....	617,378	1,259,266	324,617	9	37,043	7,150
Private Transportation .....	72,466,962	123,527,919	20,931,751	701	6,793,778	533,043
Guides .....	4,523,766	8,935,794	2,516,571	159	0	120,732
Public Land Use Fees .....	138,192	244,393	65,987	2	0	1,608
Private Land Use Fees .....	5,628,436	11,117,850	3,131,099	198	337,706	150,214
Heating & Cooking Fuel .....	1,873,999	3,194,438	541,296	18	112,440	13,785
Equipment Rental .....	323,719	600,013	164,838	5	19,423	3,835
Boat Fuel .....	115,107	196,212	33,248	1	6,906	847
Boat Launching .....	26,839	53,016	14,931	1	1,610	716
Boat Mooring .....	152,090	300,424	84,608	5	9,125	4,059
Rifle .....	57,694,346	115,673,620	32,845,097	1,288	3,461,661	978,868
Shotgun .....	34,178,035	68,524,861	19,457,381	763	2,050,682	579,880
Muzzle Loaders .....	13,217,667	26,500,611	7,524,751	295	793,060	224,257
Pistol/Handgun .....	7,458,234	14,953,301	4,245,934	166	447,494	126,540
Bow Expenditures .....	23,686,798	50,142,653	14,104,460	516	1,421,208	392,442
Scopes .....	15,640,125	33,591,104	9,919,667	331	938,407	251,307
Decoys .....	4,369,412	9,249,622	2,601,795	95	262,165	72,392
Ammunition .....	28,299,175	57,126,556	16,168,776	585	1,697,950	444,700
Hand Loading Equipment .....	24,058,528	48,566,112	13,745,876	497	1,443,512	378,061
Dog Expenditures .....	17,159,305	42,126,093	8,299,956	337	1,029,558	256,421
Other Hunting Equipment .....	8,676,210	18,366,695	5,166,306	189	520,573	143,747
Camping Gear .....	9,585,547	20,291,672	5,707,777	209	575,133	158,813
Binoculars .....	10,380,771	22,295,319	6,583,949	219	622,846	166,799
Clothing .....	26,454,027	57,795,972	15,471,343	608	1,587,242	461,877
Taxidermy .....	40,187,220	80,370,422	25,153,181	947	2,411,233	719,931
Books/Magazines .....	5,690,369	11,743,512	3,084,546	99	341,422	75,079
Dues .....	9,718,357	21,586,414	6,845,610	451	0	343,257
Oth. Hunt Related Expenditures ....	2,937,060	6,217,470	1,748,891	64	176,224	48,661
Boat Accessories .....	223,662	464,517	124,645	4	13,420	3,266
Van/Camper .....	144,548,485	308,029,431	60,328,786	1,883	8,672,909	1,431,935
Cabin .....	23,266,759	59,662,950	19,297,450	678	1,396,006	515,829
Off-road Vehicle .....	146,887,918	277,753,950	61,739,072	2,057	8,813,275	1,564,215
Other Equipment .....	114,980	251,514	66,717	2	6,899	1,747
Land Purchase .....	37,093,365	82,970,439	19,629,809	599	2,225,602	455,657
Land Lease .....	279,075,139	462,455,413	77,778,241	2,971	0	2,258,618
Licenses and Fees .....	<u>4,577,387</u>	<u>7,585,187</u>	<u>1,275,718</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>37,046</u>
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>\$1,165,059,772</b>	<b>\$2,275,366,632</b>	<b>\$521,440,650</b>	<b>19,204</b>	<b>\$50,870,062</b>	<b>\$14,600,338</b>



## APPENDIX E

### Falconry Hunting on Sundays

Falconry is defined as training, by reward, a bird of prey, to hunt. Falconry is regulated at both the state and the federal levels. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regulates falconry at the federal level, and the states' wildlife offices regulate falconry at the state level. In order to engage in falconry, a person must obtain the required state/federal permits as well as the state's hunting license. The falconry permit authorizes a person to take, possess, transport, sell, purchase, or barter raptors for falconry purposes.

The federal permit is issued jointly with the individual state wildlife agencies. Pennsylvania does not participate in the cooperative federal/state permit system; therefore, an applicant would submit an application to the Pennsylvania Game Commission for a state permit and then submit the approved permit information to the USFWS to apply for the federal permit.

There are three levels of falconry classes: apprentice, general, and master. Requirements for an apprentice falconer include taking a test that covers basic knowledge of raptors and falconry; having adequate facilities to house the bird; and having a general or master falconer willing to sponsor you for the two years the individual is an apprentice. The minimum age for an apprentice falconer is 14. To be a general falconer, you must be at least 18 years old and have two years experience. To hold a master's permit, a person must have at least five years experience at the general class. Only a master falconer can possess an eagle.

#### Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's Game and Wildlife Code prohibits Sunday hunting. Falconry hunting on Sundays is also prohibited. The number of falconers in Pennsylvania is as follows: Apprentice – 17; General – 75; Master – 96; for a total of 188.

#### Other States

All states with the exception of Hawaii issue falconry permits. Currently, 43 states permit Sunday hunting.<sup>1,2</sup> In general, of the seven states that do not permit Sunday hunting, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia and certain counties in West Virginia provide an exception to permit falconry hunting on Sundays. Below is a description of the falconry provisions in the seven states that do not permit Sunday hunting.

**Connecticut.** Connecticut does not permit Sunday hunting. There is an exception for trapping and hunting propagated birds on licensed private shooting preserves, provided that permission to shoot on such preserves has been obtained from the town or towns within which the preserve is located. In Connecticut, falconry regulations were approved for the first time on February 24, 2004. The regulations provide that the only falconry activities allowed on Sundays are training or exercising birds using lures or other props.

**Delaware.** Delaware does not permit Sunday hunting. There are exceptions for trapping, training dogs and hunting red foxes, which are permitted on Sundays. The Division of Fish and Wildlife reports that falconry is also not permitted on Sundays.

**Maine.** In January 2004, the Maine House of Representatives approved a limited Sunday hunting bill. This bill would have allowed hunting on Sundays in the far northwest corner of the state for small game species including grouse and rabbits. The bill's sponsor believed that the limited Sunday hunting would give those who work all week another opportunity to hunt.

## Appendix E (Continued)

The sponsor also believed it would increase the potential for weekend hunting getaways, which would be a draw for tourists and a boon for the local economy. This bill, however, did not pass the Senate. Therefore, there is still no Sunday hunting in Maine. Additionally, Maine does not permit falconry hunting on Sundays.

**Maryland.** Maryland statute does not permit hunting on Sundays. However, there is a statutory exception that allows persons using state certified raptors to hunt game birds and mammals on Sundays in open season. There are also other exceptions for fox chases, regulated hunting grounds, and having written permission of a land owner. There is also an exception for deer hunting on Sundays for those hunting on private property.

**New Jersey.** New Jersey statute prohibits hunting with dogs, firearms or any other weapon on Sunday. However, this does not apply to raccoons, which can be hunted until sunrise on Sunday. You can also check traps on Sundays. Another exception is that farm land owners and their families or lessees of the farm land or employees may hunt at any time and in any manner crows, woodchuck, fox and vermin. Regulations permit training and flying raptors on a year-round basis. Game species may be hunted only in accordance with the game laws and seasons and bag limits. Hunting pheasants, rabbits, jackrabbits, hares, chukar partridge, quail, squirrels and woodchuck on Sunday with raptors is permitted, but hunting waterfowl on Sundays with a raptor is not permitted.

**Virginia.** Virginia statute prohibits hunting or killing any wild bird or wild animal, including nuisance species on Sunday, which is declared to be a rest day for all species except for the raccoons, which may be hunting until 2 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Hunters are required to visit their traps on Sundays, however. Additionally, regulation permits Sunday hunting on controlled shooting areas. However, if the controlled shooting area is in a county with a population of 54,000 to 55,000, hunting on the controlled area on Sunday is not permitted. The county or city may also prohibit Sunday hunting by ordinance. The Virginia Legislature in early 2004 entertained two bills that would have allowed Sunday hunting. Both bills failed to pass. Falconry hunting on Sundays, pursuant to a regulation, is lawful when hunting nonmigratory game birds and game animals with raptors.

**West Virginia.** West Virginia statutes prohibit Sunday hunting. However, checking traps is permitted. Statute also provides for counties to put a question before the voters in the various counties to vote on whether or not to allow Sunday hunting in their respective counties. Falconry is permitted only during seasons established by the Director of the WV Division of Natural Resources. There is no exception that would allow falconry on Sundays. The Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section reported that a Sunday hunting provision passed in 2001 which allowed Sunday hunting in all 55 counties. The following year, however, almost all counties put the provision on the ballot and voted Sunday hunting down. There are currently 14 counties that permit Sunday hunting. Falconry hunting is also permitted on Sunday in those 14 counties.

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<sup>1</sup>While Alabama's Crimes Code prohibits shooting and hunting on Sundays, an official in Alabama's DCNR reported that it is a "Blue Law" and is not enforced. Thus, Sunday hunting is permitted in Alabama if the season dates span Sunday. Falconry hunting is also permitted on Sundays within the falconry season.

<sup>2</sup>Georgia's Crimes Code prohibits firing or discharging a firearm on Sunday. The exception to this is for any person hunting on publicly owned land when the administering agency has opened the land to public hunting. However, as reported by Georgia's Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division, this prohibition against discharging firearms is not enforced, and, therefore, Sunday hunting, as well as falconry hunting, is permitted on Sunday.

## APPENDIX F

### Pending Legislation Relating to Sunday Hunting

**House Bill 417:** Permits hunting woodchucks on Sunday, but only with the written permission of the landowner or lessee.

**House Bill 904:** Repeals the provision prohibiting Sunday hunting.

**House Bill 934:** Amends the Sunday hunting prohibition to allow Sunday hunting on commercial hunting grounds.

Source: Developed by LB&FC staff.