

## Report Highlights

### Economic Contributions of Sunday Hunting Alternatives in Pennsylvania: 2010 Update

The LB&FC contracted with Southwick Associates to update information on the economic impact of Sunday hunting, as first reported in our 2005 report entitled *A Study of the Potential Economic, Social, and Other Impacts of Expanding Sunday Hunting in Pennsylvania*. The current report found:

- **Southwick Associates estimates the total economic impact of Pennsylvania hunting currently (without Sunday hunting) to be about \$2.98 billion.** This level of output would support an estimated 27,552 jobs and generate \$210 million in state and local taxes.
- **Deer hunting alone generates about \$1.73 billion in economic impacts.** Deer hunting in all seasons (firearm, muzzleloading, and bow-hunting) generates about 60 percent of the total economic impact of hunting in Pennsylvania.
- **The economic contribution of Sunday hunting could be as high as \$804 million, depending on the assumptions used in the analysis.** If Sunday hunting was allowed on all Sundays throughout the hunting season, Southwick estimates that it could generate \$460 million in retail sales. Using the accepted output multiplier effect for hunting (1.7 for species other than deer and 1.8 for deer hunting) yields a total economic impact of \$804 million, a level sufficient to support 7,439 jobs and generate \$56.8 million in state and local taxes.
- **Deer hunting, even if limited to only the two Sundays of the general rifle season, could generate \$317 million in economic impacts.** This level of economic impact would support 3,301 jobs and generate \$23.2 million in state and local taxes.
- **Southwick also estimated the impact of Sunday hunting using more conservative assumptions.** The economic impact model used by Southwick allows for the exclusion of certain expenditures. So in addition to using the model that includes all expenditures, we asked Southwick to estimate the economic impact of Sunday hunting under two other scenarios: (1) exclude additional travel expenditures (to address concerns that hunters who simply stay an additional night at hunting camp to hunt on a Sunday may incur few additional travel costs) and (2) exclude both additional travel expenditures and additional purchases of hunting equipment (to address concerns that allowing Sunday hunting also may not result in significant new purchases of firearms or other hunting-specific equipment).
- **Even if travel expenditures are excluded, Sunday hunting (all seasons) could generate \$677 million in economic impacts.** Allowing Sunday hunting only on the two Sundays of the general deer season would generate estimated impacts of \$262 million under this scenario.
- **If both travel and hunting equipment expenditures are excluded, Sunday hunting (all seasons) could generate \$496 million in economic impacts.** Allowing Sunday hunting only on the two Sundays of the general deer season would generate estimated impacts of \$211 million under this scenario.