

INTERPRETING THE BIG GAME HARVEST STATISTICS SPREADSHEET:

1. The sheet is now set to show ALL species in one worksheet rather than one species per worksheet as was the case in the past.
2. Resident hunters, days and kills cells are populated using Hunter Sample (HS) data.
3. Non-resident hunters, days and kills cells are populated with Guide Declaration (GD) data.
4. Both resident and non-resident kill data is replaced with Compulsory Inspection (CI) kill data for Grizzly Bear, Caribou, Cougar, Goat and Sheep. The CI field indicates where CI kill data has been used in place of HS and GD kill data. See the DATA SOURCES work sheet for a table describing how HS, GD and CI data is used in the sheet.
5. The resident and non-resident OTHER SEX RATIO field shows **juvenile** kill where HS and GD kill data is used and **unknown** kill where CI data is used. Data is arranged this way because sex data is collected as 'male', 'female', 'juvenile' under HS and GD while sex data is collected as 'male', 'female' and '**unknown**' under CI.
6. Filters have been applied to all data in the 'BGHS' worksheet - various combinations of data can be accessed by clicking the down pointing triangle in the small grey box to the right of each field heading.
7. Pivot charts for hunters, days and kill have been added in worksheets titled 'HUNTERS', 'DAYS' and 'KILLS', respectively. Data in these pivot charts have been set up so users can filter on SPECIES, WMU, and PROV FLAG by clicking the small drop down arrows next to each of these fields in the upper right corner of each worksheet pivot chart. Users can also filter any combination of years by selecting the drop down arrow in the year column.

Each of the three charts is currently set to show BEAB in WMU '999', and PROV FLAG '9' - from 2002 to 2012. That is; 10 years worth of provincial level BEAB data.

It is important that users understand data in the WMU and PROV FLAG fields prior to using these filters.

8. Using the PROV FLAG and WMU fields to sort data.
 - a. Data that could not be assigned to a WMU:

Incomplete data that could not be assigned to a WMU, but could be assigned to a region, is designated by the region number followed by

two zeros under the WMU field - for example '600' under WMU indicates data that could not be assigned to WMU within Region 6, but could be assigned to Region 6.

- b. Data that could not be assigned to a WMU or region:

Incomplete data that could not be assigned to a WMU or a region is designated by WMU = '999' with PROV FLAG = '0' – for example WMU = '999' and PROV FLAG = '0' means somewhere in B.C. **DO NOT MIX THIS UP WITH PROVINCIAL TOTALS - SEE 6 BELOW.**

- c. Regional totals are designated as the region number followed by '99' – for example '399' means total for Region 3.
- d. The PROV FLAG field contains the provincial total data indicator. If PROV FLAG = '9' and WMU is '999', data is a provincial total.
- e. Region 7A and 7B totals are included in the WMU field and can be accessed by choosing '7A' or '7B'
9. Prior to 2008, non-resident Mule Deer and White-Tailed Deer was not differentiated, and collected as 'DEER'. This is why the spreadsheet does not contain Mule Deer or White-Tailed Deer until 2008.
10. In the specific case of Caribou, kill data for 1995 and 1996 is from HS for residents and GD for non-residents (Caribou were taken off CI for those two years) - all other years give caribou kill data from CI.
11. For 'Number of Hunters'; the sum of WMU totals does not equal the regional total and the sum of regional totals does not equal the provincial total. This is because hunters often hunt in more than one management unit or more than one region, so numbers of hunters are re-estimated at the regional and provincial levels to avoid redundancy.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR OMINECA AND PEACE REGIONS:

Region 7A and 7B WMUs can be accessed by selecting '7A' or '7B' in the REGION FIELD. Totals for regions 7A and 7B can be accessed by selecting '7A' or '7B' in the WMU field. The spreadsheet also provides a total for all region 7 statistics, with the MU value of '799'. You will notice that for non-CI species, the sum of 7A and 7B will be slightly less than the value provided under '799' for residents. This is because a small amount of data from questionnaires is known to be related to Region 7 ('799') but the actual MU is unknown. This 'error' data cannot be logically assigned to either Region 7A or Region 7B.

SOME ISSUES

1. There is some noise in the data, especially in the earlier years (e.g. caribou hunting on Vancouver Island). Sometime around 1991, a filter was added to the HS system that blocked data for areas where the animal either did not exist or there were no hunting seasons. Data entry errors also exist in both CI and GD's that produce similar results.
2. There are instances for both resident and non-residents where CI data is available and HS or GD data is not. These show up as records with null values under either the resident and non-resident HUNTERS field with kills data under the OTHER field.

This occurs on the resident side where a HS estimate is not produced (no one responded to the survey) and a CI record exists. This can occur on the non-resident side where a 'Accompany to Hunt' permit is used to harvest a CI animal. We do not key Accompany to Hunt permit data and therefore it is not available for use in the sheet.

3. Because of the way CI data is collected in areas with LEH zones that span multiple WMUs, CI kill records could be assigned to the WMU in which the LEH zone is named after, rather than the WMU in which harvest actually took place. This problem will be fixed for 2014.
4. For 2012, all harvest proportions are reported as an actual proportion rather than a whole number. This was done because previous year's data showed many instances where the sum of rounded MALE, FEMALE and OTHER harvest figures did not equal total harvest. From 2012 onward, the sum of all proportions will equal 1.