

Economic Impacts of PGC's Deer Management Program

Four economic impact analyses were made based on two financial assessments of the Game Commission's deer-management program by the Pennsylvania Legislative Budget and Finance Committee. LB&FC conducted the financial assessments in 2012 and 2017, and they depict the economic impacts that existed in 2010 and 2016.

A. Loss of hunters because of PGC's deer-reduction program and the lack of deer:

1. As of 2010, 117,000 hunters had quit.
2. From 2010 to 2016, hunters on the first day of deer season declined by 200,000. About 150,000 of this number still bought a license but did not hunt, with the other 50,000 buying archery licenses. **As of 2016, a total of 270,000 hunters were effectively lost as hunters and economic generators.**

B. Annual economic impact to the Commonwealth, especially to rural communities:

1. As of 2010, there was \$501.6 million in lost economic activity per year. Note that the Cameron County Chamber of Commerce referred to PGC's deer program as "*economic suicide for the county. Most family businesses that have not gone bankrupt or closed are down 50-60%.*" This is a microcosm of the economic impacts across the Northern Tier. Family cabins and hunting camps stand empty due to the lack of deer and other wildlife.
2. **As of 2016, the economic impact to the Commonwealth had increased to \$1.16 billion per year.**

C. Annual lost tax revenue to state and local governments due to PGC's deer program:

1. As of 2010, \$40 million of tax revenue was lost per year.
 - a. \$25 million in annual lost state government tax revenue.
 - b. \$15 million in annual lost local government tax revenue.
2. **As of 2016, lost tax revenue had increased to \$92.5 million per year.**
 - a. \$57.8 million in annual lost state government tax revenue.
 - b. \$34.7 million in annual lost local government tax revenue.

D. PGC is calculated to be losing \$8.1 million per year in lost hunting-license fees.

Note that PGC is requesting a license-fee increase of \$8M. PGC's deer program caused a lack of deer with resulting loss of hunters. Consequently, PGC has caused its own budget deficit.

Economic Benefits from Passing HB 1483

Passage of HB 1483 will result in the following four major economic benefits for Pennsylvania, rural communities, and family businesses based on two financial assessments of the Game Commission's deer-management program by the Pennsylvania Legislative Budget and Finance Committee in 2010 and 2017.

A. HB 1483 will return hunters as license-buying customers of PGC:

1. **Within two years, HB 1483 is estimated to return 150,000 hunters.**
2. **Within five years, HB 1483 is estimated to return 270,000 hunters.**

B. HB 1483 represents an unparalleled economic generator for the state and rural communities:

1. **Within two years, HB 1483 will generate \$658.4 million per year in economic activity.**
2. **Within five years, HB 1483 will generate \$1.16 billion per year in economic activity.**

C. HB 1483 will generate significant state and local tax revenues:

1. **Within two years, HB 1483 will generate \$52.5 million per year in tax revenue.**
 - a. \$32.8 million in annual state government tax revenue.
 - b. \$19.7 million in annual local government tax revenue.
2. **Within five years, HB 1483 will generate \$92.5 million per year in tax revenue.**
 - a. \$57.8 million in annual state government tax revenue.
 - b. \$34.7 million in annual local government tax revenue.

D. Within two years, HB 1483 is projected to generate \$33-65 million per year in revenue:

1. \$8.1 million per year in renewed hunting-license sales for PGC.
2. \$25-57 million per year in timber sales for PGC.

Note that HB 1483 will also generate \$42-97 million per year in timber sales for DCNR.