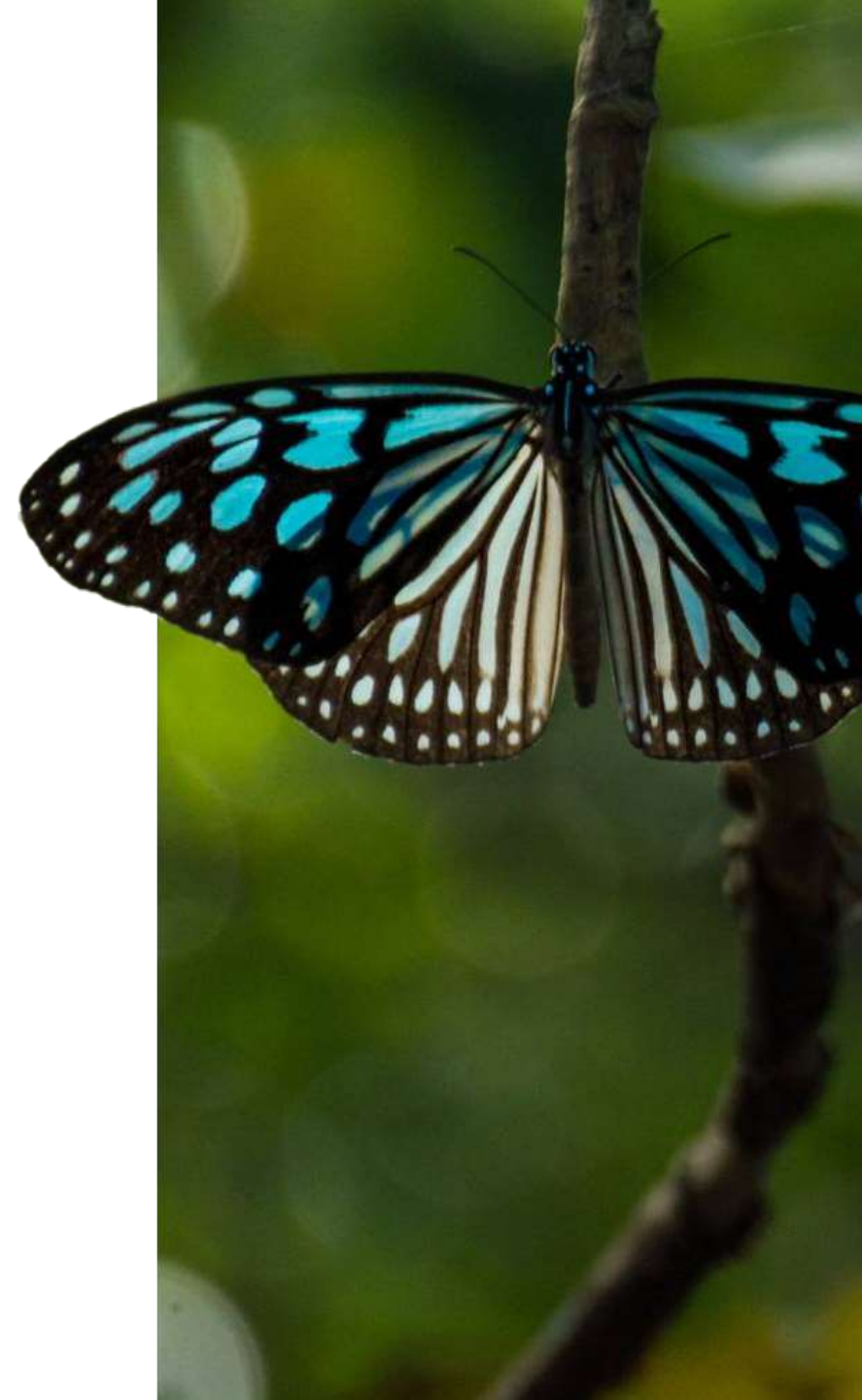


Side-event at CITES 33AC: Building a
Wildlife Economy

THE WILD HARVEST INITIATIVE® & WILDLIFE- BASED ECONOMY IN NORTH AMERICA

A Presentation By: Shane Mahoney



Wildlife Economy in North America

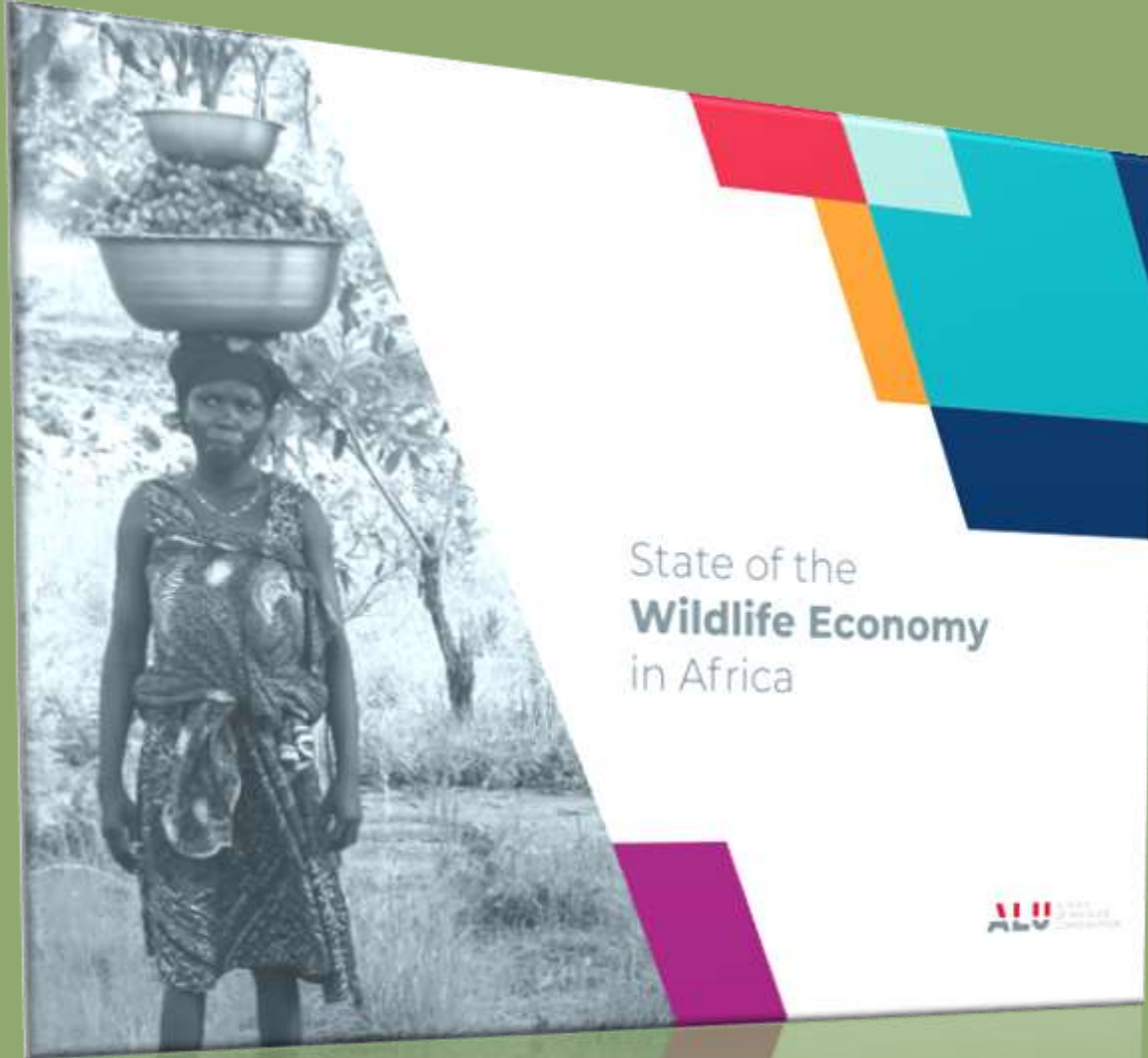
The wild biodiversity economy consists of economic activities and their enabling frameworks that ***create measurable positive impacts on wildlife and on the communities living in and around wildlife.*** The wild biodiversity economy is used synonymously with wildlife economy.

Activities in North America include hunting, trapping, recreational fishing, wildlife ranching / game farming, ecotourism, timber & non-timber forest products, nature-based recreation, carbon market & biodiversity offsets, bioprospecting... and more!

North American WBDE Scoping Study

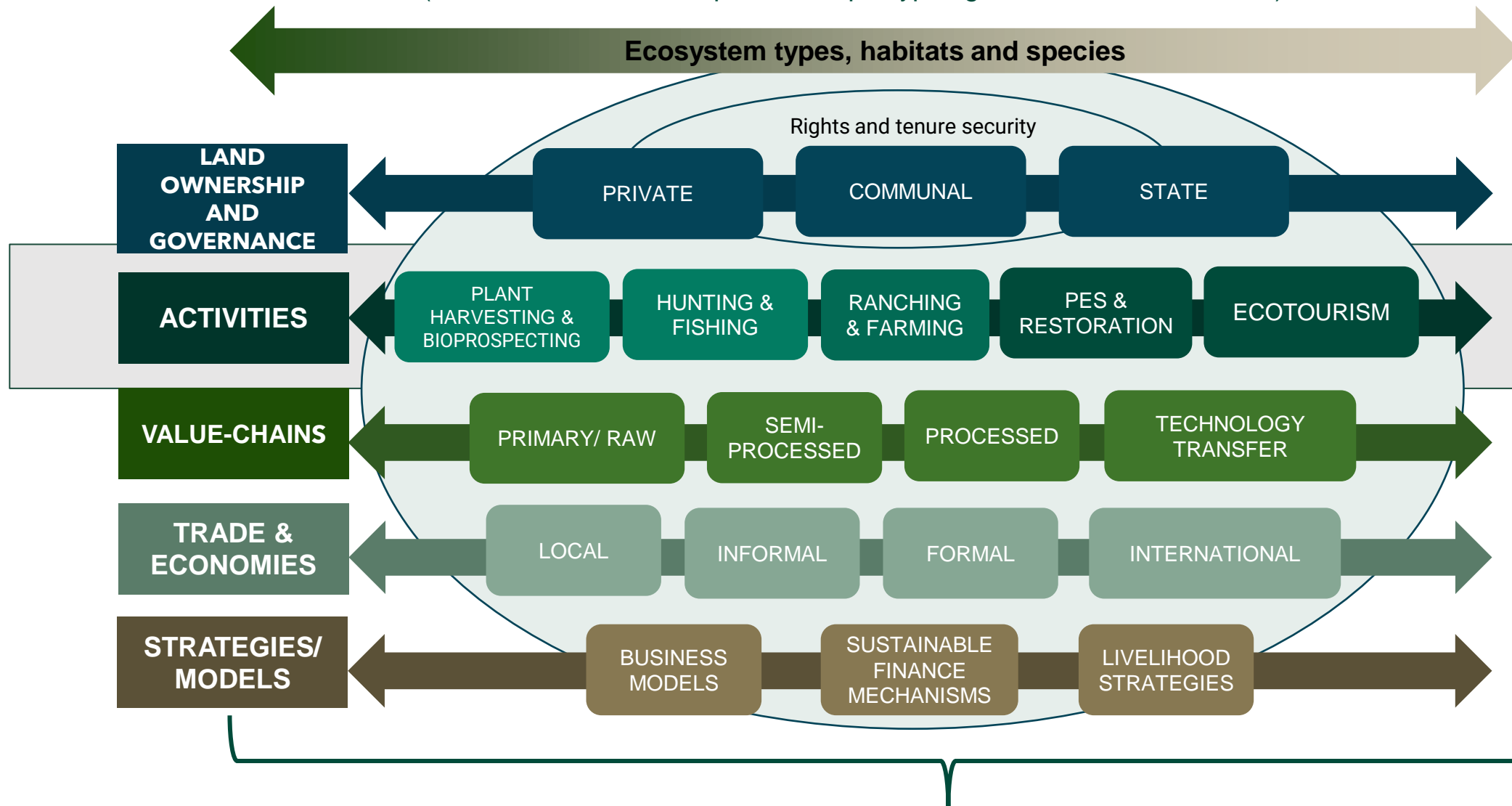
This assignment will contribute to the implementation of the UNEP-led WBDE project. It will:

1. Identify what kinds of WBDE activities exist
2. Assess the state of the policy environment
3. Identify key stakeholders
4. Identify how the UNEP-led WBDE project can be most effectively implemented in North America



WILDLIFE-BASED LAND USES (WBLU) & USERS

(Terrestrial and inland aquatic, multiple typologies of users incl. IPLCs)



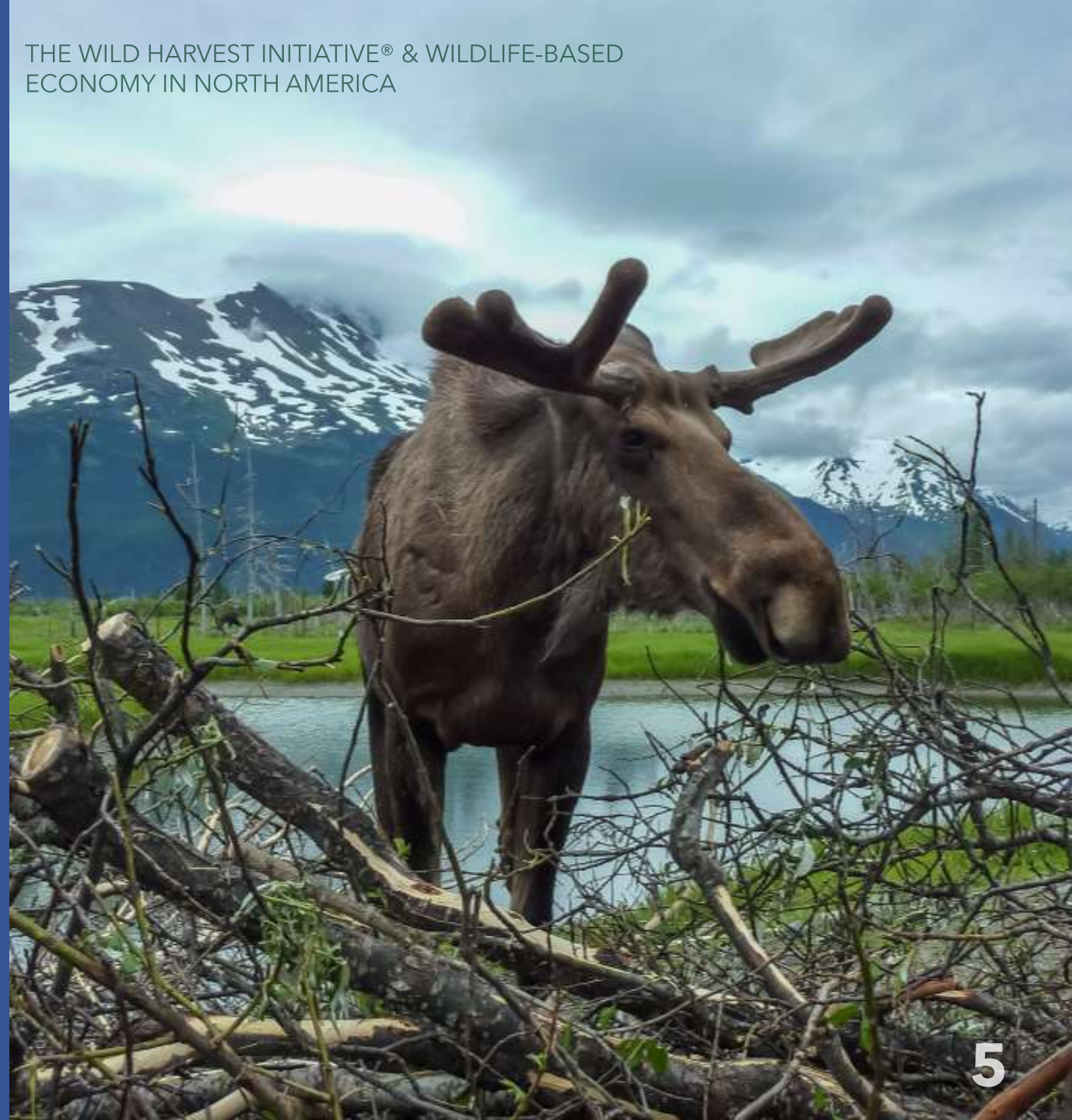
North American Wildlife Economy Statistics

United States Expenditures:

(From 2022 National Survey of Fishing Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation)

- **Hunting**-related expenditures amounted to \$45.2 billion in 2022 in the US.
- **Fishing**- related expenditures amounted to \$99.4 billion in 2022 in the US.
- **Wildlife-watching** expenditures amounted to \$250.2 billion in 2022 in the US.

Total hunting, fishing, wildlife watching expenditures: \$395.8 billion in 2022 in the US. **Only 39 countries have a GDP exceeding \$395 billion.**

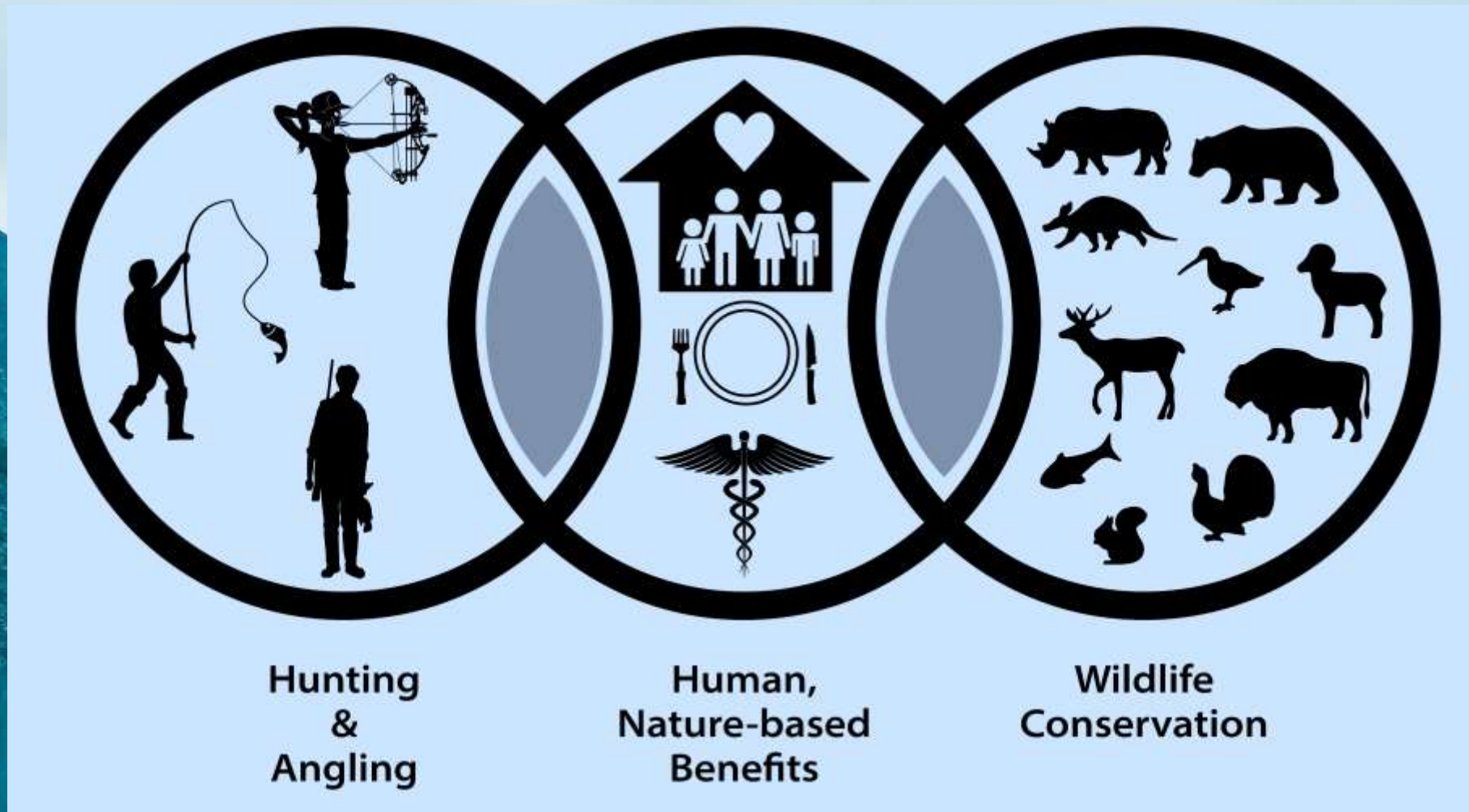


The Wild Harvest Initiative®

- The first research programme to evaluate the combined economic, conservation, and social benefits of wild animal harvests in the United States & Canada
- Contributes to the WBDE project and North American Scoping Study by:
 1. Assessing the economic value of wild meat and other wild harvested products
 2. Assessing the measurable, positive impacts of wild living resources on communities



The interplay between recreational wild animal harvesting; human, nature-based benefits, like food; and wildlife conservation is the conceptual framework upon which the programme is based.



Wild Harvest Initiative® Strategic Objectives

1. To quantify the amount of wild meat and fish procured annually by recreational hunters and anglers in each US State and each Canadian province and territory
2. To determine the economic value of legally harvested wildlife and fish for the US and Canada, including as food
3. To calculate a “social sharing index” to estimate the numbers of citizens with whom recreationally wild harvested food is shared
4. To estimate the agricultural costs of replacing wild harvested meat and fish with equivalents in beef, chicken, farmed salmon, etc.
5. To provide evidence of the benefits of sustainable wildlife management to modern society.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS HARVESTED THROUGH HUNTING (Annual Average)

USA

Animals Harvested Annually:

61,000,000



CANADA

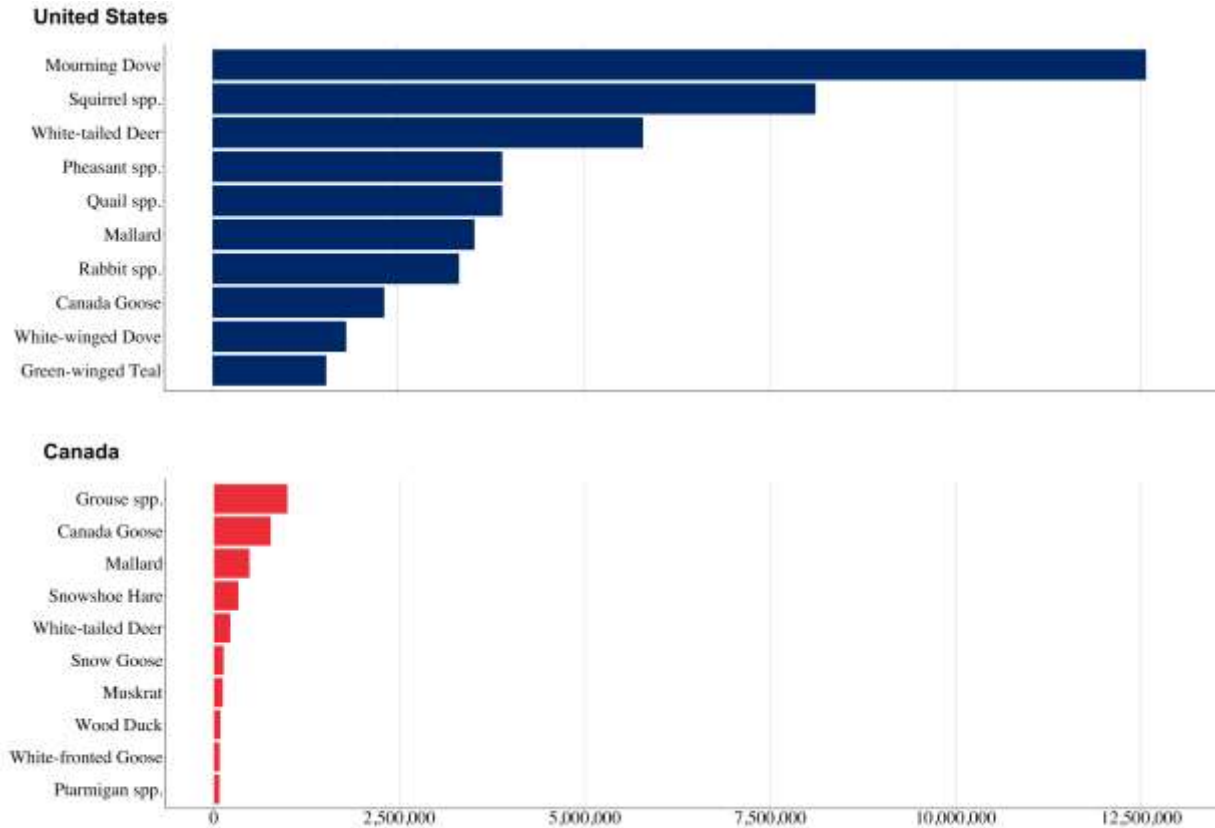
Animals Harvested Annually:

4,000,000

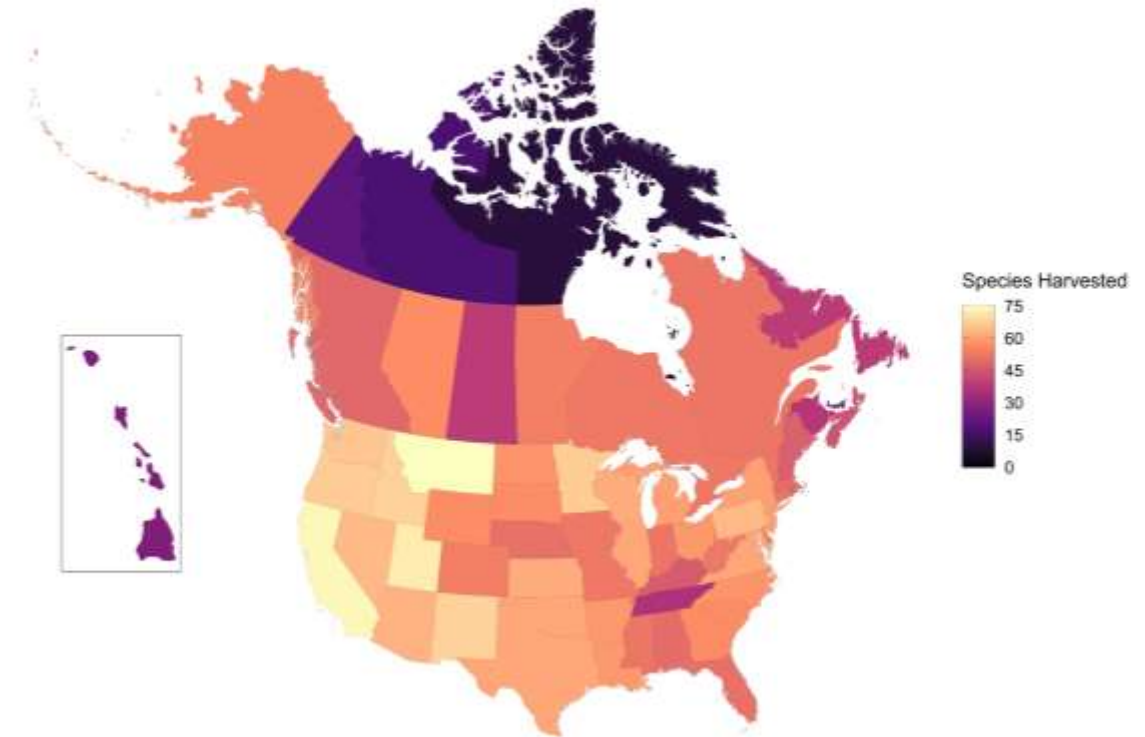


Wild Harvested Species

10 Most Harvested Species in the US & Canada (2014-19)

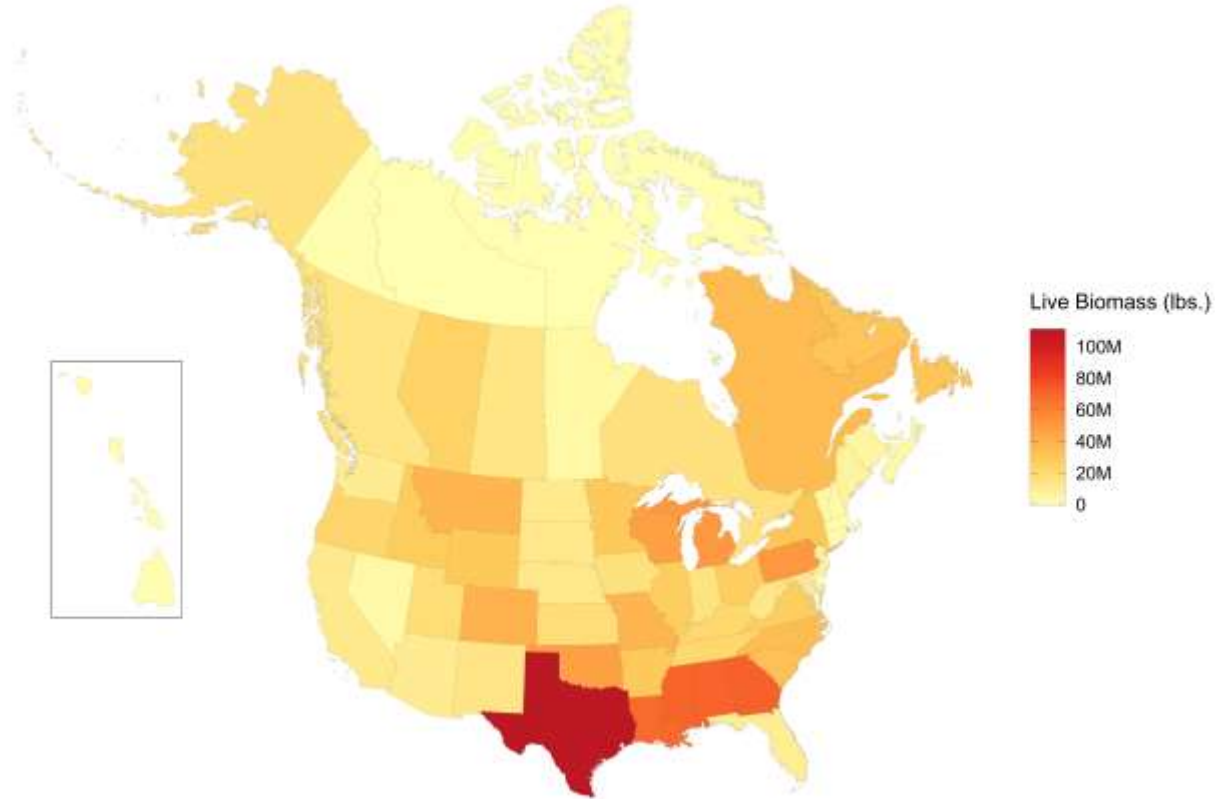


Number of Wildlife Species Harvested by Jurisdiction (2014-19)



Hunting Harvest Annual Live Biomass

Live Mass of Wildlife Species Harvested by Jurisdiction



Comparison of Hunting Harvest in the US & Canada

United States
1.24 Billion lbs

Vs

Canada
133 Million lbs

Wild Meat Harvested in the United States and Canada

(Annual Average)



Live
Pounds of Harvest



Consumable
Pounds of Harvest



Number of Meals
(6oz. servings)

Canada

133,000,000

52,000,000

138,000,000

United
States

1,240,000,000

531,000,000

1,420,000,000

How Much Would it Cost Annually to Replace Wild Meat in the United States?

Replacement	Amount to Replace (lbs)	Cost to Replace (USD)
Beef	139,000,000	\$1,024,300,000
Chicken	230,900,000	\$736,800,000
Pork	121,200,000	\$387,700,000
Turkey	36,800,000	\$62,500,000
Lamb	3,000,000	\$31,100,000
Veal	400,000	\$3,500,000
TOTAL	531,300,000	\$2,245,600,000



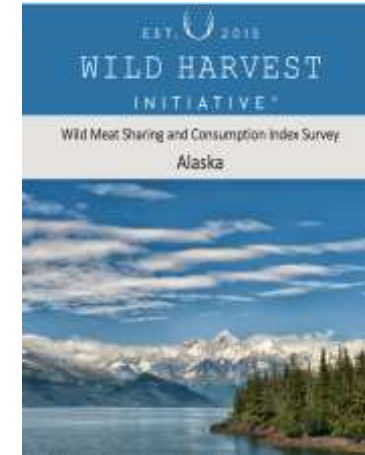
A Social Sharing Index

1. To estimate the number of hunters who shared wild harvested meat
2. To estimate the number of individuals with whom wild harvested meat is shared
3. To collect data on the species from which wild harvested meat is shared
4. To estimate the proportion of wild meat harvested to wild meat shared
5. To investigate hunter motivations for sharing wild harvested meat
6. To evaluate the role of wild harvested meat in terms of household meat consumption.

Texas



Alaska



Arizona



Wyoming



Nevada

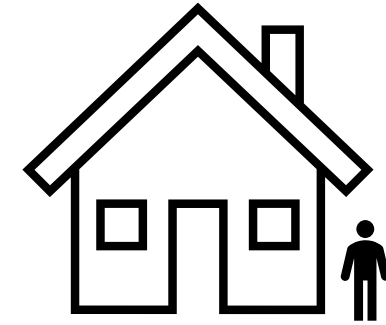


How Much Wild Meat is Shared?

- Hunters share the majority of their wild harvested meat.
- 15-37% is shared outside their households.



Mass of Wild Meat Consumed Inside and Shared Outside of the Household



Inside the Household

Outside the Household

Texas

31 million lb

18 million lb

Wyoming

8.5 million lb

1.6 million lb

Nevada

1.2 million lb

221 thousand lb

Arizona

3.4 million lb

879 thousand lb

Finding Natural Allies

➤ Hunters and anglers have many natural allies in the sustainable harvest of wild resources:

- Berry-pickers
- Mushroom Foragers
- Firewood Collectors
- Shed Antler Collectors
- Wild Beekeepers
- Herb Gatherers
- Medicinal Plant Gatherers
- Cattle Ranchers
- Many, many more!



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