

ALASKA

PROFESSIONAL HUNTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Registered and Master Guides,

Please take the time to read this letter thoroughly!

The Alaska Professional Hunters Association (APHA) is the only professional guide industry organization in Alaska. We are committed to defending, preserving and promoting Alaska's professional guide industry against the many perils that face us on a daily basis and have been doing so with the help of our conservation partners for over 40 years. We are the leading organization guarding nonresident hunting rights in Alaska and are dedicated to the conservation of Alaska's Wildlife Resources. APHA consists of your peers and we need your participation to be as strong and effective as we possibly can.

It is through the financial support of guides and hunters that we fund our professional staff, attorneys and lobbyists in Juneau and Washington D.C., to fight against legislation, state and federal policies and public perceptions that would have a direct negative effect on our hunting heritage here in Alaska. Whether by renewal or for the very first time, we would like to ask for your help and participation by joining as a professional member of APHA.

The Alaska Board of Game process is only one arena in which our industry faces many significant challenges. This board will be holding 3 important meetings through March. If you go to the following link, <http://www.boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov> and read through the proposals for these meetings, you'll find many that ask to significantly restrict nonresident participation and maybe several that will negatively impact your livelihood directly. We need a strong showing of industry professionals at all of these meetings. APHA takes a lead role by holding a professional membership teleconference prior to the written comment deadline for each meeting, and sending written comments and a representative to each meeting.

One of our key funding tools is the Non Resident Hunter Preservation Fund (NRHPF) program. When properly set up and presented, nearly all clients are eager to participate and there is no cost and little extra work required for the contracting guide - ***the clients pay for it, not the guide.*** We plan to keep working on providing incentives, making it easier to implement, and showing our members the great benefits to our industry that this program provides. Indeed, what we can accomplish with a larger membership base and full participation in this program will be very significant to the sustainable future of Guiding in Alaska! To learn more visit: <http://alaskaprohunter.org/NRHPF.html>

Some of the many benefits to being an APHA professional member are listed below:

Dedicated to the conservation of our wildlife resources.

- 1 year subscription to the Alaska Professional Hunter Magazine.
- Participation in Regional BOG and “member concern” teleconferences and surveys.
- Voting rights at special and annual meetings.
- Email alerts on a wide variety of issues, plus summaries from board of director meetings.
- Use of the APHA logo on your website and literature.
- Free “For Sale” and “Help Wanted” advertising in the Guide Post section of our website.
- A free guide listing in each issue of our magazine The Alaska Professional Hunter.
- A free guide listing on our website, www.alaskaprohunter.org, with direct links to your website.
- *A 20% discount on magazine advertising or 30% on consecutive magazine advertising.
- *Up to 2 hunter gallery photos per issue in our magazine.
- *Participation in SCI’s Guide and Outfitter Insurance Program (some Guides have seen savings as high as 30% over traditional Insurance Programs).
- *Participation in the SCI /APHA Animal Awards Program.
- *Many more new benefits are in the works!

**Indicates additional benefits to participating NRHPF professional members. All new professional members will receive full benefits their first year whether or not they participate in the program.*

We hope you will give serious consideration to joining or rejoining APHA as a professional member, and have included a membership application in this letter. You can also download a form or sign up and pay online at the following link: http://alaskaprohunter.org/Join_the_APHA.html If you are already a member, spread the word and try to enlist other registered and master guide friends. Consider buying some of your assistants an assistant guide membership (\$75.00 per year). Doing so is a good way to encourage them to get more involved. If you have any questions, concerns or good ideas, we would like to hear from you.

Contact a board member personally or the office at office@alaskaprohunter.org and your comments will be forwarded to the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,



Sam Rohrer
President

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