

# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **MARCH 12, 2004**

### **Government joins with Alberta's guides and outfitters to put \$1 million into wildlife management initiatives**

*Funding will span five years*

*Edmonton...* The government of Alberta has approved a proposal by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society (APOS) to contribute \$1 million of new revenue toward provincial wildlife programs. The funding will go toward initiatives like wildlife inventories for species such as antelope, moose, elk and deer.

"This innovative partnership not only brings new dollars into Alberta's wildlife system, but also shows our willingness to work with industry partners," said Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Minister Mike Cardinal.

To generate the revenue, APOS is collecting a levy which can go into a dedicated revenue fund for wildlife. Alberta's 365 big-game outfitters are paying the fees for their wildlife allocations over a five-year period.

"We are pleased the province is supporting this industry-led initiative, which will help maintain the viability of outfitting in the province," said APOS President Glenn Brown. "This initiative is strongly supported by our members, and shows our industry's commitment toward conserving and enhancing Alberta's wildlife populations."

The province will continue to work with APOS and its members to determine which wildlife initiatives will benefit from the new funding.