

# 2023 Annual Report







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**Spring Turkey Camp - Washington** 

#### Overview of Programs

MISSION STATEMENT: The First Hunt Foundation is dedicated to ensure that hunting remains a vital part of the American culture. We believe that by providing a mentor-based hunting experience to youth and other interested individuals, the hunting heritage will be passed on to future generations. Wildlife conservation and habitat management will be better served and supported by having citizens who are educated on the value of hunting as a management tool.

#### First Hunt Mentoring Programs







The First Hunt Foundation's main emphasis is mentoring new hunters. Mentor based experiences can develop lifelong skills and a passion for hunting. This support for hunting can be passed on to future generations of new hunters.

**Veterans & First** 

Underrepresented Responders Program Communities Program Women & Girls' **Program** 



The mission of Connecting Heroes and Hunters is to provide veterans and first responders with a renewed sense of purpose and mission focus through mentorship of new hunters.

FORGOTTEN

At the heart of our mission is the restoration of the hunting heritage and traditions that have been lost in underrepresented communities.



To connect and encourage women mentors to share their hunting knowledge, experiences and heritage especially with women and girl mentees on their journey to the hunt.

#### Our 2023 Accomplishments

2023 marked the foundation's ninth year of operations. We continue to grow and expand across the nation, with volunteers operating in 47 states.

Some of our major accomplishments for the year were:

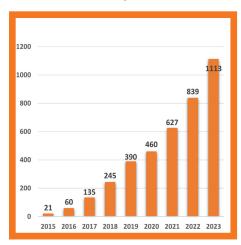
- Expanded our operational footprint to 47 states and recruited an additional 274 background checked mentors/coaches
- Developed the ABCs of Outdoor Mentoring online training course in collaboration with NRA Hunters Leadership Forum.
- Recruited a Chief Operating Officer
- Launched the Forgotten Rites Program focused on increasing diversity and recruiting new hunters from historically underrepresented communities
- Created a Mentor Engagement division focused on keeping mentors up to date and engaged with the foundation
- Partnered with onX Maps and Bear Archery to expand our benefits for mentors and new hunters
- Awarded a USFWS Multi-State Conservation Grant to expand women's access to hunting
- Recognized by Microsoft and Facebook as a national non-profit
- Attended numerous industry trade shows including:
  - o World Deer Expo in Birmingham, AL
  - o Western Hunting and Conservation Expo in Salt Lake City, UT
  - o SCI National Convention in Las Vegas, NV
  - o Sheep Show in Reno, NV
  - o Bighorn Show in Spokane, WA
- Successfully completed 22,019 mentored days\*
  - o Estimated economic impact of FHF activities: ~\$2.2M

<sup>\*</sup>Mentored Days include 12,582 Hunting Days and 9,437 Training Days. Total new hunter count for the year was 3,339, which includes 1,163 adults and 2,176 youth. Of these new hunters, 723 were female and 2,616 were male. Economic impacts were based on 2016 estimates of ~\$50/hunter/day. Statistical averages (95% confidence interval) were assigned to volunteers who were unable to respond to our annual data survey.

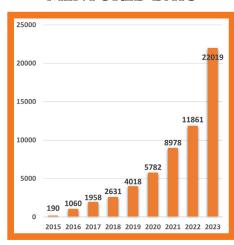
#### 2023 Mentoring Data

#### We Keep Growing!

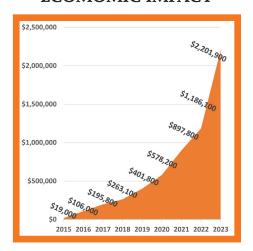
#### **MENTORS/COACHES**



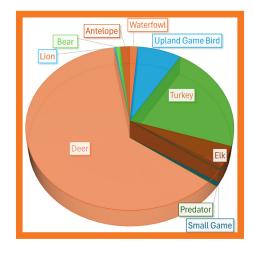
#### **MENTORED DAYS**



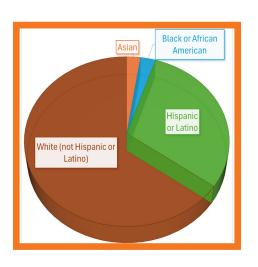
**ECOMOMIC IMPACT** 



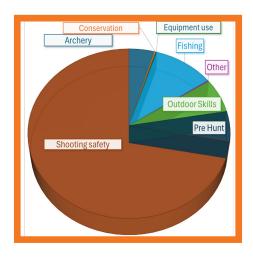
MENTORED HUNTING DAYS BY SPECIES



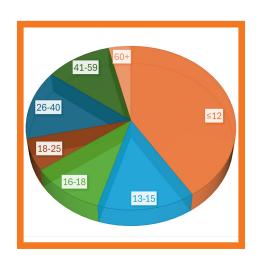
MENTEE DEMOGRAPHICS



#### MENTORED TRAINING DAYS BY ACTIVITY



MENTEES BY AGE GROUP



#### Partners Sharing the Passion



































**OUTDOORS** 

CLONINGER'S

MARKETPLACE

CAME WARDENS





























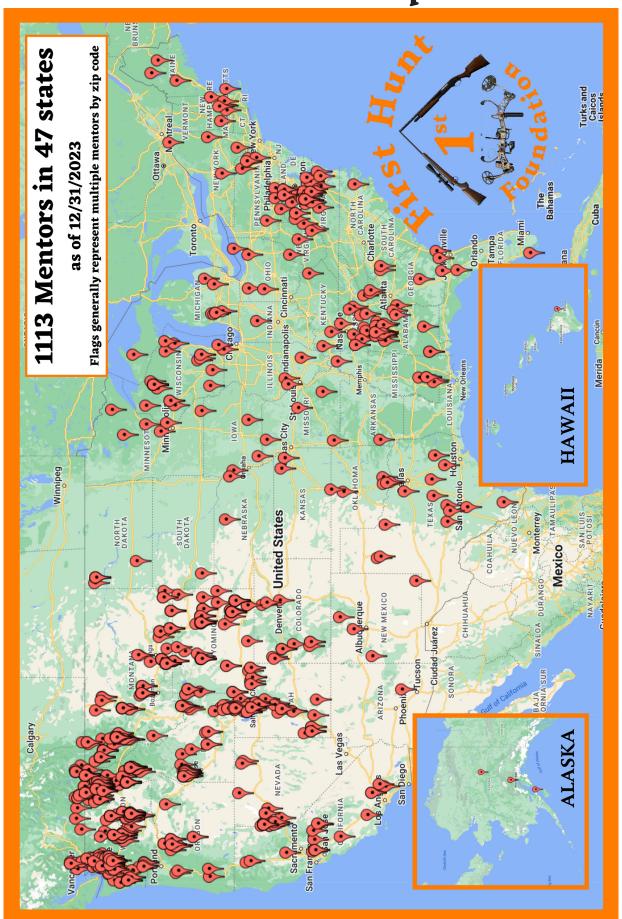




Dale & Jill's Cashway



## **Mentor Map**



## Selected 2023 Special Events

Paul Sauder (100 yr. old Veteran) Honor Hunt - Idaho











School of Hard Nocks - Montana









Spring Creek Antelope Hunt - Wyoming









First Hunt on the Front - Montana









Spring Turkey Camp - Washington

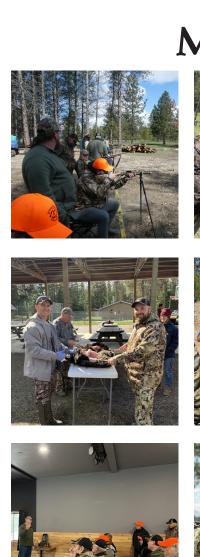








## Mentoring in Action







































## Mentoring in Action









































### Successful Mentored Hunts











































The First Hunt Foundation Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to keeping the hunting heritage alive in America. The Foundation works with new hunters of all ages who desire to have a hunting experience, but do not have the experienced support structure in their home or extended family to help them. The Foundation has organized a cadre of experienced hunters who will serve as mentors for these individuals. Our vision is to create thousands of first hunts each year that will create future hunters, community leaders, voters and elected officials that support hunting as a valid part of the American culture.

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