

## Gun Lake Tribe Adds \$1.5 Billion to Michigan's Economy Over Seven Years

The Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe) recently released the findings of an economic impact study (EIS) commissioned by the tribe. The Innovation Group worked with the tribe and its subsidiaries to development the findings of the EIS. The findings reveal that the tribe, Gun Lake Casino, and Gun Lake Investments, contributed \$1.5 billion to Michigan's economy from 2011-2017.

"We are proud to have contributed \$1.5 billion to Michigan's economy in the last seven years through



the construction and operation of our gaming and government facilities, and non-gaming business activities," said Chairman Bob Peters. "Each year, this aggregate economic activity supports over 2,600 jobs and pumps \$228 million into the state's economy."

Using hard data provided by the tribe as direct inputs, Innovation modeled indirect and induced economic impacts through IMPLAN, a supplier of economic impact software relied upon by the private sector and government agencies to study the effects of economic activities.

The EIS provides an analysis of the cumulative impact of the tribe's casino and government operations, and non-gaming investments from 2011-2017. This analysis resulted in the finding of \$1.5 billion in total economic impact. The study also details ongoing annual economic benefits provided to the economy by the tribal government and its subsidiaries.

The tribe directly employs 1,281 individuals within the government, gaming and investment operations. The tribe's annual direct payroll is over \$48 million. Another \$36 million is spent by the tribe annually on goods and services that are purchased from Michigan-based companies. The indirect and induced employment impact added to direct employment results in an annual total of 2,491 jobs that equates to an annual payroll of \$99 million.

The tribe has shared more than \$109 million with the state and local entities since the opening of the Gun Lake Casino in 2011. Local distributions also reach school districts, law enforcement agencies, and infrastructure projects. The revenue sharing distributions now exceed \$15 million annually.

The EIS also captured the economic impact of the tribe's construction of the Gun Lake Casino, as well as numerous government facilities. The total construction budget for these facilities amounts to \$236 million, which contributed \$142 million to Michigan's economy. These projects created 1,439 construction jobs. ♣

For more details about the Gun Lake Tribe's Economic Impact Study review the executive summary online at <https://gunlaketribe-nsn.gov>.

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