

## Message From the

## BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB PRESIDENT

Timothy C. Brady

B&C Club President ANCHORAGE, AK

ith a rich history that spans three centuries, the Boone and Crockett Club remains the leader in the hunter-conservationist community. Just as our members have done over the past 132 years we continue to work diligently with our partners and allies to influence and shape conservation in North America.

This past fiscal year added to our success story with notable achievements in mission-based activities that included Conservation Policy, Records, Conservation Education, and Hunter Ethics.

In the Conservation Policy arena, we continued our significant interaction with the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture and strengthened our excellent working relationships with Secretaries Bernhardt and Perdue.

The Club maintained its presence on Capitol Hill and engaged with Congressional leaders regularly. Some recent accomplishments include:

- Implementation of the Farm Bill that in part resulted in improvements in Conservation Easements, and a doubling of funding dedicated to enhancing wildlife habitat
- A Department of the Interior Secretarial order on land disposal that makes public access and hunting and fishing needs a priority
- Passage of the John Dingle Conservation, Management and Recreation Act, which enhances hunting and shooting opportunities and reforms the Equal Access to Justice Act
- Engagement with Secretary
   Perdue through our seat on the

- Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council to urge a joint approach to Chronic Wasting Disease between the USDA and Interior that will address financial assistance to states
- Increased funding for forest restoration and fire suppression.

The Boone and Crockett Club recently concluded the 30th North American Big Game Awards at the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium in Springfield, Missouri. Our Records and Records Outreach Committees did another outstanding job pulling this incredibly complex event together. By all accounts the event was a huge success with over 130 trophy animals on display and attendance in excess of 60,000 people. Our Big Game Awards Program has developed into a spectacle unique in North America. It is an event that celebrates the success of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and other visionary concepts in conservation founded and implemented by our predecessors in the Boone and Crockett Club.

Education programs conducted at the Rasmuson Wildlife Conservation Center on the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch have once again set a new record with well over 2,500 participants. Many of these are children and teenagers who experience wilderness and wildlife for the first time. Some of this year's programs include: Montana High Adventure Base for Boy Scouts, Women's Hunter Education, Outdoor Adventure Camps, and Learn 2 Hunt: Hunting for Sustainability. Our Conservation Education Programs Manager also presented at the 2019 AFWA Project

WILD coordinator conference and taught and demonstrated archery to 45 coordinators from various states using the Boone and Crockett Club's Archery Mobile.

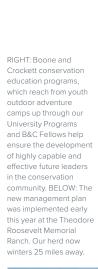
The new ranch management plan was implemented early this year. Our herd now winters 25 miles away from the TRM Ranch. Thus far the new cattle grazing model is working well and allows the ranch to operate on a more consistent cash flow basis and not be as financially impacted by the unpredictability of weather and cattle prices.

The Conservation Grants Sub-Committee has been working diligently to leverage grant funding by partnering with other conservation groups. Thus far the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has dedicated \$50,000 to match our contribution resulting in \$100,000 currently available. Other groups are waiting for proposals to be reviewed before going to their respective boards with a funding request.

Priorities for this funding opportunity were developed through working groups coordinated by the CWD Alliance and its partnering organizations. Research priorities were reviewed and edited by members of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency's Fish and Wildlife Health Committee as well as state CWD researchers and managers. Proposals were due at the end of the fiscal year.

The Club has long been recognized for its leadership in Hunter Ethics and one important aspect of this concept is to protect wildlife populations against poaching.

Towards that end, we hope to expand our Poach and Pay Program into more states. Under this process, baseline restitution and fines will be





established for illegally taken wildlife, and for trophy animals, the fine will be based on the B&C score. An important part of this effort will be to educate our judiciary so they better understand that unlawful taking is a crime against all citizens since wild game belongs to the people.

Over the last year, the Boone and Crockett Club has realized success in many other areas including our University Programs, which represent the single largest investment in the Club's history. Our goal is to continually attract the brightest young people to the strongest universities to work with the foremost wildlife faculty.

Today, we have three endowed chairs, four fellowship programs, with one additional chair in development. To ensure a future where the Boone and Crockett Club remains a leader in shaping conservation policy, Texas A&M is in the process of establishing a dual-degree program, wherein students can earn a bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science and a master's degree in Public Policy. These multidisciplinary programs are effective in producing future natural resource professionals, who think broadly and strategically about complex issues. We hope to soon expand our programs to include less-traditional fields of study such as law, communications, political science, and public administration.

The Boone and Crockett Fellows
Program is a shining example of
how the Club is fostering tomorrow's
conservation leaders. Currently the
program has 35 fellows throughout
the nation and an additional 66 former
fellows who are now becoming leaders
in the wildlife profession and the
broader conservation community.

Regarding Publications, one of our



most recent books, North American Wildlife Policy and Law, recently received two Gold Awards at the IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award ceremony in the Nature and Environment, and Reference categories. The book was also named a finalist for The Wildlife Society's 2019 Wildlife Publication Awards in the Edited Book category. This unique and comprehensive textbook thoroughly examines the history and foundation of policy related to our wildlife. It also reviews and analyzes major federal, state, and provincial laws and policies important to natural resource management. It has been hailed as the definitive volume on wildlife law and policy development.

Club members are also actively working on an updated Strategic Plan to chart our course over the next five years. The intent is to focus on three primary areas of interest as suggested by our membership which include Conservation Policy, Records and Ethics, and Education and

Research. The new plan represents a more bottom up approach than our previous version and recognizes the capacity of our committees. The hope is to approve the final version in December 2019.

Comparable to those mentioned above, there are many other programs and activities the Club is formally engaged in which work to promote the conservation of wildlife and habitat, preserve our hunting heritage, and maintain the highest ethical standards of fair chase.

Our work and accomplishments in some way touch every American who enjoys wilderness and wildlife and that would not be possible without the tireless efforts of our membership who donate their time, talent and treasure to fulfill our mission. For that, I want to humbly express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you.

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## Message From the

## BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

#### R. Terrell McCombs

B&C Foundation President SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

he Boone and Crockett Club Foundation enjoyed a very positive fiscal year, which ended on June 30, 2019. The Foundation endowment balance stood at \$21,409,556 on July 1, 2018 and ended the year at \$22,259,968 on June 30, 2019. Total annual distributions, including our Planned Giving Consultant, Winton Smith's salary, totaled \$1,214,684 to the Club and Foundation. Of that amount, \$498,524 went toward the Club's Infrastructure Project, the second of two annual installments approved by the Foundation Board in FY 2017. Other areas of Club support included Club G&A, Government Affairs, Associates, Conservation Education, Conservation Grants, the TRM Ranch, the Capital Expenditure Fund, and Records. In addition, the

Foundation's Development Committee distributed \$155,000 among three Club committees and their programs: Government Affairs, Conservation Education, and Big Game Records. In all, a total of \$1,369,684 was directly distributed by the Foundation to Club programs and operations in FY 2019.

The Foundation received \$750,000 in matured planned giving bequests during the year and an additional \$50,000 from a new Charitable Gift Annuity. The Roughriders Society, the Foundation's premier Planned Giving program, now has 96 members, including designated spouses. Planned Giving bequests, which have yet to mature, now total \$56,330,705. The Planned Giving program has brought \$9,190,404 into the Foundation Endowment since its inception—a stellar accomplishment.

The Development Committee, led by Jeff Watkins, continued its assistance to the Club in FY 2019. Its two annual solicitations brought \$19,000 into Club operations. We are very appreciative of Jeff and his leadership of this important committee.

The Foundation's Auction
Committee, led by Mike Opitz
and Co-Chaired by Jeff Watkins,
has contributed mightily to Club
operations. This newly established
committee, a sub-committee of
Development, brought in nearly
\$195,000 in FY19. The Club is
exceptionally proud of these
committee members and their

Members of the Wilderness Warriors Society at the 2018 Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.



leadership. This committee contributes greatly to our Club. These men and women represent the epitome of wildlife conservation at its finest.

The Wilderness Warriors Society added three new members in FY 2019. Mike Opitz, George Thornton, and Dr. Sam Cunningham are the newest members of the Club's most prestigious Current Major Gift program. Please join me in congratulating each of them on this significant achievement. The Wilderness Warrior Society represents a major financial commitment to the Foundation, typically involving an initial \$25,000 contribution, followed by four annual \$25,000 tax deductible donations. The Foundation is proud of these three men and all our Wilderness Warriors for their proven commitment to the Club's mission and wildlife conservation across North America.

The Foundation's newest Current Giving Program, the George Bird Grinnell Society, added ten new members in the last fiscal year. Included in that number are two Diamond level Awardees, the highest level attainable in the George Bird Grinnell Society, Bob Hanson and Butch Marita. The Society is structured so that one may start with \$2,500 and, over a lifetime, cumulatively rise to the Diamond level or even Wilderness Warrior Society status. Like all Foundation donations, they are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

If you are currently not involved in one of these exciting Foundation programs, it is my sincere hope you will do so in the coming year. Charitable giving for wildlife conservation, including the Club's mission, is often a very personal matter. If need be, please allow me the honor of speaking with you discretely about making such a commitment; I can be reached at (210) 818-8363. The future of our Club and its mission literally depends on it.

In closing, thank you for the privilege of being your Boone and Crockett Club Foundation President. I consider it the honor of a lifetime.

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## **WAYS TO GIVE**

Most of the projects mentioned in this annual report receive funding from a variety of sources including individuals, corporations, grants, and other organizations.

#### **AUCTIONS**

Participate by donating or purchasing items at our annual auction! B&C brought in more than \$200,000 in FY19

#### **ANNUAL GIVING**

Answer the call when you receive an email or mailed solicitation from B&C. We typically only send out two of these requests a year.

#### **WORKPLACE GIVING**

Check with your employer to see if they participate in Workplace Giving, including the Combined Federal Campaign, which allows federal employees and military personnel to support their favorite charities through payroll deduction.

### **GUNS FOR CONSERVATION**

This new program provides you with the opportunity to support the Club by donating firearms, sporting collectibles, wildlife art and hunting books. The program is both simple and flexible, allowing contributions to be made at any time, scheduled over time or formally integrated into the estate planning process.

## **GEORGE BIRD GRINNELL SOCIETY (GBGS)**

The Boone and Crockett Club George Bird Grinnell Society welcomes those individuals who wish to support our conservation programs through purely philanthropic, tax deductible gifts of \$2,500 or more. Special recognition is given via Club publications and in the visitors' gallery at Boone and Crockett Club Headquarters in Missoula, Montana, and with a custom plaque.



After your initial gift of \$2,500, gifts of \$500 or more to the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation endowment will accumulate toward new contribution levels. Contributions can include proceeds from donated personal property through the Guns for Conservation program (net amount deposited into the endowment).

## **WILDERNESS WARRIOR SOCIETY (WWS)**

The WWS is our premier giving society that was created as a Mission-critical way to secure a future for the Club. Contributions are therefore placed in the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation Endowment. This way you can establish a legacy that will grow and last for generations.

With your gift of \$125,000 or more, you will be honored by being named a member of the Wilderness Warrior Society. You will be presented with your own numbered limited-edition bronze of Theodore Roosevelt on horseback, a distinctive and unique Hickey-Freeman blazer with WWS sterling silver buttons, and an exclusive gathering at the annual meeting each year to recognize and honor the special generosity toward wildlife conservation exhibited by WWS members.

#### **ROUGHRIDERS SOCIETY**

The Boone and Crockett Club's Roughriders Society recognizes those Individuals who have integrated their financial estate plans to include the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation. You can create your own legacy and help carry the Conservation Legacy of the Boone and Crockett Club into the future by becoming a member of the Boone and Crockett Roughriders Society.

Planned giving is not about death. It is about what is best for you and your family. It lets you plan while you are alive and choose where you want to leave your legacy. Careful planning can ensure that your property is distributed in the manner you choose. It can also significantly reduce administrative costs and estate tax liability.

For more information about any of these giving programs, please contact Jodi Bishop at B&C Headquarters. She can be reached at (406) 542-1888 or jodi@boone-crockett.org.

# CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE AND WILDLIFE HEALTH

## **MAJOR AREA OF FOCUS**

FISCAL YEAR 2019

ince its original detection in a captive mule deer in Colorado in the late '60s, and later in a wild elk in 1981, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been identified in deer species across a growing portion of the United States and Canada. It has evolved as an insidious and complex threat to all wild and captive cervid populations. During the past year alone, the Canadian province of Quebec and the state of Tennessee recorded initial confirmations of CWD. In addition, the first infected wild cervid west of the continental divide was identified in Montana after having first been identified in the state in the fall of 2017.

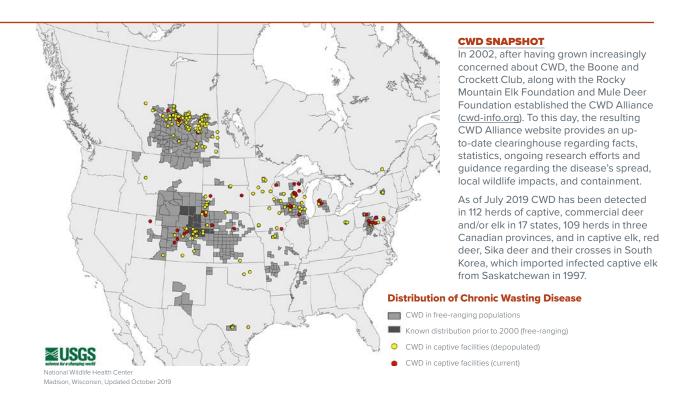
Answers and solutions have come up short relative to the myriad

questions and unknowns CWD has brought to the wildlife management and conservation table. For example, this always-fatal disease can be spread to new locations by the transport of captive deer and elk; however, attempts to eradicate the disease have failed, and efforts to control its spread through herd reduction, and in the field through hunter surveillance and other methods have had limited success. Wildlife management agencies have been forced to balance the complex and often competing or conflicting interests of the general public, hunters, captive cervid industry, traditional livestock industries, and numerous state and federal animal and public health agencies.

B&C's mission in combating

this disease is primarily focused on research, education and policy. In addition, the Club's historical role in circling the wagons of the wildlife conservation community has moved increasingly toward focusing these resources to better understand and tackle CWD's spread through the power of collaboration and shared goals.

The Club is actively providing big picture leadership, research oversight, and advocacy, engaging the wildlife biology, animal health and wildlife agency and university research communities. In the past year, the Club approved a second year of funding for CWD research, advocated for and saw successes in the regulation of wild cervid populations and game farm



herds, and backed Farm Bill legislation in order to assist land grant universities throughout the U.S. in rolling the ball forward.

B&C professional member
Matt Dunfee (Wildlife Management
Institute's Director of Special Programs
and the Director of the CWD Alliance)
has been instrumental in arranging
and facilitating conversations with a
wide range of conservation groups in
order to leverage the Club's efforts.
The ultimate goal is to extend these
stepped up funding and focused
research efforts over multiple years.

From these conversations, the following outline was developed to identify and prioritize next steps in research. CWD managers have in turn emphasized the critical need for research that can identify motivators, incentives, disincentives, and barriers of public and stakeholder support for CWD management techniques.

- 1. Disease management actions
- 2. Improved prion detection
- 3. Better understanding of CWD transmission
- 4. Human dimension impacts

B&C's ad hoc CWD committee, led by Dr. John Fischer and a small group of five CWD research experts, took the lead on next steps. With a focus on the top two priorities (disease management actions and improved prion detections), they were asked to identify specific research ideas and needs in these areas, help the consortium identify research groups with the capacity and expertise to address the desired research, and identify budget needs to address these ideas. From this process, the following topics were selected for focused research funding:

Topic 1: Retrospective analyses. In order to identify beneficial or ill-advised harvest strategies, the evaluation of existing data could provide valuable direction to expedite identification of promising strategies. More than 20 years of data are available on CWD trends and corresponding harvest management practices in some jurisdictions.

**Topic 2:** Prospective comparisons of alternative harvest management

## **B&C FELLOW PROJECT**

Evaluating and integrating drivers of chronic wasting disease emergence and spread in Michigan Jonathan Cook — Michigan State University

Chronic wasting disease has been emerging in susceptible cervid populations across North America. Despite negative impacts of lowered individual survival and whole herd population declines that occur following a CWD introduction event, managers still lack useful tools to detect disease early upon emergence. My research focuses on predicting the emergent spread and growth of CWD, as well as the elucidating mechanisms for long-distance translocation of CWD. The goal is to develop a risk mitigation and decision-making tool that allows managers to allocate their resources to reduce the risk of CWD, and to also detect disease early should it occur.



Between January and May of 2019, we placed GPS collars on an additional 69 white-tailed deer in the study area. In addition to the 5 townships where deer were collared in 2018, we expanded into Westphalia and Riley townships during the 2019 field season. As of May 2019, we have 102 deer with active GPS collars: 31 males and 71 females. This includes 35 deer collared in 2018 and 67 deer collared in 2019. We will continue to monitor collared deer in real-time using GPS satellite technology, tracking movement and survival of each deer for up to 2 years. Deer stop transmitting data for a variety of reasons, including hunter harvest and deer-vehicle collisions. All collars are equipped with a remote-enabled release mechanism that allows us to safely remove the collar at the

approaches. Experimental application of select CWD control strategies using an adaptive management framework are critically needed to identify viable management strategies capable of suppressing or halting the spread of CWD.

Topic 3: Improved prion detection in environmental samples such as soil, water, and in situ crop and forage plants. In order to reduce the potential spread of CWD, there exists a growing need for improved environmental prion detection techniques that can provide information capable of informing meaningful disease transmission risk assessments.

B&C's University Programs subcommittee work, overseen by Dr. Joshua Millspaugh at the University of Montana, focuses on big game harvest issues and wildlife health, including a collaboration with the Wildlife Management Institute on their CWD literature database. At Texas A&M-Kingsville, as led by Dr. David Hewitt, program fellow Laura Warner completed her Master's degree and has been hired by Michigan State as a field technician for their CWD movement study. Lastly, the Club's Wildlife Health sub-committee includes multiple members' active participation in key conferences across the country on an ongoing basis. These include the North American Conference on Wildlife and Natural Resources, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and The Wildlife Society.

Specifically, from a big picture standpoint during Fiscal Year 2019, the Boone and Crockett Club:

- Affirmed its commitment to fighting Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) by supporting recently introduced House legislation HR 837
- Released a statement recommending a halt to all human-assisted transportation of live deer and elk as the best way to prevent CWD introduction and establishment until a reliable live animal test can be found.
- Has committed \$50,000 per year as seed money for CWD research targeted at identifying a certifiable live test. This money has been matched by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

## **CONSERVATION POLICY**

## **MAJOR AREA OF FOCUS**

FISCAL YEAR 2019

he depth and breadth of challenges presented by CWD are a clear call to action. The Boone and Crockett Club remains actively engaged in a wide array of big picture as well as more narrowly focused initiatives centered on wildlife and habitat conservation. Human impacts from shifts in population growth and demographics, economic development, technological innovation and legal frameworks remain unrelenting, but the promise of opportunities from greater collaboration moves toward improvements in existing mechanisms and the search for long-term solutions remains compelling.

The work of the Club has been active in major pieces of legislation such as the Farm Bill, public land access and other provisions in the Sportsmen's Act, and the encouragement and facilitation of public-private collaborations to sustain and improve wildlife migration corridors and critical winter ranges. Further, ongoing dialogues and special projects and initiatives work to streamline and evolve legislation such as the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Weighing in on Yellowstone Grizzly pronouncements, land disposal considerations among state agencies, and funding Cooperative Research Units are items among B&C's long todo list.

B&C members have continued to weigh in on appropriations for reforestation and watershed protections following catastrophic natural events, in addition to supporting pre-emptive and catalyzing forest health initiatives such as the Good Neighbor Authority (U.S. Forest Service and State forestry



agency cooperation) and revisions to Forest Service's NEPA regulations (geared toward fire suppression, disease and insect infestation mitigation, etc.). The Club's priority on public lands in particular is to ensure that low-value lands are replaced with high-value for hunting, fishing, and all conservation.

#### **FARM BILL**

The Farm Bill is not a single piece of legislation but a dynamic series of Acts over the past nine decades that have established and updated many helpful programs benefiting those who grow our food and every citizen by supporting clean air, clean water, recreation, and healthy food. The Farm Bill is one of the largest single sources

of conservation spending in the federal budget and it represents the single largest federal investment in privatelands conservation, so it is easy to see why it is so important.

Led by the tireless efforts of Conservation Policy Committee Co-Chairmen James Cummins and Paul Phillips, Club members applauded the passage of the new Farm Bill last December. B&C has been closely involved with the Farm Bill since the early 1990s and is especially pleased that this new bill includes key conservation measures for forest, grassland, wetland and other wildlife habitats.

"The health of our public and private lands should be a concern

to everyone, especially those who rely on these lands for livelihoods and recreation," explained Cummins. "The Forestry Title in the new Farm Bill includes nine provisions that will help streamline forest conservation so we can get on with the business of improving forest lands. While the Forestry Title is not perfect, these provisions are moving our nation's forest management policies in the right direction. The winners today are these

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lands, people and our wildlife."

In implementing the Farm Bill, the Boone and Crockett Club is working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to improve the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). The Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) is a component of ACEP that is largely responsible for restoring bottomland hardwood and wetland habitat. Specifically, the Club is emphasizing funding requests, funding allocations between agricultural lands and wetlands, the identification of environmentally sensitive lands, and financial metrics tied to funding. The goal is to best support the NRCS in giving the most consideration

to lands that can demonstrate significant linkages with the conservation objectives of migratory corridors, wetlands conservation, and water quality programs, plans, or initiatives.

#### **SPORTSMEN'S ACT**

Passage of the Natural Resources Management Act (S. 47) represents a bipartisan package of bills that includes several key pieces of the Sportsmen's Act.

"Bipartisanship is a hallmark of the Club approach to its work in policy matters," said Timothy C. Brady, president of the Boone and Crockett Club. "We are pleased with both the result and strong bipartisanship in reaching the result. This hard-won agreement helps wildlife and habitat by breaking impasses on tough issues such as federal public lands and litigation."

Passed in the Senate in February and in the House in April of 2019, the Act addresses several priorities for American hunters, anglers, and recreational shooters, including the following:

- Declares that federal lands are open to public recreation, except in limited circumstances;
- Guarantees funding for public access enhancement projects under the Land and Water Conservation Fund;
- Requires public reporting of reimbursements of legal fees on lawsuits against the government a step toward reigning in litigation;
- Authorizes use of qualified volunteer hunters in programs to control wildlife populations in National Parks;
- Allows BLM to lease or permit shooting ranges on federal land;
- Authorizes hunters to transport bows through National Parks.

In March, the President signed the landmark Natural Resources Management Act public lands package. This law enhances hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting opportunities; helps restore primacy of state jurisdiction over the management of fish and wildlife, such as grizzly bears; affirms the rights of law-abiding hunters and recreational shooters; and fairly examines the role and cost of litigation in federal decisions. The bill enacted into law the effort by Club President Emeritus Lowell Baier to begin reforming EAJA.

## WILDLIFE CORRIDORS/ WILDLIFE CROSSINGS

The Club continues its non-partisan political approach in developing strong working relationships across the Federal, State and private sectors. Collaborative partnerships of stakeholders focused on common goals are where things get done. When state and federal wildlife and land agencies, tribal agencies, highway departments, private landowners, conservation organizations, and industry join forces, there is reason for optimism.

The announcement of the publicprivate partnership between the Department of the Interior, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and ConocoPhillips in April exemplifies a great success in that regard. It represents the implementation of Secretarial Order 3362 to improve the habitat conditions in big game migration corridors and winter range areas. Grants are expected to leverage more than \$8.6 million in matching contributions, generating a total conservation impact of more than \$10.7 million. Grant funds will be used to restore habitat quality on degraded winter ranges, historic migration corridors, and stopover areas while addressing issues such as restrictive fencing, dangerous highway crossings, and bottlenecks. Funds will also be available for implementing other measures like conservation easements and habitat fragmentation and connectivity.

Participation and actions by members extended well beyond specific Club initiatives during the period. Keeping abreast of current conservation issues in the face of shifting economic and political winds has never been more important in shaping long-term outcomes. From a big picture perspective, examples of these activities included the following:



From left to right: B&C President, Tim Brady; Chief of Staff, Tony Schoonen: Vice President of Administration and cochair of the Conservation Policy Committee, James Cummins: Executive Vice President of Administration, Jim Arnold; U.S. House Speaker, Paul Ryan; Co-Chair of the Conservation Policy Committee, Paul Phillips; and professional member and policy team lead, David Anderson.

Several members of the Boone and Crockett Club visited Washington DC September 5-6, 2018, and met with members of Congress. These meetings were focused on issues like Chronic Wasting Disease and Forest titles in the Farm Bill. The Club members kicked off their visit by presenting House Speaker Paul Ryan with this bronze of Theodore Roosevelt in appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the hunting and conservation community. The plaque on the bronze read as follows:

"PRESENTED BY THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB TO

HOUSE SPEAKER PAUL RYAN For outstanding achievement in building an enduring legacy of public policy that will forever benefit sportsmen and women, the traditions of hunting, and the North American Model of Conservation."

- In September 2018, Club members traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend meetings with members of Congress and to be at our tables at the annual banquet hosted by the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. Led by committee co-chairs Paul Phillips and James Cummins, and Chief of Staff Tony Schoonen, Club members Tim Brady, Jim Arnold, Morrie Stevens and John Schreiner joined for several important meetings on the Hill.
- The B&C Policy Team participated in numerous events during the first half of 2019, including conferences and meetings such as those of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, National Wild Turkey Federation, American Wildlife Conservation Partners'

Spring Meeting, North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, Western Governors' Association Summer Meeting and several in-person meetings with Congressional Members and Staff in Washington, DC, among many others.

Currently, the B&C Policy Team is focusing our efforts in Washington D.C. on:

#### **Appropriations Priorities**

Increase FY2020 funding for hazardous fuels treatment in National Forests to \$500 million; increase FY2020 funding for road maintenance and repair for USFS to \$248 million. This improves the health of federal forests and reduces the risk of wildfires.

#### Wildlife Crossings for Highways

Maintain "wildlife crossings" as a distinct funding priority in the Senate Highway Bill; add it to House bill.

### **Chronic Wasting Disease**

Support a unified legislative approach to authorize USDA funding for state and private efforts on CWD research and management: H.R. 1550 Chronic Wasting Disease Management Act; S. 382 Chronic Wasting Disease Transmission in Cervidae Study Act; and related bills H.R. 837, S. 613, S. 689, H.R. 1919, and H.R. 1326.

## Streamline NEPA Review of Forest Health Projects

Finalize USDA NEPA changes for forest habitat enhancement projects.

## **Enact Funding Bill for Species Conservation by State Game and Fish Agencies**

Pass H.R. 3742, Recovering America's Wildlife Act, to fund state efforts to recover wildlife species of greatest conservation concern.

## Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act

Pass H.R. 1222 and S. 94, the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act. This allows states to better finance new shooting ranges with Pittman-Robertson funds. ■

## **UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS**

### **MAJOR AREA OF FOCUS**

FISCAL YEAR 2019

he Boone and Crockett Club has Fellowship Programs at seven major universities, established to harness the power of human resources, facilitate partnerships with natural resource agencies, and sustain welldefined research that benefits diverse ecological and social settings. Within those seven universities, B&C has three endowed professors, whose programs exhibit these attributes in unique ways. They have at least one characteristic in common: successfully training future wildlife professionals and promoting sustainable wildlife populations for present and future generations.

The University Programs maintains three focal points in the near-to-intermediate term. They are:

- Developing a common set of goals and objectives,
- 2) Stabilizing the financial viability of individual programs, and
- Increasing the communication and collaboration between Club members and the universities.

Specific accomplishments this past year include:

- The Club welcomed three B&C Fellows to the 2019 Spring Meeting held in conjunction with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Denver, Colorado: Megan Brown (University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point), Jon Cook (Michigan State University), and Levi Heffelfinger (Texas A&M − Kingsville). The fellows gave brief presentations about their research during the members' luncheon.
- Opportunities for collaboration among University Programs and fellows included a webinar series, recently featuring professional

members such as Jim Heffelfinger and Perry Barboza. The goal is to offer 2-3 webinars per semester on varied topics, including the history and mission of the B&C Club and wildlife policy.

For the third consecutive year, the Club co-sponsored a special symposium titled "Challenges of Balancing Stakeholder Engagement and Scientific Decision-making to Inform Wildlife Policy" at The Wildlife Society's Annual Conference.

The William A. Demmer Scholars Program is also part of the Club's University Programs. This unique program provides opportunities for outstanding undergraduate and graduate students at Michigan State University and Mississippi State University (and in 2020, the University of Montana) to obtain coveted summer policy internships with



natural resources non-Governmental organizations and government agencies operating in Washington, DC. The program brings students into contact with natural resources leaders within government and the private sector. Since 2009, 276 students have completed the program. Over 60 of them are working today in policy positions in Washington, DC, including as political appointees in the two most recent Administrations. In Fiscal Year 2019, B&C contributed over \$27,000 to help fund the scholars' work.

#### R&C FELLOW PROJECT

Influence of Agriculture on Mule Deer Demographics and Movement in the Texas Panhandle

Levi Heffelfinger – Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University–Kingsville

Historically, Texas mule deer were most common in the western Trans-Pecos region, but population numbers have recently increased in the Panhandle. The world human population is expected to continue dramatically increasing which will only further the need for agricultural land. Little is known about mule deer in the Panhandle and as we continue to convert native rangeland to crop land, it is crucial to understand how this may affect wildlife. I plan to model habitat selection relative to agriculture throughout the Texas Panhandle using a large dataset of mule deer movement

across age classes and sexes. I will assess the influence of cropland use on body size, condition, recruitment, survival, and antler growth. Moreover, I will also quantify mate-search strategies of bucks and interactions throughout the rut. Creating baseline population measures will aid in establishing an adaptive management plan as mule deer population levels in the Panhandle continue to increase.



## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Along with our major areas of focus, the Boone and Crockett Club is busy implementing dozens of additional programs and projects each year. With nearly 40 different committees and sub-committees, our small staff is able to generate an inordinate amount of work thanks for the assistance of hundreds of volunteers from members to official measurers. The following pages highlight a few of our key accomplishments from fiscal year 2019.



## **HUNT FAIR CHASE CAMPAIGN**

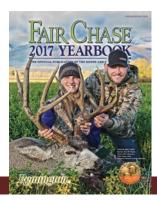
With over 62 million print and social media impressions and over 100,000 website impressions achieved thus far, and with an additional 16,000 free Hunt Fair Chase decals distributed, the industry-funded phase of the Hunt Right, Hunt Fair Chase Campaign has expired. Focus has shifted to an updated web site design that will continue to advance, define, and defend Fair Chase.

Hunt Right
HUNT FAIR CHASE

#### **B&C'S CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP AWARD**

The 2018 Boone and Crockett Club's Conservation and Stewardship Award recipient, the Wild Sheep Foundation, was announced at the Club's dinner at the 2019 North American Wildlife Conference in March. The award recognized the Wild Sheep Foundation for their tireless work to fulfill their mission to put and keep sheep on the mountain, both in North America and around the world. Their efforts to fund and implement their strategy to fulfill this mission truly exemplify excellence in conservation and wildlife and land stewardship—core values of the Boone and Crockett Club and its founder, Theodore Roosevelt.

Pictured from left to right: Kevin Hurley, Clay Brewer Tim Brady, Gray Thorton, Secretary Bernhardt, Tom Price, and Brett Jefferson



## **2017 FAIR CHASE YEARBOOK**

The Club's first-ever Fair Chase Yearbook was released in the Fall of 2018. Sponsored by Remington, this 52-page special edition showcases the best field photographs of the top B&C trophies accepted in 2017. The 2017 Fair Chase Yearbook is a special fifth issue of Fair Chase and was mailed with the Fall issue.

#### MONTANA LICENSE PLATE PROGRAM

Launched in 2016, the Boone and Crockett Club's Montana license plate sponsorship program has brought in over \$365,000, with \$146,060 in Fiscal Year 2019.



#### **CONSERVATION EDUCATION**

Education programs conducted at the Rasmuson Wildlife Conservation Center on the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch have once again set a new record with well over 2,500 participants. Many of these are children and teenagers who

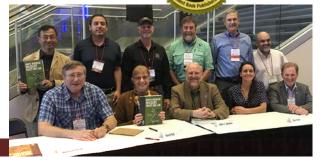
experience wilderness and wildlife for the first time. Some of this year's highlighted programs include:

- Montana High Adventure Base for Boy Scouts (right) included scouts from California, Rhode Island, Minnesota, Montana, Virginia, Georgia, and Illinois. A total of 107 scouts attended, which was an increase in over 20 percent from the previous year. Each trek included two days of on-site training, followed by five days of self-led backcountry packrafting and hiking in the Bob Marshall Wilderness.
- Place-based conservation education included 16 field trips for 337 students and 45 teachers, plus outdoor classrooms/ expos for another 1,022 K-12 students.
- Three Hunter Education Courses were held for a total of 51 participants, including Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, the First Hunt Foundation, and the University of Montana's Hunting for Sustainability Program.
- Outdoor Adventure Camps were fully booked with five camps and a total of 61 youth from Alberta, Arizona, Kansas, Montana, Oregon, South Carolina, and Utah.

#### **NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE POLICY AND LAW**

One of B&C's most recent publications, North American Policy and Law, received two Gold Awards at the IBPA Benjamin Franklin

Award ceremony in the "Nature and Environment" and "Reference" categories. The prestigious IBPA
Benjamin Franklin Awards recognize excellence and innovation in independent publishing and demands both editorial and design distinction.
The book was also named a finalist for The Wildlife Society's 2019
Wildlife Publication Awards in the Edited Book category.



The Boone and Crockett Club was a Leading Sponsor at The Wildlife Society's 2018 conference. Along with other activities supported by the Club was a book signing for North American Wildlife Policy and Law, with eleven editors and chapters authors on hand to sign books for students and wildlife professionals.

## BOONE AND CROCKETT WHISKEY

The Club entered into an agreement with Michigan-based Prestige Imports LLC to nationally distribute a line of spirits that will carry the Boone and Crockett Club name including a straight bourbon, straight rye, and American blended whiskey. Bottles hit the shelves in late July 2018.

## **B&C SOCIAL MEDIA**

Our online and social media reach continues to grow.

- 1.04 million unique web site visitors
- 86.41 million Facebook viewers saw or interacted with our posts
- 33,700 Instagram followers
- 96,100 monthly email newsletter subscribers
- 3.88 million YouTube minutes watched



## THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL RANCH

The new TRM Ranch operating model focuses on expanding on the strengths of the ranch, which is in its grass and grazing potential, and eliminating its one big weakness, which has been in the having operation. We began to winter and calve off the ranch, minimizing hay needs. Secondly, we increased the number of pasture cattle that will graze the ranch beginning in late spring and into the fall. It will not impact any of the research or education activities and will allow us to retain our permits on the national forest.



## 30TH AWARDS JUDGES PANEL AND TROPHY EXHIBIT

In April 2019, the 30th Big Game Awards Judges Panel convened in Springfield, Missouri, at the Bass Pro Shops flagship store to verify the scores on the invited big game trophies accepted between 2016-2018. Following the completion of the Judges Panel, staff members Julie Tripp, Karlie Slayer, Justin Spring, Kyle Lehr and volunteer HP Giger assembled the 30th Big Game Awards display at Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium (WOW). Over 130 mounts from all but 5 of 38 categories recognized by Boone and Crockett were represented, backing our theme—North American Big Game, More and Healthier Than Ever, Under the Watchful Eye of Sportsmen. Our triennial Big Game Awards Program has developed into a spectacle unique in North America—an event that celebrates the success of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and other visionary concepts in conservation founded and implemented by our predecessors in the Boone and Crockett Club and by Fair Chase hunting ethics.

Highlights of the 30th Big Game Awards Trophy Exhibit, which was seen by over 60,000 visitors, included:

- One of the most impressive displays of bighorn sheep ever, which included the new World's Record bighorn, as well as six other bighorn trophies all scoring over 200 B&C points.
- 18 new state/provincial records, 3 of which were taken by youth hunters (all female)
- 39 of the 132 mounts on display were taken by hunters who were 16 or younger when they harvested their B&C recordbook animals

In addition to the 30th Big Game Awards Judges Panel, a Special Judges Panel was held on Vancouver Island in May of 2019 to confirm the New World's Record Roosevelt's elk and confirm the score on an Atlantic walrus entry, which could not be present at the Awards events due to importation restrictions.



## NOTABLE CONSERVATION AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

**Dr. Josh Millspaugh**, Boone and Crockett Club Professor of Wildlife Conservation at the University of Montana, Missoula, was awarded the 2019 Excellence in Elk Country - Wildlife Research/Biologist Award from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF). The award honors an individual scientist or wildlife biologist whose career has demonstrated desire and dedication to benefit the scientific management of elk or elk habitat.

**Ben Wallace**, past president of the Boone and Crockett Club, along with his wife Patt, received the Rotary Club of Corpus Christi Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservationists of the Year Award. The award honors the life and achievements of Harvey Weil, a longtime South Texas sportsman, attorney, conservationist and Rotarian who dedicated his life to the preservation of nature and sportsmanship.

**Daniel Eichinger**, B&C professional member, was announced as the new Director of Michigan Department of Natural Resources by Governor Whitmer. Eichinger most recently served as executive director of Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC), the nation's most effective state-based conservation organization. In that role, he led MUCC's return as a driving force for conservation and our outdoor heritage.

**Bill Demmer**, past president of the Boone and Crockett Club, was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Business degree from Michigan State University.

John Fischer, B&C professional member, and director of The Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS) received the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Earnest Thompson Seton Award for leadership in scientific management. SCWDS has afforded state fish and wildlife agencies with far greater capabilities for wildlife health monitoring and investigation than could be attained singularly. The achievements of SCWDS are most impressive, and they provide great value to wildlife professionals, agricultural interests and public health officials throughout the country.

Steven Leath, B&C regular member, was appointed by President Trump to the National Science Board until May, 2024. The National Science Board has two key roles: to establish the policies of the National Science Foundation within national guidelines set by the President and Congress, and to serve as an independent advising body to the President and Congress on policy items as they pertain to science and engineering.

**Joanna Prukop**, B&C professional member, is to serve as chair of the New Mexico Game Commission. Prukop previously served as the secretary of the state Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. Before that, she worked for over 25 years at the game department. After leaving state government, she served in President Barack Obama's administration as a three-term appointee to the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council.

Bronson Strickland, B&C professional member, received the Pope and Young Club's 2019 Lee Gladfelter Award, which recognizes a wildlife professional who has made a significant contribution to bowhunting and wildlife conservation. A wildlife professional since 1995, Dr. Strickland leads a research project that has demonstrated how antlers may be one of the most sensitive indicators of habitat quality. His research demonstrates how the recording of antler measurements is critical for habitat management.

**Jeff Watkins**, B&C regular member, was appointed as the new Superior Court Judge of the Cherokee Judicial Circuit for Bartow and Gordon counties, Georgia.

#### **GREAT RAMS IV**

GREAT RAMS IV

B&C released the fourth installment of Robert M. Anderson's Great Rams series of books with stories of legendary sheep hunters and guides,

> and features on hunting adventures in Alaska, Colorado, and Yukon. The book also features women hunting guides

and a four-part section on translocation efforts, not to mention an in-depth look at yesterday's—and today's—sheep hunters.

## BOONE AND CROCKETT ARCHERY MOBILE

The BCAM visited 10 different schools teaching 756 students about archery and conservation during the winter. To date, the archery mobile has influenced over 1,300 students and teachers. The BCAM has received outside funds from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Wild Sheep Foundation. Our Conservation **Education Programs Manager** also presented at the 2019 AFWA Project WILD coordinator conference and taught and demonstrated archery to 45 coordinators from various states using the Boone and Crockett Club's Archery Mobile.



#### **POACH & PAY**

The Department of the Interior and Secretary David Bernhardt signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Vietnam to work more closely to combat the illegal trade in wildlife. The Boone and Crockett Club is in full support of this historic and badly needed escalation in anti-poaching efforts.

In 2015 and 2016, the Boone and Crockett Club and Leupold & Stevens funded research for their Poach & Pay initiative to get a better understanding of our systems of restitution in this country for poaching convictions. "We want to see the fine fit the crime," explained Timothy C. Brady, president of the Boone and Crockett Club. "Our research indicates that if a case is not dismissed beforehand, restitution after a conviction is often minimal because many courts see poaching as a victimless crime. This is not the case. Poaching is stealing from the public and we can do a better job using the restitution process as a deterrent."

To that end, the Club, with the assistance of professional member Jon Gassett and his wife, Kristie Blevins, who is a criminologist, is embarking on a two-pronged approach. The first is the development of a legislative template for state legislators to utilize in the drafting of effective legislation for fines and restitution. The second is to build a model that reflects what the economic costs are to the public as a result of poaching activities. Initial research shows these costs in the tens of millions of taxpayer dollars—dollars that could have been spent on conservation. This economic approach will hopefully raise awareness within the judicial system that poaching is far from a victimless crime.



### THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL RANCH — EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch (TRM Ranch) is playing a critical role in two mission critical areas of the Club. The first is forest and

rangeland health specifically dealing with the concept of facultative grazing. Science has shown that a balanced amount of primary grazing is healthy for habitat and also secondary grazers like deer and elk. For centuries buffalo roamed the plains and served in the primary grazing capacity. When buffalo populations were depleted by end of the 19th century, domestic cattle began to serve as primary grazers. In the last few decades grazing permits have been reduced on public lands, specifically the Bureau of Land Management and the US Forest Service, and with the lack of primary grazers, the land has become decadent and no longer of nutritional value to deer and elk, who seek food on private lands where cows are grazing. Research is being conducted on the TRM Ranch to shore up the current studies on facultative grazing. We are working with the Departments of Agriculture and Interior as well as with several Congressional members and appropriate committees to develop a course correction. Not only would a correction increase habitat and wildlife health but a balance in grazing permits would serve to help rural economies.

The second effort involves special use permits on public lands and falls under the mission critical area of public access to public land. As youth programs on the TRM Ranch and the Rasmuson Conservation Education Center continue to expand, the Club has realized that we are limited in getting youth on the landscape because we are categorized in the same commercial-use category as for-profit entities operating on those same public lands. We strongly believe that these categories should be separated. Non-profits like the Club whose mission of getting youth outside to gain an appreciation of wildlife and wild places at little to no profit should not be lumped in with commercial operations that are profit driven. Ours is a completely separate effort with low impact to the landscape and should not be subject to the same restrictions as high impact for profit entities. The Club is working with the Departments of Agriculture and Interior along with Congressional members to identify a fix and get more kids outside.



## ONX MAPS PARTNERS WITH B&C

The Boone and Crockett Club and onX have renewed their partnership to bring sportsmen a new navigation tool that shows historical data kept by the Club on native North American big game trophies. The Boone and Crockett Layer will show a heat map of the highest concentrations of Boone and Crockett record book trophies taken from 1830 to present, shown by county and covering 16 big game species. This layer is available as a separate purchase with funds going to support the Boone and Crockett Club mission. It can be viewed on both the mobile Hunt App or online in the onX Web Map.

## NATIONAL COLLECTION

The National Collection of Heads and Horns is now in permanent residence at the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium in Springfield, Missouri. A continuous loop video on the history of the NCHH narrated by outdoor personality and television producer Melissa Bachman augments the collection, and touch screens provide additional information and photos for each trophy on the wall. The WOW museum's 550,000+ visitors offer a tremendous opportunity to continue to educate and highlight the Club's conservation history long into the future.

The Karl Minor Roosevelt's elk (above) was acquired and added to the National Collection in July 2018



## HUNTING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

In collaboration with other conservation groups, the Boone and Crockett Club has developed a three-day program to help college students who weren't exposed to hunting growing up to overcome some of the unknowns and prepare them to hunt for local, freerange meat in an ethical and responsible manner. The program-conducted at the B&C's TRM Ranch—explores hunter ethics, motivations, fears, the role of hunting in wildlife management, the history of conservation, hunting regulations, firearm safety, selection, and practice,



Participants in the Hunting for Sustainability course held, in part, at the TRM Ranch got first-hand experience processing wild game, followed by cooking instructions and full course meals of a variety of game.

and field dressing, processing, storing, and cooking harvested wildlife. Breakout sessions provide hands-on opportunities for program participants in areas of upland bird hunting, scouting for wildlife, deer hunting basics, and cooking. A substantial portion of the program is devoted to food. Participants eat wild game all weekend prepared by a professional chef who discusses tips for preparing and cooking game.

### **B&C MEMBERS**

The Club has a total of 299 members in five different categories of membership as of June 30, 2019, and added 10 members over the past year. Per our bylaws, which hasn't changed since the Club was founded

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in 1887, we can have no more than 100 regular members.

The other levels—honorary life, junior, emeritus, and professional are not limited in the bylaws.

Honorary Life Members	10	3%
Regular Members (R)	100	53%
Junior Members (J)	2	1%
Emeritus Members	29	10%
Professional Members (P)	158	53%

### **NEW MEMBERS FY19**

Paul D. Babaz - GA (R)
Richard R. Capozza - NY (R)
Chris W. Cox - VA (R)
Samuel J. Cunningham - TX (R)
Daniel T. Eichinger - MI (P)
James B. Lawson - OK (P)
Eric S. Leath - GA (J)
Anne Brockinton Lee - NV (R)
Senator Lisa Murkowski - DC (P)
ex-officio
Emilio Rangel-Woodyard - NF (R)

#### **MEMBERS LOST IN FY 2019**

John W. Hanes, Jr. (1925-2018) George C. Hixon (1937-2018) William B. Ruger, Jr. (1939-2018) Wilfred P. Schmoe (1927-2018) Gary J. Taylor (1949-2018) Steve P. Thompson (1953-2018)



## **B&C ASSOCIATES**

The Boone and Crockett Club's
Associates Program was created in
1986 as a place where the collective
voice of like-minded individuals could
be heard behind the Club's ongoing
efforts to make conservation of wildlife

and their habitats a priority. These efforts are based on the conservation of the cons

Digital Associates (\$25)	2%
Associates (\$35)	70%
Sponsor Associates (\$100)	3%
Sportsman Associates (\$250)	1%
Lifetime Associates (\$1.500)	24%

based on the historical fact that wildlife conservation happens because sportsmen hunt, fish, trap, and shoot. Hunterconservationists are the only group that has consistently stepped up to the plate for wildlife. The results speak for themselves. History has also shown that wildlife doesn't happen by chance. Today our Associate numbers are over 4,700 dedicated individuals in

## **FAIR CHASE RELEASES 100TH ISSUE**

five different levels of commitment.

The Boone and Crockett Club took a moment to reflect and celebrate the release of the 100th issue of its publication, Fair Chase. The

magazine serves as the official publication of the Boone and Crockett Club and has been published quarterly since 1994.

## **B&C OFFICIAL MEASURERS**

B&C has 1,451 official measurers. Just over 50% of these volunteers spend 3 to 10 hours a month scoring trophies and talking with sportsmen across North America. In Fiscal Year 2019, we held three workshops— in Robbinsville, NJ; Chatfield, MN; and Missoula, MT—which resulted in 66 new trained measurers ready to represent B&C and convey our story of conservation success to the sportsmen they come in contact with.

## **B&C CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Club President – Timothy C. Brady

Secretary - Mary Webster

Treasurer - Marshall J. Collins, Jr.

**Executive Vice President of Administration** – James F. Arnold

Executive Vice President of Conservation – James L. Cummins

Vice President of Administration – Paul V. Phillips

Vice President of Big Game Records - Eldon L. "Buck" Buckner

Vice President of Conservation – Anthony J. Caligiuri

Vice President of Communications - CJ Buck

Foundation President – R. Terrell McCombs

Class of 2019 - A.C. Smid

Class of 2020 - John P. Evans

Class of 2021 - Tom L. Lewis

## **FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Foundation President - R. Terrell McCombs

Secretary – Jeffrey A. Watkins

**Treasurer** – C. Martin Wood III

Vice President – John P. Evans

Vice President – Paul M. Zelisko

Class of 2019 – John P. Evans, Steve J. Hageman, R. Terrell McCombs,

T. Garrick Steele, C. Martin Wood III

Class of 2020 – Remo R. Pizzagalli, Edward B. Rasmuson,

Benjamin A. Strickling III, John A. Tomke, Jeffrey A. Watkins

 $\textbf{Class of 2021}-\mathsf{Gary\,W.\,\,Dietrich,\,B.B.\,\,Hollingsworth,\,Jr.,\,Tom\,L.\,\,Lewis,}$ 

Michael J. Opitz, Paul M. Zelisko

## **B&C COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES**

Administration – Paul V. Phillips

American Wildlife Conservation Partners – Jeffery S. Crane

**Associates** – Jayson F. Arnold

**Auction** – Michael J. Opitz

**Audit** – Edward B. Rasmuson

 $\textbf{Budget And Finance} - \mathsf{Marshall\ J.\ Collins,\ Jr.}$ 

Communications – CJ Buck

**Compensation** – Timothy C. Brady **Conservation** – Anthony J. Caligiuri

Conservation Education - Rick C. Oncken

Conservation Grants – Joshua J. Millspaugh

 $\textbf{Conservation Policy} - \mathsf{James}\ \mathsf{L}.\ \mathsf{Cummins}\ \mathsf{and}\ \mathsf{Paul}\ \mathsf{V}.\ \mathsf{Phillips}$ 

 $\textbf{Content Management} - A.C. \ Smid$ 

Convention and Meeting - Manuel J. Chee

Corporate Governance – Ben B. Wallace

**Development** – Jeffrey A. Watkins

Gift Acceptance - R. Terrell McCombs

History - Leonard H. Wurman

**Hunter and Conservation Ethics** – Mark W. Streissguth

Investment – Paul M. Zelisko

Library – H. Norden Van Horne

Membership – Andrew L. Hoxsey

National Collection of Heads and Horns - Jack Reneau

 $\textbf{National Conservation Leadership Institute} - \mathsf{John}\ \mathsf{A}.\ \mathsf{Tomke}$ 

Nominating - B.B. Hollingsworth, Jr.

Outreach – Steven Leath

Physical Assets - Keith I. Ward

Position Statements – Mary Webster

Publications – Jeffrey A. Watkins

Records of North American Big Game – Richard T. Hale

Records Outreach – Mark W. Streissguth

**Sagamore Hill** – B.B. Hollingsworth Jr.

**Stewardship And Multiple Use/Sharing** – James F. Bullock, Jr. and Thomas D. Price

Strategic Planning - James L. Cummins

Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch – Fred C. Hirschy

University Programs - William A. Demmer

Wildlife Health – Rebecca A. Humphries

## **INVESTMENT REPORT**

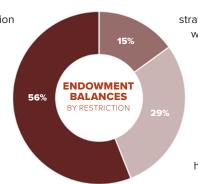
C. Martin Wood III — Foundation Treasurer Paul Zelisko — Investment Committee Chair

he Boone and Crockett Club Foundation ended its Fiscal Year on June 30, 2019, with a 5.3% gain ending the year with \$22,738,606 in total invested assets. After a massive market sell-off in December 2018, the endowment recovered sharply in the first half the calendar year returning 12.4%.

The endowment funded \$1,056,424 to the Club for its operations and the infrastructure project during Fiscal Year 2019. This extensive project to update and modernize the Club's information technology received \$498,524 during the year. Donations to the endowment were \$957,193.

For the ten-year period beginning with Fiscal Year 2010, the Foundation's endowment has grown from \$8,342,554 to \$22,259,968, or 267%. During that period of time, the endowment has enjoyed appreciation and income growth of \$11,872,335, as well as \$9,613,389 in donations from all sources. With the money available to support Club activities, the Foundation endowment has funded \$5,743,142 to the Club over the ten years. The Foundation follows the simple target of 2.5% of assets for use in Club operations on an annual basis.

The Foundation trustees have adopted a conservative approach to financial markets by using a passive investment



Undistributed Earnings	3,316,463	15%
Board Restricted	6,382,825	29%
Permanently Restricted	12.560.680	56%

strategy that allows the endowment to capture what equity markets will allow without the commensurate risk of an all-in approach.

The endowment's assets follow an allocation of 65% equity/35% fixed income. This is fairly conservative in order to protect the assets in difficult periods of time. While not generating the zenith of investment returns available in any given scenario, this investment thesis has allowed the endowment's portfolio to grow slowly but effectively over time while still funding the needs of the Club on an annual and future basis.

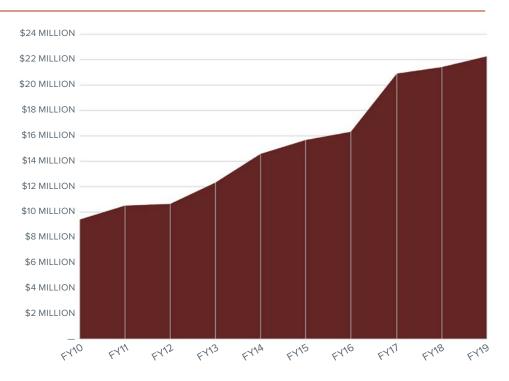
It needs to be remembered that the Foundation is there to support the Club

and to allow it to accomplish everything that its membership wishes it to do. The Foundation endowment is performing as it should and is standing behind the Club as it moves forward in the second century of operations, performing the goals that Theodore Roosevelt and its founders laid out for it in 1887.

TRAILING RETURNS	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR	10 YEAR
B&C Portfolio	5.29%	9.07%	6.18%	8.22%
Benchmark	6.86%	9.66%	6.79%	9.77%
Variance	-1.57%	-0.59%	-0.61%	-1.55%

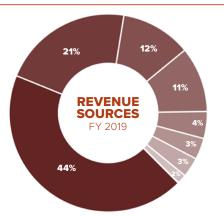
### 10 YEAR ENDOWMENT VALUE

For the ten-year period beginning with Fiscal Year 2010, the Foundation's assets have grown from \$8,342,554 to \$22, 259,968—a growth of 267%. This has been a developmental period for the Foundation, Financial markets have risen to all time highs, and then fallen off materially, only to return to former peak levels. Interest rates have fallen to historic lows, risen sharply under the influence of the Federal Reserve and then retreated back to historic low levels as the Fed became more dovish in its policy statements.

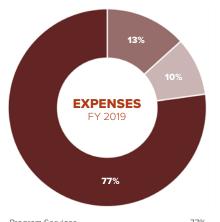


## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Boone and Crockett Club and Foundation continues to deliver strong financial results through donor/ member support and earnings from the endowment. In December 2018, the Membership made the decision to increase Member dues by 50% which equated to roughly \$150K of increased revenue. Contributions increased by 4%because of two planned giving gifts being recognized. The allocation of expenditure between monies spent on Administration, Fundraising and Program Services were roughly the same over fiscal year 2018. The Club continues to focus their financial efforts in Conservation Policy, Conservation research on Chronic Wasting Disease and furthering the message of Fair Chase.



Contributions & Grants	44%
Investment income	21%
Rental, Lodging & Program Income	12%
Member Dues	11%
Ranch Income	4%
Associate & Trophy database Subscript	ions 3%
Merchandise & Book Sales, Net	3%
Licensing Revenue	2%
Other	Less than 1%



Program Services	77%
Administration	13%
Fundraising	10%

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended June 30, 2019

	2018	2019
REVENUE		
Member dues & subscription revenue		
Member dues	\$408,300	\$556,625
Associates subscriptions	168,979	168,217
Trophy database subscriptions	14,597	13,799
Total member dues &		
subscription revenue	591,876	738,641
Merchandise sales	341,776	335,640
Less: direct & allocated costs	(169,480)	(167,218)
Net merchandise sales	172,296	168,422
Contributions	1,562,186	2,213,120
Change in value of split-interest agreements	719,725	59,268
Licensing revenue	92,001	79,478
Ranch	175,332	229,659
Investment income/(losses)	1,737,475	1,114,553
Rental, lodging & program income	609,599	599,462
Other	4,048	4,318
Formula associately for more sure of		
Funds available for program &	F 664 F20	F 200 024
support services	5,664,538	5,206,921
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Support services	204.406	242.644
Fund-raising	381,406	343,611
Administration	375,471	408,839
Building tenant operations	64,099	70,894
Total support services	820,976	823,344
Funds available for program services	4,843,562	4,383,577
Program services		
Wildlife conservation programs	369,181	333,742
Conservation projects & outreach	1,254,636	1,188,200
Records & publications	440,349	413,712
Ranch operations	299.109	337,649
Membership support	274,067	314,533
Associates program	210,678	199,021
· -		2,786,857
Total program services	2,848,020	2,760,657
Increase (decrease) in net assets	1,995,542	1,596,720
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of year	29,458,878	31,454,420
End of year	\$31,454,420	\$33,051,140

A copy of the complete set of audited financial statements is available upon request.

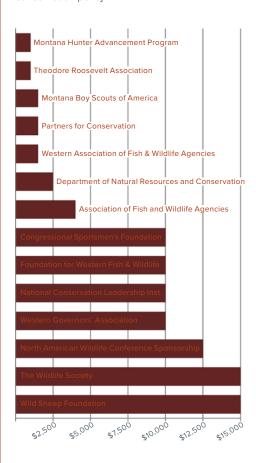
## COMBINED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended June 30, 2019

	2018	2019
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$320,507	\$465,214
Receivables, net of allowance	197,100	154,743
Donor promises to give, net of discount and allowa		188,223
Inventories	321,965	369,617
Prepaid expenses	126,712	239,726
Total current assets	1,111,674	1,417,523
INVESTMENTS		
Endowment	20,992,280	21,899,551
Planned Giving	422,138	478,640
Total investments	21,414,418	22,378,191
Donor promises to Give, Net of Current Portion	311,317	406,466
Depot, Ranch, Furniture and Equipment, Net	5,180,960	5,595,120
Agency funds	69,814	69,814
Split-interest agreements receivable	4,266,966	4,326,235
Total assets	\$32,355,149	\$34,193,349
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	76,361	168,622
Accrued liabilities	196,116	192,828
Agency funds payable	69,814	69,814
Current portion of long-term debt	5,841	6,139
Deferred subscription revenue, current	173,162	201,177
Deferred revenue - other	25,738	185,961
Planned Giving payable, current portion	12,419	14,191
Lines of credit	75,674	18,276
Total current liabilities	635,125	857,008
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
Deferred subscription revenue, long-term	74,366	87,700
Long-term debt, net of current portion	23,483	17,344
Planned Giving payable, net of current portion	167,755	180,157
Total long-term liabilities	265,604	285,201
Total liabilities	900,729	1,142,209
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	12,111,540	12,791,589
With donor restrictions	19,342,880	20,259,551
Total net assets	31,454,420	33,051,140
Total liabilities and net assets	\$32,355,149	\$34,193,349

## **SPONSORSHIPS**

The Boone and Crockett Club extends financial support to other NGOs and government agencies each year as part of our mission to further wildlife conservation, preserving our hunting heritage, and maintain a voice in conservation policy.



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The Club is also fortunate to have a partner like R.J. Reynolds and the U.S. Tobacco Company, who sees value in educating their customers as to the importance of conservation and an ethical approach to hunting and angling.































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Launched in 1994, B&C's Lifetime
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in Fiscal Year 2019. Each new Lifetime
Associate contributes \$500 directly to
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## **CAUGHT ON CAMERA**

The distribution of wildlife is relevant to private lands management, providing hunter access to wildlife, and ensuring the sustainability of wildlife populations. In collaboration with staff at B&C's Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch, the Club's University Program at the University of Montana has initiated a project led by B&C Fellow Chris Hansen to better understand the conservation implications of sustainable ranch management on big game communities.

By using motion-triggered trail cameras, and a rigorous study design, we will assess big game distribution as it relates to land ownership and management strategies, habitat features, and the presence of other wildlife species. A unique component of the research is the integration and consideration of sustainable ranch management techniques and how ranching relates to big game distributions. Ultimately, the research goals are to better understand how wildlife distribution changes throughout the year and to help inform management and policy related to the important role ranch management plays in wildlife sustainability.





## MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Boone and Crockett Club to promote the conservation and management of wildlife, especially big game, and its habitat, to preserve and encourage hunting and to maintain the highest ethical standards of fair chase and sportsmanship in North America.

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