BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB'S

# PROJECT



A CRYPTIC CRIME

of Poaching Cases in the U.S. are Detected

#### THE CONSERVATION COST

WITH A "DARK FIGURE" OF UNDETECTED POACHING AT 95%

#### \$302.6 MILLION

in fines

#### \$1.13 BILLION

in animal replacement costs

MINIMUM NATIONWIDE LOSS EACH YEAR

#### \$6.1 MILLION

in fines

#### \$22.7 MILLION

in animal replacement costs

**AVERAGE LOSS PER STATE EACH YEAR** 

This is more than the \$1.185 billion allocated from the Pittman-Robertson federal excise tax on firearms, ammunition and archery equipment in 2023, and the \$1.015 billion in gross revenue for hunting licenses for all states.

#### POACHING IS NOT A VICTIMLESS CRIME

Poachers downplay their actions saying there is no victim or argue that their actions are victimless crimes because they do not harm anyone - they may even say that they are the victim!

But poaching is not a victimless crime this is a loss of wildlife on the landscape as well as the lost value of a public resource.

#### **HUNTERS ARE NOT POACHERS**

The visibility and notoriety of illegal wildlife take exacerbate the public's tendency to equate "poaching" with "hunting," further undermining the positive conservation benefits derived from lawful take.

**85**%

of interviewed hunters, landowners, and conservation officers are concerned about poaching in their state.

90%

are concerned about poaching nationwide.

70%

worry about the negative social and biological impacts.

IF YOU POACH YOU WILL PAY

**Addressing Poaching Will Require Increased Action.** 

The Boone and Crockett Club will work with our partners to support actions to reduce poaching.

#### STATE LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO:

- Develop consistent and justifiable replacement costs across states.
- Reclassify certain wildlife crimes from misdemeanors to felonies.

#### EDUCATE THE

And public shaming of perpetrators. Show that lawful hunters are not poachers and we will not tolerate their actions.

## EDUCATE PROSECUTORS AND THEIR STAFF

Educate prosecutors and their staff about wildlife crime and increase personnel trained in conservation issues.

### INCREASE "BOOTS ON THE GROUND"

Not just officers, but also anonymous poaching hotlines for hunters to take a stand against poaching.

THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB THANKS OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS RESEARCH:











READ THE FULL REPORT, AND GET MORE Background on B&C's Poach and Pay Project









