

BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB'S

POACH AND PAY PROJECT



A CRYPTIC CRIME

3.92%

of Poaching Cases in
the U.S. are Detected

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.

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.

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 PUBLIC

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:



Cabela's

OUTDOOR FUND



INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CRIMESTOPPERS, INC.



LEUPOLD

READ THE FULL REPORT, AND GET MORE
BACKGROUND ON B&C'S POACH AND PAY PROJECT



This research was funded by the Multistate Conservation Grant Program (Grant: F22AP00699), which is jointly managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.