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.
MESSAGE FROM THE
BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB PRESIDENT

Our fiscal year, which ended June 30, 2015, provided significant accomplishment and increased involvement among our members while fulfilling the vision and mission of the Club. It’s clear: we have a very strong and confident staff, very active Club and Foundation boards, and committee chairs who work diligently on behalf of the Club.

In late September, 14 Club members attended and presented at the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation’s Annual Banquet & Auction in Washington, D.C. The Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation maintains the largest non-partisan congressional caucus in the United States as well as the largest non-partisan governor’s caucus and state legislative caucuses. The Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation is a significant organization and serves as a meaningful and effective conduit for the Club to reach political leaders and legislators and further our agenda.

Additionally, we continue to support and grow our university and conservation education programs. For instance, we will continue to work with and fundraise for the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and the Maxwell School, which are both located in New York. We are negotiating with the University of Georgia for a new endowed professor chair. The University of Georgia is highly recognized and boasts a strong forest management program. We have selected our campaign team and are working hard to finalize a contract with the university by the close of 2015. Also in 2016, we will hire a new professor of wildlife conservation at the University of Montana, and enhance our program at Texas A&M University with the hiring of Dr. Perry S. Barboza, the new Boone and Crockett Endowed Chair. Once again in 2015, outreach and education use at our Montana-based Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch climbed to an all-time high.

I encourage you to periodically visit our website as we strive to improve your online viewing experience. Pay special attention to the position statements, as we added the following in the past fiscal year: Governor’s Tags—May 7, 2015; Deer Breeding and Shooting Operations—January 18, 2015; Big Game Records Eligibility—December 6, 2014; Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros—December 6, 2014; North American Model of Wildlife Conservation—August 19, 2014; and Defending Wildlife Conservation—August 19, 2014.

While I do not wish to discount the accomplishments of the past year, I do want to focus on some key initiatives that will promote our brand and continue our role in thought leadership.

In mid-July we’ll hold the 29th Big Game Awards Program in Springfield, Missouri. This event takes place at the new America’s Wildlife Museum and Aquarium, which is located next to Bass Pro Shop’s flagship store. The museum is the new home for the Club’s National Collection of Heads and Horns exhibit. Our management team visited the location in early October and was impressed with a commitment to make this program a true success. The museum’s grand opening occurs in May and I encourage all of you to attend.

In addition to those efforts we’ll put a lot of energy into increasing our Associates and Lifetime Associates programs and, in particular, our Trailblazer in Conservation partnerships. Engagement in these three areas allows us to be more impactful in the broader conservation community.

In all of our work we need to be mindful of the Club’s vision and mission, and work hard to expand our presence in the conservation community. With occurrences like the “Cecil Incident” making headlines we need to keep a high profile relative to our hunting ethics and the principals of fair chase, which is a big part of who we are. For that reason, we will continue to sponsor meaningful university programs that promise future leaders who have the scientific background and communication and education skills required to convey our messages from their respective fields.

Here are several additional challenges we’ll face in the coming year:

- We will be challenged to define and defend ethical and fair-chase hunting due to new technology, long range shooting practices, enhanced optics, the persistent problem of canned shooting operations, and genetic manipulation. A recent survey shows that 77 percent of the general public approves of legal hunting even if they do not hunt themselves. We must continue to focus our messages to the non-hunting public so that they might continue to support our ethical and fair-chase hunting heritage.

- We will fight to adequately fund and generate a meaningful forestry program and a wildlife conservation agenda nationwide.

- We need to press for meaningful, science-based state management programs for the fully recovered gray wolf.

- We should be motivated for a productive debate on the Endangered Species Act, and target improvements that make it more effective and relevant, as the act was initially designed.

Each year brings its unique challenges, but I believe we are prepared to meet them and provide the thought leadership that’s needed for the conservation community to prevail.

MORRISON STEVENS, SR.
B&C President
Saginaw, Michigan
The allure and fascination of wild places is a powerful force in recruiting, retaining, and reigniting commitment to conservation. Venturing out, seeing, encountering, and practicing skills is the active complement to book learning.

This begins with the curiosity of youth, young-adults, and adults at the Rasmuson Wildlife Conservation Center (RWCC), which is located on the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch in Montana.

This place is a threshold to the Bob Marshall Wilderness and to the conservation life. Just this year, our K-12 Conservation Education Program at the RWCC took more than 630 youth and 40 teachers another step toward conservation awareness, skill, and experience. We are expanding this work to additional locales, including Montana's Bitterroot Valley, two local outdoor classrooms sponsored by county conservation districts, and our annual Teller Wildlife Youth Conservation & Education Expo.

The RWCC also helps us expand our relationships as a host to other non-governmental organizations, agency staff, and university students and professors, including the Montana Wilderness Association, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation's forestry division, and Augustana College's geography department in Rock Creek, IL.

Three of our Outdoor Adventure Camps—involving 64 adventurers—connected us with the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, the South
Carolina Waterfowl Association, and youth from British Columbia and Alberta, Canada.

Our national accreditation with the Boy Scouts of America—serving as the Montana Outdoor High Adventure Base—has engaged the Club with another pioneer of the ethical outdoor life and a commitment to society. This year we based and trained 89 scouts for trips into the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

To deepen, widen, and base conservation knowledge in new science, professionals in training and in-service—enter the Boone and Crockett university program and our community’s National Conservation Leadership Institute.

The Club’s university program trains and graduates new professionals to careers in wildlife conservation. Many students are keeping alive the core discipline of field biology; others are pioneering applications in mathematics made possible by modern data gathering. Other B&C students are learning professional policy-making. The single purpose of these three directions is the continual maturing of professional, science-based conservation.

Wildlife science still calls for covering wild lands on foot. Satellites orbiting the globe and transmitting measures of land and water and reporting signals from tracking devices now aid it. And what we learn must guide what we do as science informs policy.

The Texas A&M Boone and Crockett Professorship was transformed to this pattern this year. Incoming B&C Club Endowed Chair Dr. Perry Barboza is joining the faculty to oversee a three-part program of research in wildlife management, teaching in private stewardship and policy, and extension to private land stewards.

A new B&C Quantitative Wildlife Center for studies in mathematics and geography has begun work on seven projects at Michigan State University. MSU is also continuing its policy instruction and internships program—the Demmer Scholars Program—placing more than two-dozen students in summer policy jobs in Washington, D.C.

The Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch, which has hosted many B&C Research Fellows, and which is an example of 21st century private land conservation on a working ranch, is also a base of scientific problem solving. Our staff has spearheaded a study on mule deer to address an apparent decline in larger mule deer bucks. We have designed the study in partnership with neighbors, the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Montana Cooperative Research Unit, and the University of Montana.

The National Conservation Leadership Institute is co-founded by the Club and several allies in the American Wildlife Conservation Partnership.

Modeled on the Harvard Kennedy School of Government (and co-taught by some of the same faculty), it trains in-service professionals in intensive, real world leadership. The yearlong program—of which nine have been completed—consists of a two-week residency, followed by months of small group work, and culminates in a four-day capstone course.

From this we graduate our mainly technically trained conservation professionals with new skills in leadership, relationship skills, and conflict resolution—all requisites to the conservation job on a continent of rivalries for multiple uses.

Of the more than 300 fellows graduated, many now hold leadership positions: nine are or were directors of state fish and wildlife agencies and the rest hold leadership roles across 40 state agencies, eight federal agencies, and 21 non-governmental conservation organizations.

The Club is ensuring that the conservation movement engages all major age groups in North America.

By continually improving both the professional and popular practice of conservation in these segments of North American society, we are building an asset of conservation awareness and skill to sustain and grow the movement.

For this we prize enthusiasm for adventure and intellectual curiosity for the fundamentals of natural history, field skills, and problem solving—and the advanced insight of how people organize and act in concert.
Conservation is both personal and popular. Many people talk about it, a smaller number practice it, and still fewer take it as a life’s calling. But conservation becomes whatever we say and do under its banner. Leadership is imperative in both the reflective moments and the running debates.

The Club, whose founders defined “conservation” and began the publications and forums where it is studied and debated, carries this forward by supplying books, periodicals, and online communications to traditional, contemporary, and new audiences.

On the dynamic channels of online communications, our presence continues to expand. Our Facebook readership is growing and we are refining our editorial guidance to promote engagement and continue that growth.

To form these discussions and make them useful for refining and steering conservation, especially in dealing with unforeseen questions, we publish analyses and position papers. Recent topics covered include: Governor’s Tags, Deer Breeding and Shooting Operations, Big Game Records Eligibility, among others.


We have contributed a milestone to the professional shelf with the Jack Ward Thomas Trilogy—memoir and insight on American conservation from Ward’s life as a wildlife biologist who became chief of the Forest Service and the Boone and Crockett Professor of Wildlife Conservation at the University of Montana.

POSITIONS, LEADERSHIP, INFLUENCE. WHEN YOUR OPINION IS YOUR CURRENCY.

In the early 1980s the Club added “wild, free ranging” to its fair chase statement to address the growing number of “hunts” being offered for captive whitetail deer. In 2005 it formalized a position statement on canned shoots and genetic manipulation. In response to the growth of the deer breeding and shooting industry, and modern marketing and selling of ‘shooter bucks’ raised in captivity, graded, and sold using the B&C scoring system, it was time to make this unauthorized use and wrongful association widely known. In late December 2014 the Club released this statement:

“The Boone and Crockett Club scoring system exists to document the successful conservation of wild game animals in North America. The Boone and Crockett Club objects to and rejects any use of or reference to the Boone and Crockett Club or its scoring system in connection with antlers/horns grown by animals in captivity.”

In early 2015, the Club followed up these actions with the release of a new, comprehensive position statement on Deer Breeding and Shooting Operations. From the Club’s perspective, the core issue of privatizing a public resource for individual profits has the power to change the foundations of hunting and its historic ties to conservation. Crossing the line from wildlife to an agricultural commodity represents a fundamental shift in American culture.

There was no false optimism that by releasing these positions they would singularly put an end to these practices. Nevertheless, debates started, lines were drawn, and sides taken. Leadership and influence are about stepping forward and saying what others are thinking and representing what they believe. A resounding response from the majority of sportsmen on social media and elsewhere of, “thank you for all you do” spoke volumes.

The Club also studied the growing trend of extreme long range “sniper” shooting at big game animals and determined that if one’s intent is to see just how far they can shoot and still hit an animal, this was no longer hunting, but something else.

A hunting and conservation ethic is a core value of the Boone and Crockett Club. Defining both comes with a great responsibility to adapt to challenges, and then be heard. The years to come will see more leadership needed in these areas.

Our communications put ethical, science-based content into print and electronic media describing classic sporting conservation and adventure, professional conservation practice, everyday experience, current events, and innovations in conservation.

By keeping a high standard of effective, thoughtful, and award-winning content in play, readers within and around the conservation community can find straight information on what conservation is and where it is going.

We will continue to seek questions, engage honest critics, make honest critics out of haters, and enlighten the avid conservationist who, when home from the hills, enjoys quality publications by the fireplace.
A CALL TO ACTION

With mounds of law and regulation now standing for what conservation means, the B&C Policy Program is vigilant and active keeping a true connection between what it’s all for, what is hoped to accomplish, and how it’s working.
At the mid-range time line of the four-year presidential term (2012-2016), we are accelerating on the major issue areas of private land habitat and the effectiveness of the sporting-conservation community. In private land stewardship we need to expand beyond incentive policies and into promoting active management. In our community, working closely with our primary partners at the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation and the Wildlife Management Institute, we are rebuilding and expanding state-level conservation action.

We are progressing on five specific issues for the two-year congressional period of 2015/2016.

**HUNTING HERITAGE**

Hunting heritage in North America is part of the culture and, therefore, defined in many laws and institutions of government: to keep these policies and decision-making positions up to date and in the care of thoughtful sportsmen, we are driving for passage of the Bipartisan Sportsmen’s Act of 2015, a package of updates, amendments, and authorizations.

**FUNDING**

Conservation work is funded by a mixed economy of sportsmen’s dollars and government revenues, a big portion of which is administered through the Land and Water Conservation Fund: we are promoting a full debate of options for modernizing its purposes to include access for hunting, better care for federal lands, as well as it traditional use for acquiring more federal lands.

**SPECIES CONSERVATION**

Wildlife is central to the Club’s mission, and successful wildlife restoration is the defining accomplishment of sporting conservation; therefore, we are resolving the paradoxes of endangered species conservation, including the restoration of state management of the gray wolf, and the resumption of a productive debate over the Endangered Species Act.

**FEDERAL LANDS**

Federal lands are the foundation of the most successful conservation system in the world: we are turning demands to transfer these lands out of federal care into real policies for improving their use and care.

**FOREST POLICY**

Forests are a mainstay of habitat for wildlife and a keystone to the North American ecosystem: we are promoting forest policy improvements that will accelerate active management and better manage fire in order to improve wildlife habitat and other values.

The Club generates progress in every major issue area of conservation policy, or drives that progress through allies. What we cannot advance either way, we address by recruiting new Club members or allies who can. What makes it work are Club members who engage in the work, long-term working relationships with policy-makers, and the coordinated action of the American Wildlife Conservation Partners.
The Boone and Crockett Club inaugurated its Conservation and Stewardship Award by recognizing The Starkey Project, a USDA research center of the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest Region. Starkey embodies the criteria for this award: notable contributions to the management and progress of big game populations, its habitat and our hunting heritage; and, organizations that embrace active management on working landscapes, and the multiple use of our natural resources. The Starkey Project has existed for nearly three decades and continues today. Recent research from the project identified the serious problem of poor summer-season nutrition in unmanaged forests in the Pacific Northwest. Addressing this problem is a main purpose of the Club’s advocacy on forest policy.

On hand for the award presentation at the 100th annual North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Omaha, Nebraska were Rob Mangold, Station Director, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Service; Ron Anglin, Assistant Director, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Morrie Stevens, President, Boone and Crockett Club; Mike Wisdom, Starkey Project Team Leader, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Service; and Tom Price, Boone and Crockett Club Leader and Chair of Awards Committee, Conservation and Stewardship Award. In a separate presentation at the Boone and Crockett Club Headquarters, Jack Ward Thomas also accepted the award. Thomas was the original Starkey Project Leader.

The Conservation and Stewardship Award will be given annually to the organization or entity that best exemplifies excellence in conservation and wildlife and land stewardship - core values of the Boone and Crockett Club and its founder, Theodore Roosevelt.

"There is a significant difference between basic research and the applied research conducted at Starkey," explained Tom Price, chairman of the Club’s Stewardship and Multiple Use Sharing Committee, which administers the award. "Most public and private lands are not like national parks. They are working landscapes where people and wildlife must co-exist. We need sound, applied science that tells us what is best for wildlife, people and the land under shared conditions, and that's what the Starkey Project has been supplying for the past 25 years."

Professional Member, Terry Bowyer Honored with O.C. Wallmo Award

Terry Bowyer, a Professor at Idaho State University, was honored with the O.C. Wallmo Award for contributions to knowledge and management of black-tailed and mule deer. He received the award at the recent 11th Biennial Western States and Provinces Deer and Elk Workshop held in Canmore, Alberta, Canada. The award is given by the mule deer working group of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and is this entity’s highest award.

Over the past 35 years, Bowyer, working with his students and colleagues, has studied and published scores of articles on black-tailed deer and mule deer, throughout much of the range of these species, from Southeast Alaska to Southern California, including important studies in Idaho. His publications have been cited more than 4,000 times.

Bowyer continues to be a productive researcher, publishing papers annually and he is a strong advocate for the wise management of black-tailed deer and mule deer. During his career he has given more than 100 professional presentations on deer to sportsman’s groups and the scientific community.

He also continues to be an effective mentor for graduate students and during his career has supervised three post-doctoral associates, guided 16 Ph.D. students and 15 master’s students who have gone on to work at universities and wildlife agencies throughout the United States.
Professional Member, Jeff Crane Recognized as Bass Pro Shops Conservation Partner of the Year

In December 2014, Jeff Crane received the Bass Pro Shops Conservation Partner of the Year Award. This is a prestigious award, and Jeff is a worthy recipient. He is a Professional Boone and Crockett Club member, is President and CEO of the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation (CSF), which is one of the Club’s key partners in our conservation policy work.

Crane was honored for CSF’s work with Congress, governors, and state legislatures to protect and advance hunting and angling and conserve this country’s fish and wildlife resources.

“All of us at Bass Pro Shops are proud to recognize Jeff Crane for everything his organization has done to champion legislation that benefits conservation and our outdoor traditions,” said Morris. “The Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation is one of the foremost organizations for making sure the sportsmen’s voice is heard on Capitol Hill as well as state capitol across the country.”

Professional Member, Jim Posewitz Named 2015 Conservationist of the Year by the National Wildlife Federation

Jim Posewitz has a story for just about everything.
Stories about the deer antlers on his walls, books he’s written and the history behind a movement that helped define his career, roll from his lips as one story leads to another and another. Two stories the longtime conservationist and hunting advocate finds intertwined are those of his own life and the National Wildlife Federation, which formed less than a year after his birth in 1935-80 years ago. Posewitz was recently honored by NWF as the 2015 Conservationist of the Year.

NWF was organized in 1936 by hunters interested in conservation. The federation now acts as the “tent” of wildlife conservation, still including its hunting roots but representing other wildlife interests such as birders and hikers, said NWF regional director Tom France.

“Jim has been an incredibly important voice in the movement,” he said, adding that they first met in 1974 while Posewitz worked at Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. “Even then he was as strong a voice for fish and wildlife as anybody there, and he’s still recognized as the philosopher of sound wildlife policies. It’s really a lifetime achievement award.”

Since leaving FWP, Posewitz has gone on to advocate for wildlife and habitat as a founding member of the Cinnabar Foundation and the Orion–The Hunters’ Institute as well as a member of countless civic and conservation councils.

His best known work, “Beyond Fair Chase: The Ethic and Tradition of Hunting”, used in hunter education classes to promote personal hunting ethics. The book has a story too, snowballing from Helena, Montana, to be used in 41 other states’ hunter education programs.

Professional Member, Steve Williams Receives Conservation Award

In April 2015, Dr. Steve Williams received the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership 2015 Lifetime Conservation Achievement Award for expanding access to sportsmen, addressing climate change, allowing science to guide management, and championing conservation funding throughout his career. He is currently the president of the Wildlife Management Institute—which was started by the Boone and Crockett Club in 1911—and formerly served as director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service under President George W. Bush. Williams also held leadership positions with wildlife agencies in Kansas, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts. “Steve has become the moral compass of the hunting conservation community, a role we hope he won’t relinquish anytime soon,” said TRCP President and CEO Whit Fosburgh.

Williams said he’d like to share the honor with the hundreds of collaborators he’s had in more than 30 years of wildlife conservation efforts. “No one gets anything like this done alone, so this award also belongs to them,” he said. “The people in this profession are like family, and it isn’t hard to see why. We all care about the future and where it intersects with nature.”
DOUG PAINTER NAMED EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF B&C’S FAIR CHASE MAGAZINE

Shooting, hunting and outdoor industry and communications veteran Doug Painter has been named editor-in-chief of Fair Chase, the official publication of the Boone and Crockett Club. Painter will oversee content and design of the quarterly publication. Since 1994, Fair Chase has delivered hunting and conservation news and features to Club members and associates.

“Respect. That’s the first word that comes to mind when I think of Doug and his career. We’re thrilled to add his caliber of esteemed experience, insight and skill to the masthead of Boone and Crockett’s publication,” said Morrie Stevens, Club president.

Along with naming a new editor, Fair Chase launched a complete redesign with its Spring 2015 issue. Fair Chase is a major benefit for the Club’s Associates Program. Each issue contains news about B&C activities in conservation, education, hunting advocacy, conservation policy, and wildlife research efforts, as well as insights from experts outside of the Club. Conservation and biological features cover areas of concern to hunters and game managers, as well as success stories from across North America. Each issue also contains stories from the field, as well as listings and photos of recently accepted Boone and Crockett trophies.

HUMPHRIES APPOINTED NWTF CHIEF CONSERVATION OFFICER

The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) recently appointed B&C Professional Member, Becky Humphries, its new chief conservation officer.

Humphries’ promotion comes just one year after joining the conservation organization’s management team. Under Humphries’ leadership, NWTF conservation staff has identified habitats across the nation requiring immediate attention, developed partnerships with conservation agencies and groups to improve the areas with urgent needs, and worked with state chapters to develop and implement management plans that advance the “Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt.” initiative.

Humphries’ reputation as a respected professional extends beyond the NWTF’s walls. She is a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America’s Fish and Wildlife Resources of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, and she also chairs the Association’s Fish & Wildlife Health Initiative Steering Committee.

Humphries serves on the Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports, the Conservation Leaders Advisory Team for the Berkley Conservation Institute and the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council.

BROWN ELECTED AS NCWF VICE CHAIR

Professional Member Dr. Robert Brown has been elected Vice Chair of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation (NCWF). He has served on the Board of the organization for the past two years. Dr. Brown has been active in the organization by writing op-ed articles, chairing the Communications Committee, serving on Development and Strategic Planning committees, editing publications for the National Wildlife Federation, educating federal agency personnel and legislators in Washington D.C. about the dangers of using invasive species for biofuels, and serving as the NCWF representative on the Governor’s Cervid Disease Task Force. Dr. Brown will serve as Vice Chair for two years then Chair the following two years.

BOONE AND CROCKETT EXPANDS CORPORATE RELATIONSHIPS

The American Snuff Company recognized the Boone and Crockett Club’s leadership in wildlife conservation with a generous donation of $125,000 and a feature on its website of habitat and restoration projects funded by the Club. Website visitors viewed these projects to show their interest and support for their favorites. Boone and Crockett’s most viewed project was in Arkansas’s Ozark Mountains, where Club-funded research is pinpointing characteristics—habitat, harvest regulations, land uses, etc.—of areas producing trophy-class whitetail deer.
ORGAN NEW LEADER IN FISHERIES, WILDLIFE RESEARCH

Boone and Crockett Club Professional member John Organ has been appointed to lead a key science engine behind the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Research Units provide most of the applied wildlife and fisheries management research funded through the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Acts. Conservation luminary and Boone and Crockett member Ding Darling established the program in 1935. Currently there are 40 units at universities in 38 states, together staffed by some 120 scientists with graduate faculty appointments.

A committee of cooperators from state fish and wildlife agencies, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USGS and Wildlife Management Institute coordinates each unit.

The mission is three-fold:
1. Researching problems affecting wildlife and fisheries;
2. Training the next generation of wildlife and fisheries biologists; and
3. Training and technical assistance to cooperators.

Headquarters are located in Reston, Virginia, where Organ will serve as director. For 35 years, Organ served with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Northeast Region starting in Ecological Services and Refuges and working his way up to chief of the Region 5 Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program in 2005.

TWO NEW WORLD’S RECORD CERTIFIED BY BOONE AND CROCKETT

The largest pronghorn and bighorn sheep ever recorded have been certified by Boone and Crockett Club as new World’s Records during FY15.

The huge pronghorn, hunted in Socorro County, New Mexico, in 2013, scores 96-4/8 B&C points. The new record, harvested by Mike Gallo, breaks a tie between two specimens from Arizona. One was taken in Coconino County in 2000, the other in Mohave County in 2002. Both scored 95 B&C points. Club officials say the difference between these old records and the new—a full inch-and-a-half—is an extraordinary jump. In fact, the margin between the new No. 1- and No. 2-ranked trophies is the largest in Boone and Crockett pronghorn records.

The other new record is a bighorn ram scoring 209-4/8 B&C points. It edged out the previous World’s Record—a ram taken near Luscar Mountain, Alberta, in 2000 that scores 208-3/8. The new record sheep was killed in a highway collision in Alberta.

These outstanding trophies mark notable achievements for conservation professionals. Boone and Crockett records are a gauge of exceptional habitat, strong recruitment of game animals into older age classes, sustainable harvest objectives and other elements of sound wildlife management and fair-chase hunting.

BLEICH PARTICIPATES IN BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTER ORIENTATION

Dr. Vern Bleich, B&C Professional Member, participated in the annual Bighorn Sheep Hunter Orientation sponsored by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep, and the California Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation. Dr. Bleich presented information on the Club’s Big Game Records Program, Fair Chase and hunting ethics, scoring bighorn sheep, and trophy entry requirements, as he has for the past five orientations. Attendance at the orientation is mandatory for individuals that have drawn a bighorn sheep tag in California.

SIMPSON NAMED PRESIDENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE STRATEGIES FIRM

B&C Professional Member, Melissa Simpson, has been named President of Stakeholder Strategies L.L.C., a subsidiary to Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. Based in Denver, Colorado, the firm specializes in developing diverse coalitions and public support for energy, wildlife and natural resources projects to create certainty in the regulatory process and to deliver business and policy solutions to clients. Melissa specializes in natural resource issues, particularly wildlife, energy, agricultural and western policy matters at the community, local, regional, state, and federal levels. As a native Coloradoan, Melissa has a deep appreciation for the symbiotic relationship between industry, the regulatory process, stakeholders, and public opinion.
There’s a recurring theme in this message—that is for the Foundation to grow our endowment to a level where annual distributions supplement dues to fund the mission and programs called for in the strategic plan.

The endowment has been long underfunded, and while we have made great strides it is still not where it needs to be. Our goal is to reach $20 million in endowed funds, and the way we will achieve that is through major gift societies and planned giving. The Foundation houses the $15.7 million endowment and annually distributes a portion of the earnings from these funds to support various Club programs. The endowment balance just five years ago, on June 30, 2010, was $9.1 million, which means we’ve increased these funds by 83.5 percent during that time. This year the 2 ½ percent distribution amounted to $349,750. That distribution supported Club G&A, Conservation Education, the Ranch and Records.

The Wilderness Warrior Society (WWS) is the Club’s premier major gifts society. This campaign celebrates the 125th anniversary of the Boone and Crockett Club with funds raised going into the endowment. We now have 24 members of the Society which, at a minimum donation of $125,000 each, translates to more than $3 million for the endowment. WWS has been a huge success by any measure, but we will continue to grow the Society.

Winton Smith, our Charitable Gift Planning consultant and a noted expert in the field, is currently working on estate plans with many Club members. The results are very encouraging with bequests, IRA beneficiary designations, and charitable gift annuities continuing to grow. We have achieved great momentum in the past five years. The original goal of $30 million in bequests was met in 2013 and at the annual meeting that year the Foundation Board approved a new goal of $50 million (cumulative) over the next three years. We exceeded this goal in the first year and in 2014 the Board approved a new goal of $70 million in bequests over a three-year period. We are well on our way at $58 million and will announce our current results at the 2015 annual meeting. The Planned Giving Committee, consisting of Buck Buckner, Gary Dietrich and me, works closely with Winton as we engage additional members in this growing and critical portion of our development efforts.

Those who remember the Club in their wills, trusts, annuities, etc. are recognized as members of the Roughriders Society and receive a distinguished lapel pin to note their commitment. We now have 52 members made up of Regular, Emeritus, Honorary Life, and Professional Members, plus Lifetime Associates and Associates.

For Fiscal year 2015, total contributions, including auction proceeds, WWS pledges, planned giving and the spring and fall solicitations totaled more than $3 million. A big thanks to all of our generous auction donors and bidders.

The Boone and Crockett Club is a part of the Combined Federal Campaign for federal employees as well as seven state employee charitable giving campaigns (CA, MI, MT, PA TX, WA, and WI). These programs have raised more than $200,000 since 2005.

The Development and Associates committees teamed up to host a special reception for Lifetime Associates and others at our annual meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida. We hope to build on our past successes and continue to get to know our Lifetime Associates and help identify future supporters at the Lifetime Associates reception in San Antonio in December 2015.

This Club is not structured to operate on dues alone and without your additional support critical programs would be scaled back or eliminated. So I close by thanking you for your past contributions while asking for your continued support.
The Boone and Crockett Club’s foundation endowment closed fiscal year 2015 with a fund balance of $15,673,376, compared to a $14,566,995 end balance in FY2014. The Investment Committee is satisfied with these results, given that worldwide financial markets have suffered through a period of extreme volatility in both equities and fixed income markets.

Since the beginning of 2014, one of our goals has been to bring results into closer alignment with performance in the broader market indices. We’ll do this by utilizing broadly based exchange traded funds, which are designed to replicate those indices. This investment strategy means the Foundation is willing to align itself with market-like returns and to do away with trying to pick investment managers who attempt to outperform the market in any given time period. Over the long time horizon used to invest Foundation funds, results tend to regress towards the mean performance of the general markets. But, by using this strategy we can avoid the serious risk involved in trying to produce significantly higher short-term returns than the general market is likely to offer investors.

The bar graph shows the trailing returns for the past 10 years for the Foundation’s endowment assets, when compared to a general benchmark of market indices for equities, fixed income and cash. The latter is weighted to provide an accurate comparison with the portfolio weights that are developed as part of the investment strategy by your Investment Committee. One of the facts that should come out of the bar graph is that the Foundation is paying far less in investment management fees today than it has historically and the performance on a YTD, one-year and three-year comparative basis is much more closely aligned with the performance of actual markets.

The Investment Committee is generally pleased with the results that our advisor, D.A. Davidson, has provided for the Club. The Committee believes that the portfolio is positioned to take advantage of the economic recovery that is clearly in the future for domestic financial markets as well as prudently limited exposure to international equities markets. We are also in position to protect against the looming risk of higher interest rates with a bond portfolio weighted for an average duration of 3.20 years. The Committee believes that the current portfolio will provide conservative growth exposure to all financial markets as the worldwide economy recovers from the lingering effects of the Great Recession of 2007-2010.

Our mission is to provide ongoing, risk-free support for the missions and goals of the Boone and Crockett Club. The Committee accomplishes its mission by prudent investment of existing funds and restricted gifts from all sources for the benefit of the Club and its strategic plan. We believe that the current array of investments will help us achieve our mission today, tomorrow and into the future.
The Boone and Crockett Club and its Foundation are pleased to report an outstanding fiscal year finishing with a $2,337,608 increase in net assets, primarily due to contributions that totaled $1.3 million more than those garnered in FY2014. Due to a portion of these generous gifts, we now have a capital expenditure fund in place that insures upkeep of our current assets and supports future needs.

Operating net income registered a positive $208,841, which was $87,056 ahead of our original budget. The Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch completed its five-year growth plan and has reached the goal of being a self-supported profitable working cattle ranch while providing wildlife research study opportunities.

The Foundation, as the fundraising arm of the Club, provides ongoing financial support with a monthly allocation from the invested endowment funds and a distribution from unrestricted contributions donated throughout the year. These contributions come from our members, associates, and others in the conservation community who support the Club’s missions. Altogether, the Club received over $692,000 in support from the Foundation in FY2015.

The budget for FY2016 has been approved by the board. Once again, there was a marked effort to tie the budget to the strategic plan; in particular the FY2016 budget increases funding to support conservation policy activities. We fully expect to make our financial budget for the current year and, to do so, we will require the continued support of our members, associates, and the conservation community at large.
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT

Board of Directors and Management
Boone and Crockett Club
Boone and Crockett Club Foundation, Inc.
Missoula, Montana

We have audited the accompanying combined financial statements of the Boone and Crockett Club (the "Club") and the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation, Inc. (the "Foundation"), which comprise the combined statements of financial position as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related combined statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the combined financial statements.

Management’s Responsibility for the Combined Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors’ Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these combined financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the combined financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit includes performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the combined financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors’ judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the combined financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity’s preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the combined financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion
In our opinion, the combined financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Boone and Crockett Club and the Boone and Crockett Club Foundation, Inc. as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in their net assets and their cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matter
Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the combined financial statements as a whole. The supplementary information in Schedules 1 through 5 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the combined financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the combined financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the combined financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the combined financial statements or to the combined financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the combined financial statements taken as a whole.

Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, P.C.
Missoula, Montana
October 13, 2015
## REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member dues &amp; subscription revenue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member dues</td>
<td>436,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates subscriptions</td>
<td>180,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trophy database subscriptions</td>
<td>14,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total member dues &amp; subscription revenue</strong></td>
<td>631,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise sales</td>
<td>325,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: direct &amp; allocated costs</td>
<td>(167,561)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net merchandise sales</strong></td>
<td>157,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>2,855,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in value of split-interest agreements</td>
<td>257,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing revenue</td>
<td>108,794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranch</td>
<td>230,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income/(losses)</td>
<td>467,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental, lodging &amp; program income</td>
<td>582,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds available for program &amp; support services</strong></td>
<td>5,296,097</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund-raising</td>
<td>310,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>422,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building tenant operations</td>
<td>58,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total support services</strong></td>
<td>792,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds available for program services</strong></td>
<td>4,503,911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Program services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife conservation programs</td>
<td>225,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation projects &amp; outreach</td>
<td>675,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Records &amp; publications</td>
<td>551,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranch operations</td>
<td>217,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership support</td>
<td>244,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates program</td>
<td>251,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total program services</strong></td>
<td>2,166,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase (decrease) in net assets</strong></td>
<td>2,337,608</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of year</td>
<td>21,969,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of year</td>
<td>24,306,823</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## COMBINED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
### For the year ended June 30, 2015

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$393,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables, net of allowance</td>
<td>88,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor promises to give, net of discount and allowance</td>
<td>1,406,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>240,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>80,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>2,209,345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INVESTMENTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>15,085,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Giving</td>
<td>413,446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total investments</strong></td>
<td>15,498,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections (Note1)</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor promises to Give, Net of Current Portion</td>
<td>192,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depot, Ranch, Furniture and Equipment, Net</td>
<td>4,190,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency funds</td>
<td>71,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Split-interest agreements receivable</td>
<td>3,062,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>$25,225,103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

| Category                                                      |              |
| **CURRENT LIABILITIES**                                       |              |
| Accounts payable                                             | 54,698       |
| Accrued liabilities                                           | 92,755       |
| Agency funds payable                                         | 71,814       |
| Current portion of long-term debt                             | 13,879       |
| Deferred subscription revenue, current                        | 210,270      |
| Deferred revenue - other                                      | 99,660       |
| Planned Giving payable, current portion                       | 10,917       |
| Short-term note payable                                       | 68,920       |
| **Total current liabilities**                                 | 622,913      |
| **LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**                                    |              |
| Deferred subscription revenue, long-term                     | 77,751       |
| Long-term debt, net of current portion                        | 14,151       |
| Planned Giving payable, net of current portion                | 203,465      |
| **Total long-term liabilities**                               | 295,367      |
| **Total liabilities**                                         | 918,280      |

| **NET ASSETS**                                                |              |
| Unrestricted                                                  | 10,215,630   |
| Temporarily restricted                                        | 6,277,239    |
| Permanently restricted                                        | 7,813,954    |
| **Total net assets**                                          | 24,306,823   |
| **Total liabilities and net assets**                          | $25,225,103  |

*A copy of the complete set of audited financial statements is available upon request.*
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TRM RANCH MANAGER
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RANCH ASSISTANT
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CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS MANAGER
Luke Coccoli
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Ned S. Holmes
Tom L. Lewis
Jimmy John Liautaud
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Jack S. Parker
Paul V. Phillips
Remo R. Pizzagalli
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M.D.
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Butch Marita
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C. Robert Palmer
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Edward B. Rasmuson
Jack Reneau
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Wallace C. Rogers III
Eric Rominger
Simon C. Roosevelt
William B. Ruger Jr.
Gregory T.M.
Schildwachter
Tony A. Schoonen
John Philip Schreiner Jr.
Marion S. Searle
Michael D. Searle
James J. Shinners
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A. C. Smid
Robert D. Springer
D. Michael Steuer
Morrison Stevens Sr.
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Stuart D. Strahl
Mark W. Streissguth
William W. Taylor
Christine L. Thomas
John A. Tomke
Julie L. Tripp
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Aerojet Rocketdyne
Delivers
Raymond Akita
Wesley L. Alderson
Frank W. Allen
Amazon Smile Foundation
American Snuff Company
Harlan U. Anderson
Allyn L. Archer
Paul M. Aughtry III
Product makers, firearms companies in particular, began financially contributing to the conservation movement over the same concerns that formed the Boone and Crockett Club—dwindling wildlife populations. Manufacturers invest in conservation through product and cash donations, sponsorships, the collection of taxes on equipment purchases, and their executives contributing their leadership and insights on the boards of many local and national conservation organizations.

Today it’s not just the gun companies. More have jumped in with their commitments. The Boone and Crockett Club is blessed to have such a diversity of corporate partners that help fund the mission critical work of the Club. And its not just Boone and Crockett.

While we have exact figures on the moneys for conservation that have come from other sources like licenses, tag and stamp fees, and taxes it is difficult to calculate the contributions manufacturers have made over time. Millions would be a safe bet, if not more.

What some of our newest Trailblazers are saying...

We are extremely honored and proud to partner with the Boone and Crockett Club in their conservations efforts, particularly the Trailblazers in Conservation Program. The values that Sitka holds true to and base are business off of, align with the Boone and Crockett Club, so this partnership makes perfect sense.

—David Brinker, Marketing Manager, Sitka Gear

The Trailblazer partnership with the Boone and Crockett Club allows Sig Sauer to protect our hunting heritage for generations to come and to be partners in those conservation programs that are critical to the future of hunting.

—Andrew York, VP Commercial Sales & President Electro-Optics, Sig Sauer

Kimber has a long hunting tradition and as hunters we understand how important conservation is to the sport we all love. We build our products to set the pace for hunters and shooters, and in critical ways, B&C sets the pace for conservation. We are thrilled to provide our support by partnering with this great organization.

—Richard Kirk, Head of Marketing & Communications, Kimber