The Boone and Crockett Club's Lee and Penny Anderson

CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM

ON THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL RANCH

TRAIL CAMERA 101

This quick and easy lesson plan highlights real world wildlife research going on in Montana on a working cattle ranch. Teach your students about the technology, science and mathematical components of being a wildlife biologist while looking at actual trail camera photos!

What is wildlife? What are trail cameras and how do they work? All of that is answered right here in Wildlife Trail Camera 101!

Additional modules provide practice for students to test their wildlife identification skills while viewing a series of camera photographs, along with worksheets and teacher answer keys.

For more information about the Boone and Crockett Club's Lee and Penny Anderson Conservation Education Program at the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch in Montana

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TRAIL CAMERA **101**

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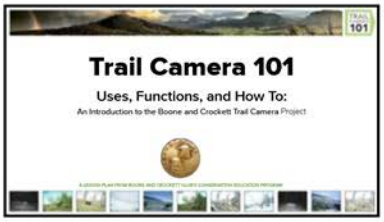

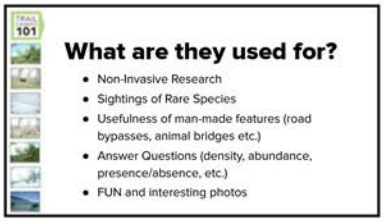

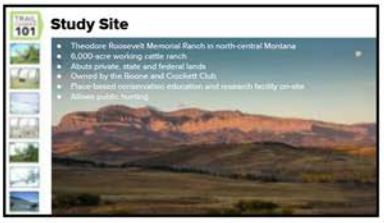

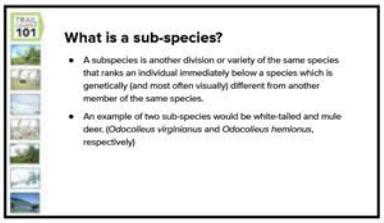

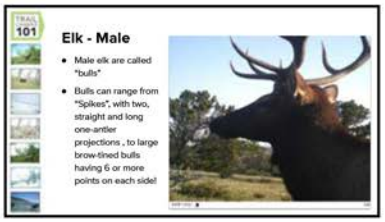

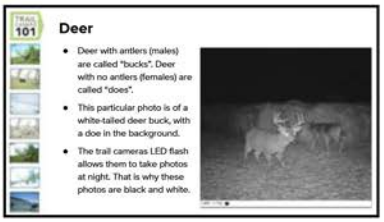

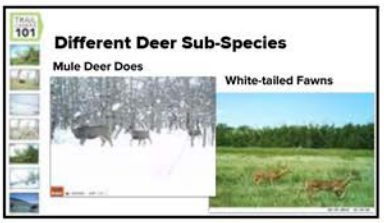

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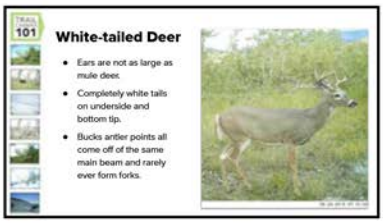

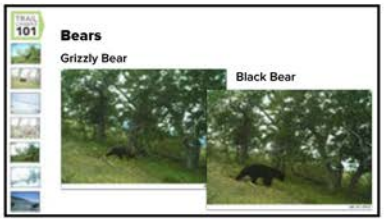

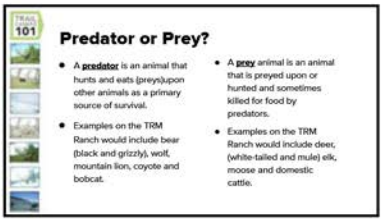

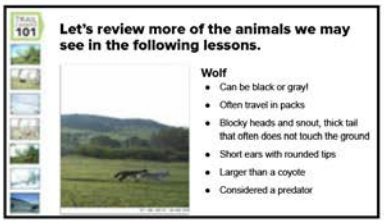

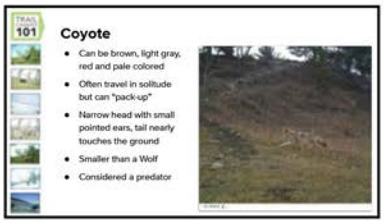

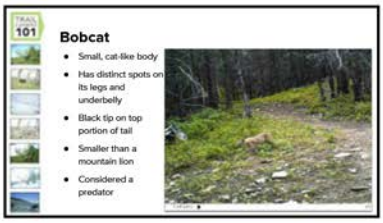

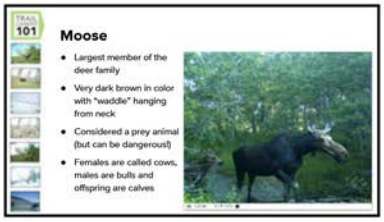

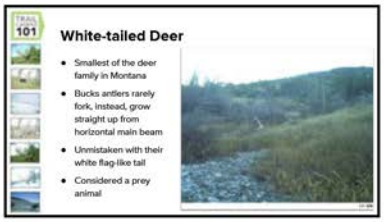

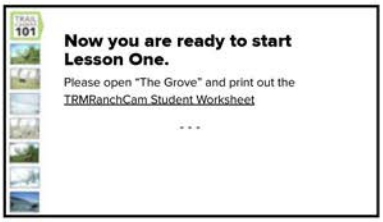

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

TRAIL CAMERA PROJECT ON THE TRM RANCH

In 1887, Theodore Roosevelt founded the Boone and Crockett Club. One of the nation's first conservation organizations, the Club continues to focus on the goals of its founder by supporting programs designed to conserve our country's natural wildlife resources. In Roosevelt's 1907 Message to Congress, he challenged the nation to "increase the usefulness" of the land because it was key to the prosperity of future generations.

To stimulate private sector leadership on wildlife research, education and management, the Boone and Crockett Club, in 1986, purchased a working cattle ranch in prime wildlife habitat along Dupuyer Creek on the East Front of the Rocky Mountains in Montana. The mission of the ranch is research, education and demonstration of integrated wildlife/livestock conservation that is integral to the economic viability of private and adjacent public lands.

The 6,060-acre Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch (TRM Ranch) is home to about 250 cow/calf pairs of black angus cattle. The property abuts thousands of acres of national forest and wilderness and contains critical winter habitat for elk and mule deer. Additionally, white-tailed deer, mountain lions, coyotes, wolves, grizzly and black bears regularly use this property.

This unique environment offers the perfect laboratory to study the co-existence of agricultural land uses and wildlife for research purposes. The TRM Ranch is also home to the Rasmuson Wildlife Conservation Center (pictured below), a 5,000-square foot facility that serves a variety of uses including the Boone and Crockett Conservation Education Program headquarters and as a University of Montana field station.

The Boone and Crockett Conservation Education Program strives to offer people of all ages new perspectives that will foster shared use of natural resources, conservation, sustainable development and stewardship of the land to build a common ground for sustaining healthy ecosystems. The Club acknowledges that the future of our world depends on the choices that people make, and further, that education is a key factor in what those choices are.

Constructed around a theme of appropriate and shared use of natural resources and sensitive to the demands and restraints of conducting meaningful research on a working cattle ranch without interfering with normal, daily operations of cattle herd management, the Club's education program staff began deploying camera traps to monitor various wildlife species and habitat ecotypes in 2012. We are pleased to offer an introduction to trail camera use as well as three additional lesson plans based on the subsets of this data.

LESSON PLANS AVAILABLE

TRAIL CAMERA 101

THE GROVE

THE HIGHTOWER

THE NORTH FORK

eMammal Deployment Data Sheet

DEPLOYMENT NAME
ex: CES.CAM1.070715

_____

DEPLOYMENT

DATE_____
TIME_____

RETRIEVAL

DATE_____
TIME_____

DEPLOYMENT TEAM

_____

_____

_____

_____

DEPLOYMENT COORDINATES
*USE DECIMAL DEGREES

Latitude _____ Longitude _____

or address:

EXPECTED RETRIEVAL DATE: _____

CAMERA ID

_____

MEMORY CARD ID

_____

BATTERY %

_____

DETECTION DISTANCE

_____(m)

Camera Deployment Steps:

- ❑ Secure camera tightly at knee height with locked cable.
- ❑ Check Date/Time are correct and note on sheet.
- ❑ Check battery percentage (60%+)
- ❑ Check memory card usage (should = 0%)
- ❑ Clear vegetation within 4 feet of front of camera
- ❑ Make sure camera points parallel with ground.
- ❑ Perform walk test & record detection distance.
- ❑ Arm camera and stand in front to take 1st photo.

Camera Retrieval Steps

- ❑ Stand in front of camera to take last photo.
- ❑ Before powering off, determine camera status. If not working, note reason in comments.
- ❑ Power off and retrieve camera and cable.
- ❑ Confirm retrieval date and time.

CAMERA WORKING AT RETRIEVAL? ___ YES ___ NO

COMMENTS:

Smithsonian Institution

NORTH CAROLINA Museum of Natural Sciences

eMAMMAL