

BEST OF 2012

The Boone and Crockett Club has a tradition of honoring trophies and the fair chase hunts that produce them, including photographs from the field.

Fair Chase is proud to present the results of our fourth annual trophy field photo competition. All trophies that were accepted in 2012 were eligible and automatically entered into the contest. Within these pages, you'll find the top photographs selected by the *Fair Chase* editors and staff.

From a list of finalists, each judge was asked to select their 20 favorite photographs as well as their top pick and provide feedback to share with the readers. Each pick received one point and the top picks received five points. All of these images are fine examples of quality field photographs. Judging field photos is a subjective task as beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

We hope you enjoy and pick up a few tips for the next time you're in the field.



Debra E. Stuchlik > Mountain Caribou > 384
Aishihik Lake, Yukon Territory > September 2011

JUDGES COMMENTS

Displays great habitat
and very interesting
antlers. - M.M.

NOTE: All field photographs from
accepted trophies in 2012 were eligible

WINNERS RECEIVE



FIRST PRIZE
STM 65 HD



SECOND PRIZE
EL 10x42 WB



THIRD PRIZE
Z3 3-9x36



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JUDGES COMMENTS

For how sharp looking pronghorn are it is surprising how few photos of them catch my eye. This one is the perfect pronghorn picture in my opinion. You can see the flat habitat they are in and the hunter has positioned the animal in a way to highlight its looks.- J.S.

SECOND



Erik W. Swanson > Pronghorn > 87 4/8
Coconino County, AZ > September 2010

Craig D. Martin > Cougar > 15 3/16
Idaho County, ID > March 2011

JUDGES COMMENTS

Photographing cougars is a tough task. This hunter did an excellent job presenting the tom in a respectful manner, plus he included other elements of the hunt that give the viewer a better idea of the experience he had harvesting this record-book cat." - J.T.

THIRD



JUDGES COMMENTS

To me trophies represent memories more than anything else. A mount on the wall is certainly a constant reminder, but nothing takes you back like a photo. I have no idea if they are husband and wife. Regardless, the expression on their faces tells me they are both in the moment, feeling the same feelings, and proud. - K.B.

FOURTH - TIE



Gary L. Soeth > Typical Mule Deer > 190-6/8
Humboldt County, Nevada > October 2011

Troy M. Sheldon > Rocky Mountain Goat > 57-4/8
Stikine River, British Columbia > October 2011

- JAN>
- FEB>
- MAR>
- APR>
- MAY>
- JUN>
- JUL>
- AUG>
- SEP>
- OCT>
- NOV>
- DEC>
- 1>
- 2>
- 3>
- 4>
- 5>



WORLD'S RECORD

FOURTH - TIE

JUDGES COMMENTS

This field photo is very worthy of a new World's Record even though the hunter and guide did not know it at the time it was taken. The animal is prominently displayed with a nice background, and both the hunter and guide are very happy with their success as evidence by their smiles. The hair on the animal is in great shape, there is no blood anywhere on the animal, and its mouth is closed. - J.R.

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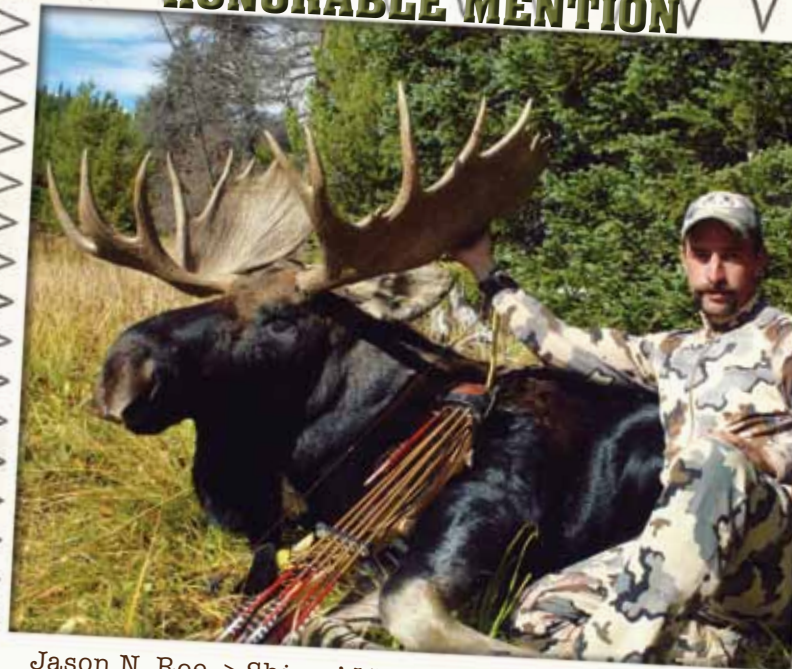
Glen E. Salow > Typical Whitetail Deer
166-6/8 > Polk County, Iowa > November 2011

HONORABLE MENTION



READ ABOUT THIS HUNT ON THE NEXT PAGE

HONORABLE MENTION



Jason N. Roe > Shiras' Moose > 154-3/8
Grand County, Colorado > September 2011

FAN PICKS

We opened up our annual field photo contest to our Facebook fans and gave them the opportunity to weigh in on their favorites. Their top three picks are shown below.



Jerry L. Tkac > Typical Mule Deer > 183-5/8
Sonora, Mexico > January 2012

JUDGES COMMENTS

All the pieces come together in this photo; it is a clean photo, good composition, and he looks like a true hunter. - K.K.



FIRST PLACE
Brian K. Tilman > Black Bear > 20-6/16
Lynn Lake, Manitoba > May 2009

Mackenzie B. Hall > Pronghorn > 85-4/8
Carbon County, Wyoming > September 2011



HONORABLE MENTION
Generation Next



SECOND PLACE
Craig D. Martin > Cougar > 15 3/16
Idaho Co., ID > March 2011



THIRD PLACE
Michael J. Carpinito > Typical American Elk
363-4/8 > Garfield Co., WA > September 2011

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