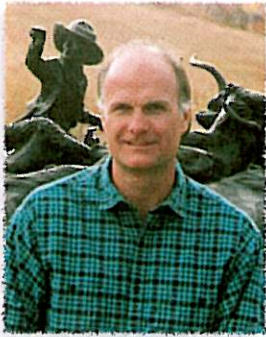


CLUB PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Defining 'Multiple Use'



Stephen S. Adams
PRESIDENT
Boone & Crockett Club

WHEN GOALS FOR THE UTILIZATION OF OUR NATION'S PUBLICLY OWNED NATURAL RESOURCES ARE MENTIONED, THE CATCH-phrase "MULTIPLE USE" FIGURES HEAVILY IN THE DISCUSSIONS. WHILE ALL BUT THE MOST STRIDENT PRESERVATIONISTS AGREE THAT THE RIGHT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC'S LAND MUST BE CONSIDERED IN ANY PLAN FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, NOT EVERYONE CAN AGREE TO WHAT DEGREE. HERE IS HOW A FEW NOTABLES DEFINE "MULTIPLE USE."

Louisa Willcox, Greater Yellowstone Coalition: "Multiple use of public lands is a sound concept involving the balancing of resource uses such as recreation, fisheries and wildlife protection, timber harvest, minerals and range management in the public interest. The key concept is balance, but, over the years, multiple use has turned into a Frankenstein at the hands of the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. Multiple use has come to mean single, industrial and commercial uses of public lands, particularly timber harvesting and minerals development that can destroy other values."

U.S. Senator Al Simpson, R-Wyoming: "I don't have to determine what it means. It's been in the statute books, and it's still there. It requires sensitive balance. Nobody's ever going to change the concept of multiple use. It means everybody getting their share."

Jeff DeBonis, former Forest Service employee and founder of Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics: "To give equal weight to all resources, not just timber, but wildlife, water quality and everything else, too. Multiple use has been coopted into a justification for cutting trees."

First Chief of the U.S. Forest Service Gifford Pinchot: Opposing interests "must all be made to fit into one another so that the machine runs smoothly as a whole. It is often necessary for one man to give way a little here, another a little there. But by giving way a little at present, they both profit by a good deal in the end."

It seems that "multiple use" has lost its original luster as people have

James Watt says that "today 'multiple use' is under attack. But as economic crisis accelerates in the global theater, new meanings and definitions will take shape within the framework that Pinchot and other conservationists have seen it."

Doug Tims, former president of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association and now president of America Outdoors, the national organization for guides and outfitters, has a good idea:

"The terminology we need represents not the middle ground, but the high ground. It is 'Responsible, Shared Use.' Responsible, shared use means industry will be there, working on public lands in the future, but only if we conduct our business in a responsible, environmentally sound manner. It means that the public land system, as a whole, supports a variety of uses to benefit the American public including conservation, renewable and extracted resources. It does not mean that every use occurs on every acre."

In its vision statement for wildlife and conservation, the Boone and Crockett Club states that it would like to see "a future in which all users of natural resources respect the rights of others in the spirit of sharing, a future in which all North Americans are committed to the principle that their use of resources must be sustainable both for themselves and for future generations."



used the phrase to justify their particular agenda or browbeat those who appear not to fall in line.

Former Interior Secretary



HOW THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB BEGAN

THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB WAS FOUNDED BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT AT A TIME WHEN IT WAS ONE OF ONLY TWO ORGANIZATIONS IN AMERICA DEDICATED TO THE CONSERVATION OF OUR NATION'S NATURAL RESOURCES.

ROOSEVELT, WHO WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THE PLIGHT OF AMERICA'S WILDLIFE, HOSTED A DINNER IN DECEMBER OF 1887 FOR TEN LIKE-MINDED SPORTSMEN FRIENDS.

THIS INFLUENTIAL GROUP RECOGNIZED THAT WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN THE PRECEDING DECADE TO THE VAST BUFFALO HERDS AND THE MILLIONS OF PASSENGER PIGEONS COULD EASILY HAPPEN TO OTHER SPECIES UNLESS EFFORTS WERE MADE TO CONTROL SPORT AND MARKET HUNTING AND PROVIDE WILDLIFE THE ABILITY TO COEXIST WITH MAN.

THAT EVENING THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB WAS FOUNDED WITH THE MISSION TO PROMOTE TWO MAJOR GOALS: THE CONSERVATION OF CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT AND THE PRINCIPLE OF HUNTING IN "FAIR CHASE."