

COLLECTING B & C BOOKS

Books Relating to the Big Game Awards Program



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IN 1947, THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF RECORDS AND NORTH AMERICAN BIG GAME COMPETITIONS ISSUED A 35-PAGE BOOKLET ANNOUNCING THE NORTH AMERICAN BIG GAME COMPETITIONS. THE CLUB STATED ITS WISHES TO ENCOURAGE THE SPORTSMAN IN SELECTIVE HUNTING, AND AS A MEANS OF FOSTERING THIS INTEREST IT ANNOUNCED PLANS TO SPONSOR THESE COMPETITIONS AND AWARD PRIZES FOR THE FINEST TROPHIES SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE. OUR RECORDS DO NOT SHOW HOW MANY OF THESE PAMPHLETS WERE PRINTED, BUT VERY FEW HAVE SURVIVED AND TODAY A NICE COPY IS VALUED AT \$400 TO \$500!

The big game competitions were held annually through 1951 and the results were published on large folding sheets much like a folded road map. Commencing with the 6th

Big Game Competition covering 1952-1953, they were held biennially until the 14th Big Game Competition that covered a three-year period, 1968-1970. Pamphlets announcing the results have been issued since the 12th Competition. The folding sheets and early pamphlets have become quite scarce and sales of them have been reported at \$75 each.

Commencing with the 15th period, the word "Competition" was replaced with "Awards" as being more descriptive of the spirit of the event. It was not until the 18th Big Game Awards that a hard cover book was published. To date, four hard cover books have been issued, all in editions ranging from 3,100 to 7,000 copies. The 18th Big Game Awards covering the period 1980-1982, a 306

page book, is still available new from the Club at the issue price of \$24.95. The 19th Big Game Awards, covering the period 1983-1985, a 410 page book, has been sold out and must be obtained in the secondary market.

The 20th Big Game Awards, 480 pages, covers the period 1986-1988. The 21st Big Game Awards 1989-1991, is a 537 page book. Both are still available new from the Club at \$34.95 and \$39.95 respectively. The next book, the 22nd Big Game Awards 1992-1994, is scheduled for publication in 1995.

Because of the limited number of copies printed of the hard cover Big Game Awards books, they are bound to become collector's items in the future.

BACK AT THE RANCH



Robert K. Peebles

MANAGER
*Theodore Roosevelt
Memorial Ranch*

WE HAD A QUIET HOLIDAY SEASON HERE AT THE TRM RANCH. IT WAS NICE TO RELAX AFTER THE HUNTING SEASON. DURING THIS TIME I HAD A CHANCE TO LOOK OVER THE COUNTRY. I REMAIN ASTONISHED AT THE RELATIVELY FEW NUMBERS OF MULE DEER THAT ARE PRESENT IN JANUARY AT THE RANCH AND SURROUNDING AREAS. THE DEER ARE EITHER REMAINING WELL DISPERSED ALONG THE EAST FRONT OR A CYCLIC DIE-OFF IN THE MULE DEER POPULATION OCCURRED AFTER JANUARY 1993, AT WHICH TIME THERE WAS A POPULATION APPROACHING 3,200 STRONG. THE AERIAL COUNTS OBTAINED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS, IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, WILL SHED MORE LIGHT ON WHAT HAS HAPPENED, IF ANYTHING.

The TRM Ranch cattle are in good shape and are enjoying the open winter. I supplemented the cattle for a few weeks with "range cake" (a protein supplement), before I started feeding hay, which wasn't until the 5th of January. Until that time there

was plenty of grass available for them. We'll start calving around February 25th, as the ranching process begins to repeat itself for the 1994 year.

The new year here in the TRMR part of Montana is being ushered in by more relatively mild weather for this area. Weather was certainly the dominating characteristic of the past year. We had an extremely wet and cool summer in 1993 and a warm, dry fall. As a result, the ungulate wildlife, due to an abundance of forage, remained well dispersed throughout the 1993 hunting season. Much of the mule deer population remained high on the U.S. Forest Service and many stayed in the Bob Marshall Wilderness area until after the hunting season was over. As a result, the mule deer harvest for the area was relatively low and the wide dispersion of animals greatly reduced the possibility of finding a trophy buck. Despite this fact, the hunters at the TRM Ranch genuinely enjoyed themselves and their time outdoors.

The cool, wet summer weather in 1993 also affected the upland game bird

population here at the ranch, and the numbers of birds to be found were relatively few. High waters and rainy days also kept the fishing to a minimum.

SPORTSMAN SUMMARY - 1993

THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL RANCH	
Fishing	19 fishing days
Upland Game Birds	15 hunting days
.....	6 birds harvested
Archery	51 hunting days
Deer, elk & bear	None harvested

1993 RIFLE SEASON

OCTOBER 24TH - NOVEMBER 28TH

	Quotas	Actual
Mule deer bucks		
early season	15	16
Mule deer bucks		
late season	10	6
(after Nov. 14)		
Mule deer does	40	29
Whitetail bucks	5	1
Whitetail does	10	6
Cow elk	10	6

Total permission slips	80
Total sportsmen	174
Total hunting days provided	258



MULE DEER AT TRMR.