

ASSOCIATES PROGRAM UPDATE

Writing for *Fair Chase*



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THE ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN *FAIR CHASE* MAY BE CLASSIFIED UNDER SEVERAL HEADINGS INCLUDING: CONSERVATION, BIG GAME MANAGEMENT, HUNTING ETHICS, HUNTING STORIES, ACCOUNTS OF UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AFIELD AND BIG GAME RECORDS. THESE ARTICLES ARE PUBLISHED ALONG WITH THE REGULAR QUARTERLY COLUMNS. SOME OF THE ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN *FAIR CHASE* ARE SOLICITED FROM WRITERS BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF AND OTHERS ARE SUBMITTED TO THE *FAIR CHASE* EDITORIAL STAFF FOR CONSIDERATION BY BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES.

HUNTING ARTICLES AND ASSOCIATES' HUNTING STORIES

Articles written by Boone and Crockett Associates comprise an important and significant portion of the editorial content of *Fair Chase*. In order to encourage more Associates to submit stories, I will outline some aspects of our editorial policy and provide some guidance for our Associates and other writers who contribute hunting articles to *Fair Chase*.

Most of the hunting stories which we receive from Associates describe a hunt for a particular trophy big game animal. In such cases we would like the author to describe a number of different aspects related to the hunting and taking of the animal in the story.

- First and foremost, the fair chase ethic must be an integral part of the hunt and the story. As you write the story keep in mind the fair chase ethic and do your best to articulate the ethical, respectable relationship between the hunter and the animals we hunt. How you describe the hunt, the way in which the animal was taken and your feelings about taking the animal have a great deal to do with the fair chase ethic.

A good example of how one can articulate the fair chase concept in an article is found in Associate, James Wooten's article, "Memories of a World Record Hunt." Wooten's article

was published in *Boone and Crockett Club News Journal*, Volume 8, Number 1. Wooten described his feelings about taking his world record Central Canada barren ground caribou, "The incredible surge one feels when a life-long dream is realized in one instant of time is to be remembered in every detail, for when the tedium of everyday life starts to creep in and the call of the wild and lonely far away places which make up the game fields of the world is strong, this moment and the events leading up to it may be recalled and savored in the way that only a hunter would understand." Wooten went on to say, "Perhaps this is best

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because big game hunters are a select few in our society, who may see the beauty of game animals and their environment and appreciate them for their true worth. Big game hunters realize the taking in fair chase of a trophy animal is the culmination of an honored tradition which has been eroded by the urbanization of our society."

- Try to articulate the total quality involved in the hunting experience. What did the experience of taking the animal mean to you? The idea that a hunt is more than just going out and killing an animal is especially important. What about the intrinsic beauty of the area where you hunted? What about other game and nongame species you saw on the hunt? What about

your preparation for the hunt? Associate, Mavis Lorenz, did a wonderful job of describing the total quality aspects of the taking of her bighorn ram in the Winter 1994 issue of *Fair Chase*. In "Ladies Day in the High Country," Lorenz described how she, as a novice sheep hunter, went about preparing herself for a self-guided backpack hunt for a record ram.

- Briefly discuss the big game management policies employed in the area you hunted. Is there anything unique or innovative about the way the big game is managed in the area you hunted which has an effect on the quality of the big game animals in the area? Associate, Kenny Meinzer, described the innovative way the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is managing the sheep in the area he hunted in his article, "Chugach Ram," in the Winter 1994 issue of *Fair Chase*.

- What did you learn from this hunt? What insights did you pick up about the animal you were hunting? Was there anything unique about the way in which you hunted the animal? Associate, Pat Sinclair, described his ideas about the weather and the mule deer rut in his article, "The Ultimate Big Game Trophy," in the Winter issue of *Fair Chase*.

- Was there anything unique or special about this hunting experience? Shelley Goodman describes how she renewed a lost relationship with her brother in her article, "Petty Creek Ram," on page 44 in this issue of *Fair Chase*.

- What was the official Boone and Crockett score for your trophy?

- What about writing about a hunt where you did not take a trophy animal? Eldon "Buck" Buckner's article about his desert sheep hunt, "The Great Hualapi Sheep Hunt," in this issue of *Fair Chase*, is a good example of such an article.

BIG GAME MANAGEMENT, WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION ARTICLES

The areas of conservation, wild-



PAT SINCLAIR SPENT MORE THAN AN HOUR PHOTOGRAPHING THIS MAGNIFICENT MULE DEER. IN DOING SO HE CAPTURED THE SCENIC BEAUTY OF THE HUNTING AREA AND PRESENTED THE ANIMAL IN A RESPECTFUL, DISCRETE MANNER.

We will use as many of your photos in the story as possible.

life research and big game management are important aspects of our publication. I would like to encourage our readers who have such an article to send them to us for our consideration for publication. Often these areas involve "technical" aspects related to research and statistics but many of our readers are professionals in the big game management and conservation fields. Authors submitting these articles should keep in mind that our readers are a generally sophisticated group when it comes to management and conservation issues. If you are in doubt about certain technical aspects of your article, submit the article and I will discuss any editorial changes I feel are required with you.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs are very important in any magazine. Photographs convey the visual image of what the author is putting into words. We have some stock photos of various big game animals but need and use your photos whenever possible. When you submit an article include as many photos as you think we can use and then include a couple extras! Trophy pictures showing hunters with their game are integral to our Associates' hunting stories. Associates who are writing about a hunt should include both field photos of the trophy and other photos which illustrate the hunt. Photos which illustrate the scenic beauty of the area you hunted, photos of your camp, and other photos which you feel are interesting should be submitted.

clear and in focus. We prefer color slides or negatives whenever possible. When you cannot submit color slides or negatives send us a good quality glossy print.

- Trophy photos must be discrete and must present the trophy animal in a respectful manner. Associate, Pat Sinclair's article, "The Ultimate Big Game Trophy," described how he spent a full hour taking self-timed photographs of his mule deer. Pat's photo is an excellent example of a very fine field photo of a trophy animal.

- Tongues hanging out, blood on the animal or the ground, bullet holes showing in the body and legs askew detract from photograph. We are able to "edit" photos with our computer software and correct some detractors like blood on animals. Photographs which include distasteful aspects which we are unable to edit out are not published in *Fair Chase*.

- We do not publish trophy photos with animals in vehicles or photos with the hunter sitting on the animal. Likewise we do not publish photos in which the hunter's rifle is pointed in an unsafe direction.

- Submit as many photos as you think we can use and then some. We will return your photos when we are finished with the story.

SUPPORTING GRAPHICS

Graphs, charts, maps and the like contribute to the overall interest of the story. We have the computer capability to make whatever graphs

and charts we need to support your article. If you simply draw or sketch the graph or chart we will make it look good! When we are in doubt, we will call you! We encourage you to submit whatever supporting graphics you feel we may be able to use. In many cases it would not be appropriate to publish a map which shows exactly where you took your trophy but a general map which helps make a point in your article may be interesting to our readers.

HARD COPY OR COMPUTER DISK

If you write and save your story on a computer send us both a "hard copy" and a disk with a copy of your article on it. We can use either Macintosh or PC formatted disks. We use a Macintosh system and can convert files saved in most word processing software in both PC or Mac formats. We prefer files saved in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect formats if you have access to such. If you are not sure if your program will work give us a call! If all you have available for writing is a pen and a pad of paper we will still consider your article for publication!

OTHER GENERAL EDITORIAL POLICY ITEMS

It is the policy of the Boone and Crockett Club and *Fair Chase* to not endorse outfitters, products, or manufacturers. Reference may be included at the end of an article to a particular wildlife department, outfitter association, manufacturer, or individual outfitter in order that readers who desire additional information may contact that person or agency. Opinions expressed by contributors of articles are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Boone and Crockett Club.

With these pointers in mind, I would like to encourage you to consider submitting an article which you would like to share with our readers. I will be looking forward to hearing from you!

WANTED HISTORICAL HUNTING PHOTOS

We would like to publish photos of your family's hunting camps and the game they took up through 1950.

Please send them to:
Boone & Crockett Club
Attn: Oldtime Photos
250 Station Drive
Missoula, MT 59801

THE FOLLOWING CHART INDICATES APPROXIMATELY THE LENGTH OF YOUR STORY IF PUBLISHED IN *FAIR CHASE*.

NUMBER OF WORDS	FAIR CHASE PAGES
350	1/2 PAGE
600-850	1 PAGE
1200-1900	2 PAGES
2000-2800	3 PAGES
2900-4000	4 PAGES

▲ PLEASE NOTE THAT MOST ASSOCIATE HUNTING STORIES ARE AROUND TWO PAGES IN LENGTH.