

# BACK AT THE RANCH

## Youth Hunters Have a Successful Season at The TRM Ranch

### 1998 SPORTSMAN'S SUMMARY

Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch

Spring Bear	7 Hunter days provided
Fishing	11 Sportsmen days provided
Upland Game Birds	13 Hunter days provided
Archery	24 Hunter days provided
Cougar	1 Sportsmen day provided
Bobcat	5 Sportsmen days provided

### 1998 Rifle Season October 25 - November 29

Category	Quotas	Harvests
Mule deer bucks (early)	8	4
Mule deer bucks (late)	4	3
Mule deer does	20	3
Whitetail bucks	6	4
Whitetail does	Unlimited	5
Cow elk	Unlimited	1
Bull elk	3	0
Fall bear	2	0
Cougar	2	0
Bobcat	0	1

Total Permission Slips .....	81
Total number of sportsmen .....	171
Total sporting days provided .....	209
Total number of people accessing USFS via TRM during rifles season (apx. 9 people/day) .....	333

An additional 2 people/day use the TRM Ranch to access USFS from September 5 - October 25, adding another 98 people



My first trip to the TRM Ranch was a trip to remember. The second day we went back and walked the first area some more. As we were heading back to the truck, I spotted horns bobbing up and down over a little hill. We hurried down the hill and there he was, just walking away from us. My dad whistled at the four point mule deer and it stopped. I shot and the shell was a misfire. The deer took off. I put another shell in as my dad whistled again. I shot and this time I hit him. Thanks, Adam Thoroughman

### Relatively mild weather

conditions were the norm during the 1998 hunting season. As a result, the hunting success on the TRM Ranch was exceedingly low, while providing a good deal of hunting opportunity, especially for the youth hunters in our region. Reservations for 22 youth hunters were taken on the TRM Ranch this year. Those opportunities were greatly appreciated by these young hunters, as well as their mentors. Additionally, other hunters enjoyed the use of the TRM Ranch and over 400 hunters were able to access the U.S. Forest Service lands via the TRM Ranch.

During the non-rifle season this year, decreases were seen in all categories except archery. These decreases were due mainly to the fact that people simply were not asking permission to hunt because of the

unseasonably mild weather. This translates into slow big game migrations out of the Bob Marshall Wilderness complex and onto their respective winter ranges like the TRM Ranch.

The greatest decrease in TRM Ranch use during rifle season occurred in mule deer doe hunters for two reasons; fewer doe hunters asked permission and also many people with mule deer doe tags said they didn't want to hunt does because the mule deer numbers were down in our area. I await mule deer population counts from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks' winter aerial observations, to make a final analysis. Conducted by wildlife biologists - this aerial information not only provides insight into doe and fawn numbers, but buck population ratios as well. ▲▲▲



**Robert K. Peebles**  
Ranch Manager  
Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch

My dad and I started getting ready for hunting season in late August. We called the Boone and Crockett ranch to get permission to hunt. We had a lot of fun seeing beautiful wildlife and the mountains. Jenna Ophem  
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE



Hunting has always been very important for me and my family. I love just being out there, even if I don't get a thing. On this special hunt, I spotted this great buck. I was so nervous, I could hardly keep the gun steady, but then calmed myself and made a good shot. Thank you for allowing me to hunt on such a great place as the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch. Sincerely, Jacob Hobus



My name is Chad Fowler. I'm from Great Falls, Montana. I'm 13 years old. Hunting at the Boone and Crockett ranch was a great experience. I learned many things like how hard of work it is to find a big buck. Hunting to me is being with my Dad in the mountains and having a great time looking at all the animals. Thank you very, very much. Sincerely, Chad Fowler

I didn't mind missing Halloween this year because I got to fill my buck tag. He was a nice 5x5 mule deer buck. I sure was proud. Thank you for a neat experience on your ranch. Your Friend, Brad Schwartz  
P.S. My dad was also very proud of me!