

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Moving Forward Together

THERE ARE MANY ACTIVE SPORTSMAN/HUNTER/FISHERMAN-BASED WILDLIFE ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE WILD GAME, FISH AND BIRD POPULATIONS IN THE FACE OF INCREASING HUMAN NEED FOR LAND, MINERAL AND FIBER. A FEW EXAMPLES OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE THE FOUNDATION FOR NORTH AMERICAN WILD SHEEP, THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION, THE SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL, PHEASANTS FOREVER, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE, WHITETAILS UNLIMITED, DUCKS UNLIMITED, TROUT UNLIMITED, ETC. - THIS LIST COULD GO ON AND ON BUT I THINK YOU GET THE IDEA.

As human population continues to grow, the potential of changing the very nature of existing wildlife habitat will become more and more the issue of the day and a challenge for wildlife professionals and wildlife organizations. We must prepare for this challenge now.

Last June, the Boone and Crockett Club brought together the leaders of the major sportsman/hunter organizations in Dallas, Texas, to discuss their common concerns and aspirations for the wildlife resource on which they focus their resources. We jointly agreed to commit to an action plan, much like the one that was put together by the founders of the Boone and Crockett Club over 100 years ago under the leadership of Theodore Roosevelt.

This plan involves all of us who cherish our wildlife and conservation traditions. The Boone and Crockett Club together with the major sportsman/hunter orga-



THE MISSION

It is the policy of the Boone and Crockett Club to promote the guardianship and provident management of big game and associated wildlife in North America and to maintain the highest standards of fair chase and sportsmanship in all aspects of big game hunting, in order that this resource of all the people may survive and prosper in its natural habitats. Consistent with this objective, the Club supports the use and enjoyment of our wildlife heritage to the fullest extent by this and future generations of mankind.

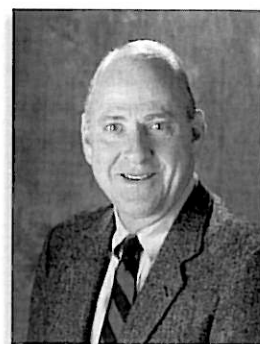
Executive Committee
Boone & Crockett Club
December 4, 1974

nizations continued the dialogue on the 24th of March, 1996. We are making specific plans for an American Wildlife Congress to develop a common vision as we move ahead into the Twentieth Century. Our first B&C Professor of Wildlife Conservation at the University of Montana, Dr. Hal Salwasser, points out that some of the most important common ground themes to be addressed are bio-diversity conservation, hunter ethics/fair chase, commercial uses of wildlife/wildlife products, wildlife viewing, research/science, education, stewardship of ecosystems/habitats, property rights, incentives vs. regulations, game

ranches/farms, exotic animals, respective roles of public/private lands, state/private/tribal/federal lands responsibilities, and endangered species.

At the American Wildlife Congress, we intend to include all parties that wish to participate in a constructive manner. Participation among all of the North American countries is essential, as many of our game birds and big game animals are migratory. We must include all individuals and groups who have an ongoing interest in wildlife, whether we as hunters and fishermen are comfortable with them or not. All voices must be recognized and encouraged to contribute in order for the results of this congress to be meaningful and supportable. Only then will we be able to move forward together, respecting each others'

views, and collectively supporting the wildlife and its habitat that we all hold so dear.



Paul D. Webster
President
Boone and Crockett Club

Organizations actively participating in the AMERICAN WILDLIFE CONGRESS

Boone and Crockett Club
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Safari Club International
Wildlife Management Institute
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep
Orion Institute
Pheasants Forever
The National Wild Turkey Federation
Ruffed Grouse Society
Quail Unlimited
Ducks Unlimited
Whitetails Unlimited, Inc.