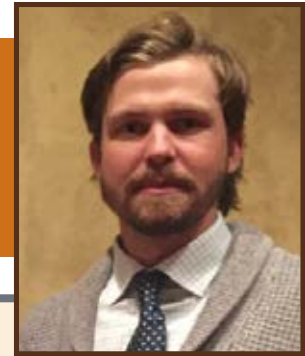


EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERS

The Boone and Crockett Club University Program is designed to provide science-based knowledge from seasoned wildlife professionals and educators to college graduates in the wildlife field to better prepare the graduates for the responsible and wise management of wildlife in the future.

FROM:
Mississippi State University



BOONE AND CROCKETT FELLOW PROFILE

Andrew Smith of Greenville, Mississippi, a small town in the Mississippi River Delta, is a passionate conservationist who enjoys writing, history, traditional archery, and fly-fishing. He received his B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Mississippi State University in 2014, where he worked as an ecological technician on a variety of projects with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and others. After graduation, Mr. Smith began to seek out his interests in biological invasions and natural resources/conservation policy, where he was then recruited by Dr. Leopold and the Boone and Crockett Club to investigate the effectiveness of policy and legislation to control wild pig populations in the United States. Mr. Smith is a full-time Extension Associate for Mississippi State's Center for Resolving Human-Wildlife Conflicts, where he provides programmatic support to the director, writing and publishing on key invasive species of Mississippi, the southeast, and the U.S. During this time he has worked closely with species such as Asian carp and wild pigs on a variety of projects with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, & Parks, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

MISSISSIPPI STATE WILDLIFE PROGRAM

The Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Aquaculture at Mississippi State University is dedicated to ensuring that future generations enjoy wildlife and fisheries in their natural habitats. To meet this goal, the department is focused on training future wildlife and fisheries professionals, conducting regional, national and international research, and providing educational outreach for citizens and landowners.

Mississippi State's wildlife faculty are some of the country's leading biologists, developing scientifically-based, adaptive and proactive conservation planning to benefit applied management of wildlife and fisheries. Students are engaged with faculty in developing new methods for wildlife management and restoration through hands-on experiential learning.

The Department has a number of specialized research laboratories and centers that support its focal areas, which include spatial and quantitative ecology, carnivore ecology, human-wildlife conflicts and conservation biology. Mississippi State also benefits from integrated partnerships with the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services and the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOONE AND CROCKETT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Boone and Crockett Fellowship program is reaching its fourth term at Mississippi State University. Over the past three years, the program's influence at Mississippi State has facilitated the education, training and professional development of our nation's future conservation leaders through culturing academic excellence and professional integrity. Throughout the program's presence at Mississippi State, it has been under the direction and council of Dr. Bruce Leopold (Professional Member), Dr. Bronson Strickland - Extension Professor, James L. Cummins (Regular Member) - Executive Director of Wildlife Mississippi, and now under the leadership of Dr. Andy Kouba - Department Head of Wildlife, Fisheries & Aquaculture, College of Forest Resources, all of whom maintain active roles in culturing the program at Mississippi State.

