

of Roosevelt, Grinnell, Leopold and many others before us; they are part of the substance and image of America. Likewise, the agencies that manage our public lands are important to us for those same reasons. Within them, professionalism (separate from bureaucracy) based on science but with objective attention to human needs, is both the hub and crux of wildlife management that is supportable by people of many interests.

In the midst of necessary attention to budget deficits, slowing

the growth of government, and planning for the future of America's public lands and wildlife, there must be careful thought and dialogue. What appears to be occurring is pursuit of ideology, without screening or thinking through the impact of proposed changes. Who is thinking about the broad impact of these changes on the ability of agencies to manage appropriately in the future? No one in the Administration or in Congress seems to be. Why haven't sportsmen and sportswomen awakened to what is going

on and what it implies for the future of their sport? Are we confusing ideology and rhetoric with real needs for change? These are questions that true conservationists are pondering as the Washington agenda becomes clearer at the end of this Congress' first year. The Forest Service and the public lands are but one example of change that may not bode well for the future of wildlife and hunting. They all deserve our careful scrutiny; they need our individual and collective response.

BACK AT THE RANCH

A Busy Hunting Season at TRM

AS WINTER SETTLES IN AT THE TRM RANCH, LIFE FINALLY BEGINS TO QUIET DOWN AFTER A BUSY HUNTING SEASON. A VARIETY OF OTHER CHORES NOW OCCUPY MY TIME. THE CATTLE ARE BEING FED EACH DAY AND THE WINTERING WILDLIFE ARE SCATTERED ABOUT THE RANCH. MY BOYS AND I DID A LITTLE BEAVER TRAPPING IN DECEMBER AND IT FELT GOOD TO SHARE SOME TIME WITH THEM... TRAPPING HAS BEEN A LONG TIME PASSION OF MINE AND IT HAS A GREAT MANY DISCIPLINES TO TEACH YOUNG PEOPLE. I HAVE ALSO FOUND TIME TO HARVEST A MOUNTAIN LION OFF THE TRM RANCH. THE MOUNTAIN LION POPULATION

THE PRESSURE OF THIS GROWING PREDATOR POPULATION.

It is interesting to note that these figures denote only the TRM

wildlife viewing enthusiasts, photographers, drop horn hunters, conservation education classes and numerous conservation workshops comprise hundreds of other people that visit the TRM Ranch and research center each year. The Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch is also opening to the public for the first time, a Watchable Wildlife Viewing Trail. This breathtaking journey into the heart of the TRM Ranch will open this spring (1996). This project was constructed in order to correlate the importance of the TRM Ranch and Research Center with the conservation of



Robert K. Peebles
MANAGER
Theodore Roosevelt
Memorial Ranch

SPORTSMAN SUMMARY FOR 1995

SPRING BEAR	10 hunter days provided, 1 harvest
FISHING	20 sportsman days provided
UPLAND GAME BIRDS	8 hunter days provided
ARCHERY (deer, elk & bear)	18 days provided, 0 harvest*

1995 RIFLE SEASON

	QUOTAS	ACTUAL TRM HARVESTS
Mule Deer Bucks (early)	15	12
Mule Deer Bucks (late)	10	4
Mule Deer Does	40	25
Whitetail Bucks	5	2
Whitetail Does	10	1
Cow Elk	10	3
Bull Elk	5	0
Total Permission Slips		
		77
Total Number of Sportsmen		
		161
Total Sporting Days Provided		
		252

*The TRM has not yet recorded any archery kills.

HERE ON THE FRONT HAS EXPLODED IN RECENT YEARS AND MANAGEMENT OF THEIR NUMBERS IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. UNGULATE WILDLIFE POPULATIONS ARE BEGINNING TO FEEL

Ranch's public contribution to hunting recreation. Yet, in addition there is extensive use of this same Boone and Crockett property by others as well. Hikers, campers,

the Rocky Mountain Front region. One hike to the top of this nature trail would help establish the importance of conservation in anyone's mind - even the skeptic!