

TROPHY TALK

11th Edition of Records of North American Big Game Scheduled for 1999



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Director
Big Game Records

The Club is currently editing the trophy data in its archives in preparation for publication in the 11th edition of the records book, *Records of North American Big Game*, that will be released during 1999. Thus, if you know of any necessary corrections to the tabular data, please contact me at the Club's headquarters at your earliest convenience with the information necessary to make the corrections.

ASTERISKED TROPHIES

As part of the editing process the Records Committee recently mailed letters to the owners of all 329 trophies listed with an asterisk in previous awards and all-time records books. The letters included detailed instructions for removing the asterisks.

Asterisks accompanying these trophies indicate that their final scores need

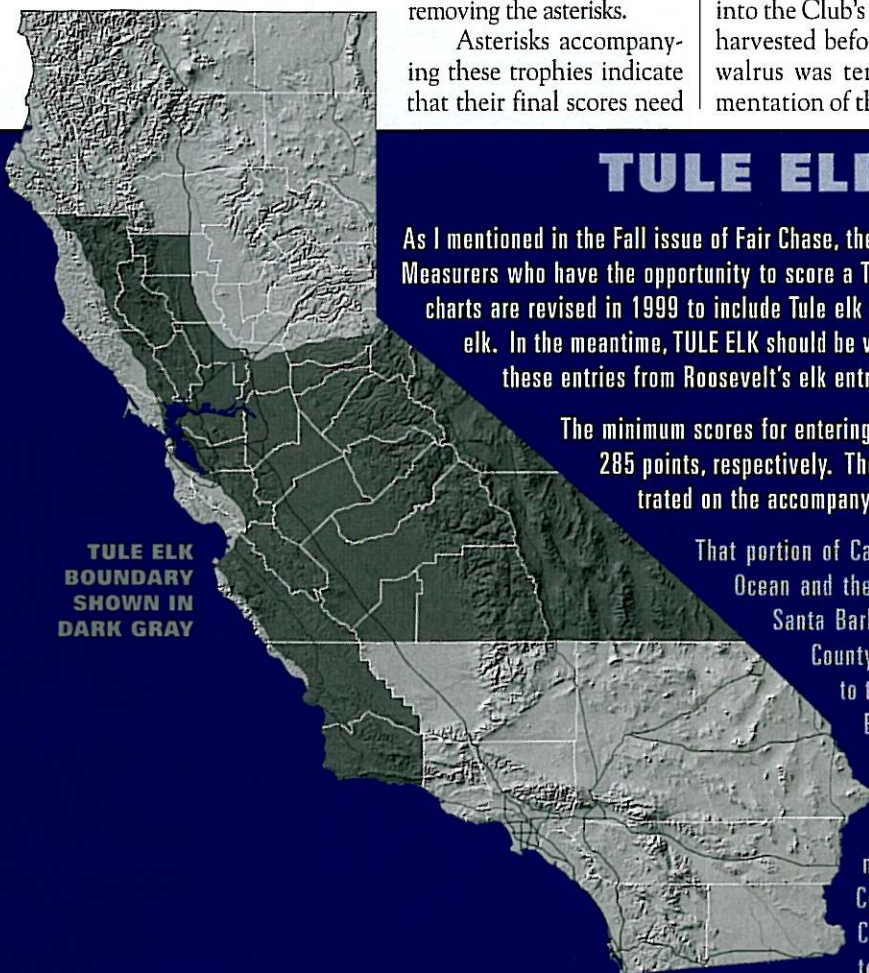
to be verified before they can take their rightful place in the rankings. If the scores of these trophies are not verified by the submission of two additional measurements, they may, at the discretion of the Records Committee, be dropped from the 11th edition. If you have an asterisked trophy, and you have not yet received a letter concerning this matter, please contact me immediately for instructions on how to have the asterisk removed.

WALRUS HUNTING OPPORTUNITY

Walrus have been divided into two categories since the Club started keeping records in the early 1930s. During this time only 190 Pacific walrus have been accepted into the Club's archives. Most were harvested before sport hunting for walrus was terminated by implementation of the Marine Mammals

Act during the 1970s. We still accept one or two Pacific walrus a year that wash ashore along the coast of Alaska following a storm. These trophies are listed as "Picked Up" in the records books.

Only 11 Atlantic walrus have ever been accepted for listing in the Club's records books. Except for two hunter-taken specimens recently harvested in Northwest Territories and accepted in the 24th Awards Program (see page 51) all others are owned by museums and universities. With the advent of the first modern-day walrus hunting season taking place in Northwest Territories in 1996, I expect that we'll be receiving more entries in the Atlantic walrus category. However, the entries may be slow in coming until it is legal to import walrus tusks into the United States.



TULE ELK
BOUNDARY
SHOWN IN
DARK GRAY

TULE ELK BOUNDARY

As I mentioned in the Fall issue of *Fair Chase*, the Club has established a separate category for Tule elk. Official Measurers who have the opportunity to score a Tule elk should use a Roosevelt's elk score chart until the score charts are revised in 1999 to include Tule elk since they are scored using the same procedure as Roosevelt's elk. In the meantime, TULE ELK should be written in bold letters at the top of the score chart to distinguish these entries from Roosevelt's elk entries.

The minimum scores for entering Tule elk in the awards and all-time records books are 270 and 285 points, respectively. The geographical boundary description for Tule elk, which is illustrated on the accompanying map, is as follows:

That portion of California within a line beginning at the junction of the Pacific Ocean and the Ventura-Santa Barbara County line; north along the Ventura-Santa Barbara County line to the Kern County line; east along the Kern County line to Interstate Highway 5; north along Interstate Highway 5 to the Kern County line; east along the Kern County line to the San Bernardino County line; east along the San Bernardino County line to the California-Nevada state line; northwest along the California-Nevada state line to Interstate Highway 50; west along Interstate Highway 50 to Interstate Highway 5 in Sacramento County; north along Interstate Highway 5 to the Tehama County line; west along the Tehama County line to the Mendocino County line; north and then west along the Mendocino County line to US Highway 101; south along US Highway 101 to State Route 156 in Monterey County; southwest along State Route 156 to State Route 1 in Monterey County; south along State Route 1 to San Jose Creek in Monterey County; south along San Jose Creek to the crest of the Santa Lucia Range in Monterey County; southeast along the crest of the Santa Lucia Range to State Route 41 in San Luis Obispo County; southwest along State Route 41 to Morro Creek in San Luis Obispo County; southwest along Morro Creek to the Pacific Ocean; south along the Pacific Ocean to the point of beginning.



**WALRUS MEASURING
TECHNIQUE REVISION**

The reason I'm singling walrus out for mention in my column at this time is because the technique for measuring tusks will be corrected when the official measurer's manual, *Measuring and Scoring North American Big Game Trophies*, is revised in 1999. More specifically, the starting point for measuring the lengths of tusks will be redefined.

The current manual states that tusk length is taken by hooking the measuring tape clip-end on "...the frontal edge of the tusk in line with the outer curve even though the tusk may extend further up in the back or

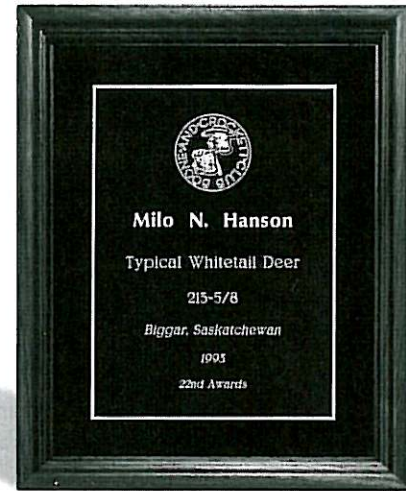
along the sides." When the second edition is revised later this year, the manual will state that the starting point for taking the length of tusk is "From a point in line with the longest projecting edge of the root end of the tusk." This technique is illustrated in the photo above.

**OFFICIAL MEASURER MANUAL
REVISION PLANNED**

The records office is planning to update *Measuring and Scoring North American Big Game Trophies* during 1999. If you have any suggestions for clarifications, corrections and/or additions, please send them to my attention at the Club's headquarters. ▲▲▲

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