

# Milestones in Conservation

Boone and Crockett Club  
2015

The history of the Boone and Crockett Club is a tale of over 127 years of measured and thoughtful commitment to conservation. It is a commitment that balances human needs with wildlife needs.

We will be celebrating the anniversaries of the passage of laws, the establishment of institutions, and the designation of wildlands, which exist today in large part because of the extensive efforts of the Club and its dedicated membership.

## 75th Anniversary, Reigning World's Record Desert Sheep

In 1941, Carl M. Scrivens was on a hunt in the lower portion of the Baja Peninsula, Mexico, on a *rancho* at the southern end of the Sierra San Pedro Martir. Upon arrival, and while the *vaqueros* were rounding up the mules for the hunt, he decided to take a stroll around the *rancho*. There, in the back of a dilapidated wagon, he found a bleached skull and set of horns. Being an accomplished sheep hunter he knew what he was looking at was special. After some investigating with some of the *rancho's vaqueros* he learned that the ram had been taken by a local who was hunting meat the year before and left the skull and horns where they laid. Scrivens bartered for the head and in 1946 had the ram scored by B&C Official Measurer Samuel Webb. At 205-1/8, it became the new World's Record desert sheep. The ram is on loan to the Club's National Collection of Heads and Horns, which will be on display in its new home at America's Wildlife Museum and Aquarium in Springfield, Missouri, opening during the spring of 2016. The #2 desert sheep, at 201-3/8, is the only other desert ram on record to score over 200-inches.



## Ten Years Ago — New World's Record Tule Elk

In 2005, a large tule bull was found dead on a ranch near Elk Creek and Stonyford in northern California's Mendocino National Forest. California Fish & Game could not determine the cause of death and returned the bull to the rancher whose family had enjoyed seeing the herds of elk rest, graze, and wander through their property. When the game department returned the bull, they had told landowner, Jeff Lopeteguy that they thought this might be the second largest bull ever recorded. Lopeteguy coached football for Elk Creek High School, which has an enrollment of only 25-40 students making it one of the smallest schools in the state. Appropriately, he felt the bull should hang in the school's gym, the home of the Elk Creek Elks. At 379 points the bull was declared a new World's Record tule elk at Boone and Crockett Club's 26th Big Game Awards.

## 115 Years Since The Lacey Act



Looking back, one of the seven principles of the North American Model for Wildlife Conservation is, Democratic Rule of Law—laws developed by the people and enforced by government agencies that regulate the proper use of wildlife resources. It can be argued that one of our first laws was one of our finest. In 1900, B&C member, Congressmen John F. Lacey of Iowa, pushed through Congress this legal cornerstone of fish and wildlife conservation. The Lacey Act made it a federal crime to transport illegally taken game across state lines—poach game in one state with the purpose of selling the bounty in another. This spelled the beginning of the end for the commercial marketing hunting industry, which the Club strongly believed had to go if fish and wildlife were to

recover from unregulated overharvest. The Lacey Act would also become the cornerstone for all game laws that followed. Today it is primarily used to prevent the importation or spread of potentially dangerous non-native species. The Lacey Act also makes it unlawful to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase in interstate or foreign commerce any plant in violation of the laws of the United States, a state, an Indian tribe or any foreign law that protects plants.

1900

1941

1950

1980

2005