

# B&C UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

The mission of the Boone and Crockett Club University Programs is the development of a diverse community of high-impact wildlife conservation leaders.

## THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The Wildlife Society (TWS) has remained the only professional scientific society solely dedicated to wildlife conservation and management. Its mission is “To inspire, empower, and enable wildlife professionals to sustain wildlife populations and habitats through science-based management and conservation.” Many Club professional members have served and led TWS in various capacities during its 80-plus year history.

The Boone and Crockett Club was well represented at the Annual Wildlife Society Conference in Spokane, Washington, which was held from November 6-10, 2022. The Club sponsored the Student Chapter Leaders luncheon and Josh Millspaugh spoke about the opportunities through the University Programs. There were raffles and giveaway items students could take to learn more about the Club. The Club was also well-represented by our graduate fellows who offered a couple dozen posters and talks in various symposia. Fellows also benefited from professional development opportunities and took advantage of the strong network of regular and professional Club members, as well as staff and contractors. These sessions have historically included lessons on leadership, science communication, and diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field of wildlife conservation.

## B&C POLICY BOOTCAMP

When the University Programs committee identified policy and advocacy as an area of interest, they recruited the team at Watershed Results—including Dr. Greg Schildwachter and Charlie Booher, both alumni of our University Programs—to instruct a session for fellows to attend. This initial policy “bootcamp” intended to give students an introduction to various policy processes and offer a number of ways to think about turning their academic research into tangible natural resource policy. Students learned how to construct an issue brief, how to identify key decision-makers, and different ways to communicate their interests. Importantly, this session also gave students from different universities an opportunity to interact and learn from each other, as well as connect with the Club’s conservation policy team.

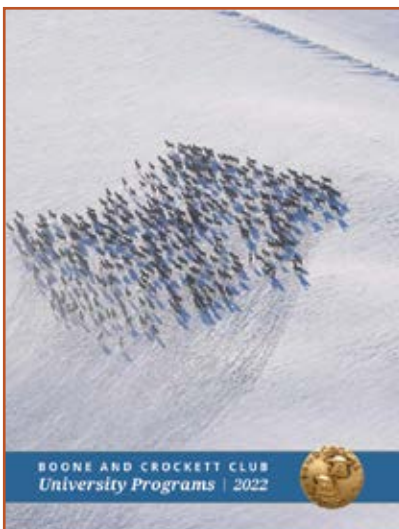


ABOVE: Josh Millspaugh gave the students in attendance at the Chapter Leaders luncheon a quick quiz on the Club.

BELOW: B&C professional member Greg Schildwachter instructed the inaugural B&C Policy Bootcamp in Spokane, Washington, immediately following the Wildlife Society Conference.



The Club had a booth at the conference introducing students and professionals to the Club’s enduring legacy of conservation leadership.



## 2022 IN REVIEW

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Endowed Professorships: 3 | Awards: 9                  |
| Number of Graduates: 8    | Scholarly Pubs: 66         |
| Total Fellows: 38         | Popular Articles: 6        |
| Undergrad: 2              | Invited Talks: 38          |
| Masters: 11               | Research Presentations: 55 |
| PhD: 18                   | Courses Taught: 4          |
| Postdoctoral: 7           |                            |

Learn more about each university and the students in the 2022 University Programs Annual Report. If you would like a printed copy please contact Boone and Crockett Club Headquarters or email Karlie Slayer at [Karlie@Boone-Crockett.org](mailto:Karlie@Boone-Crockett.org)

# 2022 BOONE AND CROCKETT FELLOW OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN GRADUATE RESEARCH

In 2019 the Club established the annual Boone and Crockett Fellow Outstanding Achievement Award to recognize a graduate student whose research advances the Club’s mission and informs natural resource management and policy decisions in North America. The award highlights and strengthens the connection between students and the Boone and Crockett Club that supports them.

## 2022 AWARD WINNER - CHARLIE BOOHER University of Montana - M.S. and M.P.A. Graduated 2022

### Thesis Title:

#### Looking to the Future of Conservation: The Role of Hunting in Wildlife Policy

Charlie grew up hunting, fishing, camping, and paddling with his family in Michigan and Wisconsin. He received his bachelor’s degrees from Michigan State University, where he combined traditional training in wildlife management with studies in conservation policy, interning with organizations including The Wildlife Society, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, and Michigan United Conservation Clubs. Charlie received a joint M.S. in Wildlife Biology and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Montana. His thesis aimed to address major issues facing the field of wildlife conservation by clarifying commonly used—but rarely defined—language surrounding the take of wildlife; compiling and analyzing dedicated funding for fish and wildlife agencies; and assessing challenges to the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation to inform the future of the field nationwide. Charlie is currently employed as a consultant at Watershed Results, a Washington, D.C.-based lobbying firm. He provides direct advocacy, strategic communication, and earned media services to the Boone and Crockett Club, the Wild Sheep Foundation, MeatEater Inc., and the Montana Sporting Coalition in this role.



Charlie hunting Montana’s eastern Rocky Mountain Front.



Charlie attended the Boone and Crockett Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, in December. He presented his research titled *Looking to the Future Of Conservation: Durable Wildlife Policy for the 21st Century*, to the membership during a luncheon.



**“I have known for a long time that I wanted to dedicate my life to wildlife conservation policy, and pursued degrees to that end as an undergraduate at Michigan State University and a Boone and Crockett Graduate Fellow at the University of Montana. I have always admired the Club’s dedication to durable natural resource policy, and I so appreciate this organization’s support of my education and early career. I look forward to helping advance the legacy of this organization over the next several decades.”**

**- B&C Fellow Charlie Boohar**



A group photo of Charlie receiving his plaque at the annual meeting in Austin, Texas. LEFT TO RIGHT: B&C CEO, Tony Schoonen; incoming B&C President James L. Cummins; B&C Fellow and 2021 Outstanding Boone and Crockett Fellow Award winner Charlie Boohar; outgoing B&C President James F. Arnold; B&C Professional Member and Boone and Crockett Club Professor of Wildlife Conservation at the University of Montana, Josh Millspaugh.