

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT HUNTING



In publishing this booklet, the National Shooting Sports Foundation has assembled, without editorial comment, those varied attitudes toward hunting that are part of the charter, bylaws or self-professed policies of major U.S. associations significantly concerned with the conservation or preservation of our natural resources. They are by no means all the organizations so concerned.

Further, we offer no explanation of anomalies that are perhaps inevitable in such large groups, where the written policy says one thing and either executive action or the activities of member individuals would seem to suggest another. These brief statements may, however, clear up certain misapprehensions in relation to the true policies or attitudes, as written down, of nationally regarded organizations.

**Steve Sanetti, President
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.**



FEATURED ORGANIZATIONS

American Forests

American Humane Association

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Defenders of Wildlife

Delta Waterfowl Foundation

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Friends of Animals, Inc.

The Fund for Animals

The Humane Society of the United States

The Izaak Walton League of America

National Audubon Society

The National Rifle Association

National Shooting Sports Foundation

National Wild Turkey Federation

National Wildlife Federation

Outdoor Writers Association of America

Professional Outdoor Media Association (POMA)

Quality Deer Management

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Safari Club International

The Sierra Club

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation

The Wilderness Society

The Wildlife Management Institute

The Wildlife Society

World Wildlife Fund

AMERICAN FORESTS

American Forests believes that wildlife and fisheries are a critical component of healthy forest ecosystems. Hunting and fishing under proper regulation are valuable tools in the professional management of forest ecosystems.

Recreation on our forests is an important and growing use of the resource on both public and private lands. Hunting and fishing under appropriate regulation are legitimate forms of forest recreation.

American Forests, the nation's oldest citizens non-profit conservation organization and a world leader in tree planting for environmental restoration, helps people, corporations, governments and organizations understand the critical role played by trees and forests in a wide range of environmental issues including soil conservation, water quality, air quality and wildlife habitat. American Forests provides action opportunities to improve the environment through the Global ReLeaf tree planting program. Founded 1875.

American Forests · 734 15th Street, NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005 · (202) 955-4500
americanforests.org

AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION

The American Humane Association is opposed to the hunting of any living creature for fun, a trophy or for simple sport. The AHA believes that sport hunting is a form of exploitation of animals for the entertainment of the hunter and is contrary to the values of compassion and respect for all life that inform American Humane's mission.

American Humane finds that wildlife management often consists of creating habitat that favors "game" species, which creates an overpopulation available for the purpose of sport hunting. We oppose these practices and favor wildlife "management" requiring the least human manipulation, favoring all wildlife in an ecosystem equally. On occasions when all other avenues have been exhausted and there remains a demonstrable necessity to kill some wildlife, it should be performed by responsible officials and methods utilized must result in instantaneous and humane death.

American Humane considers sport hunting a violation of the inherent integrity of animals and disruptive of the natural balance of the environment through human manipulation, and calls for positive action to prevent such cruelties.

A national federation of individuals and agencies for the

*prevention of cruelty, especially to children and animals.
Organized: 1877*

American Humane Association · 63 Inverness Drive
East · Englewood, CO 80112-5117
(303) 792-9900 · americanhumane.org

ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies recognizes and supports properly regulated and managed hunting, fishing and trapping as appropriate management techniques for fish and wildlife and their habitat, which, in turn, provides recreational opportunities for everyone to enjoy.

The Association recognizes the role of hunting, fishing and trapping as important activities in the development of our conservation heritage and hunters and anglers as important leaders in the conservation movement. The Association supports ethical and safe hunting, fishing and trapping, which respects wildlife and their habitat as important components of our legacy as wildlife enthusiasts and conservationists.

We support cooperation with public and private organizations to further professional wildlife management both in North America and throughout the world. The Association supports the management of wildlife habitat and related decisions, such as the establishment of hunting and fishing seasons, based on the best available scientific and biological data. The Association recognizes that hunters, anglers and trappers, as well as many other members of the public who may or may not be involved in these activities, should, and do, cooperate to ensure healthy fish and wildlife populations and adequate habitat for their well being.

The Association supports wildlife-related conservation education, which includes an understanding of the management and use of natural resources and the importance of conserving forests, fields, waters and soils for the benefit of this and future generations.

We support law enforcement as essential to the successful implementation of wildlife management plans and programs within a framework that recognizes both the rights and responsibilities of users. The Association supports complete protection of specific fish and wildlife species when necessary to preserve breeding stocks or when species are threatened or in danger of extinction.

Finally, the Association supports the need for public outreach and education so that informed decisions

can be made concerning the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) represents the government agencies responsible for North America's fish and wildlife resources. AFWA applies expertise in science, policy, economics and coalition-building to serve its members as a voice on a broad array of wildlife and conservation issues. Founded: 1902

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
444 North Capitol Street, NW Suite 725 Washington,
DC 20001 · (202) 624-7890
fishwildlife.org

DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

Defenders of Wildlife is neither an anti-hunting nor a pro-hunting organization, but most of its 430,000 members are non-hunters and their concern is with the restoration and protection of all species of wildlife and their habitats. Defenders' goal is to win permanent protection for the homes of every native plant and animal species through political action to save representative examples of all plant and animal communities and wildlife dispersal corridors between them.

Defenders' traditional special campaigns include restoration and protection of the mammalian predators—the wolf, the mountain lion, the coyote and others—and reduction in the use of the leghold trap and wildlife-killing agricultural chemicals. It views the National Wildlife Refuge Systems as the core of a national network of diversity maintenance areas where wildlife reproduction success is given top priority over human uses of all kinds—consumptive and nonconsumptive. It has opposed hunting of some species—sandhill cranes (where they could be confused with whooping cranes), tundra swans (where they could be confused with trumpeter swans), mountain lions (with dogs, in California's fragmented habitats)—and proposed reductions in bag limits to leave more prey for the wild predators (e.g. to leave more deer for Florida panthers in the Big Cypress Preserve).

Its “bottom line” goal is sustained populations of all native wildlife species for the enjoyment of all and for their intrinsic value.

Defenders of Wildlife · 1130 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036 · (800) 385-9712
defenders.org

DELTA WATERFOWL FOUNDATION

The Delta Waterfowl Foundation is North America's

oldest waterfowl conservation organization with a focus on research, education and advocacy in support of the continent's diverse waterfowl and their habitats. Throughout our history, Delta has strongly supported hunting.

North American sportsmen have been the vanguard of conservation efforts across the United States and Canada with their support of government programs such as the Federal Duck Stamp, the Pittman Robertson Act, contributions to non-profit organizations and their tireless support for wildlife and their habitats. There is no other group who has labored harder or invested more in the support of our wildlife resources.

Delta recognizes these contributions, and believes that sportsmen deserve the appropriate credit for their efforts and deserve the same level of commitment from organizations and agencies whose work is made possible from their monetary and moral support. It is for this reason that Delta Waterfowl openly and proudly supports hunting and other consumptive uses.

Delta Waterfowl is committed to preserving the legacy of waterfowl hunting and supporting and promoting it as a fundamental component of our role and mission as an organization.

Delta Waterfowl is currently involved in a variety of initiatives that will have long-term benefits for waterfowl hunting. Delta has recently widely promoted a youth waterfowl season in Canada in an effort to reverse the decline in waterfowling. In addition Delta's Voluntary Restraint Program is an effort to promote and foster a quality ethic in waterfowl hunting. These efforts coupled with a strong dialog with duck and goose hunters across the U.S. and Canada will lead to a strong future of waterfowling.

Helps to sponsor wildlife research through cooperating organizations and promotes conservation, restoration and management of all natural resources, especially aquatic areas.

Delta Waterfowl Foundation · PO Box 3128
Bismarck, ND 58502 · (888) 987-3695
deltawaterfowl.com

DUCKS UNLIMITED, INC.

The mission of Ducks Unlimited, Inc. is to fulfill the annual life cycle needs of North American waterfowl by protecting, enhancing, restoring and managing important wetlands and associated uplands.

Most of DU's 750,000 members are outdoorsmen who celebrate the traditions and the heritage of sport hunting as an integral part of sound wildlife management. While waterfowl hunters are the

cornerstone of DU's habitat programs, we welcome others who wish to conserve important wetland habitats. These hunters as well as many others provide the volunteer support and dollars that enable us to conserve habitat.

America's hunters have always been the first to step forward and put their money into conservation. Through the prudent and wise use of these contributions, DU has been able to conserve over 10 million acres of wetlands and related habitats in North America. DU also has active conservation programs in progress in all the states of the U.S. and Mexico and the Canadian provinces with targeted projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. While our programs and projects are designed to benefit waterfowl, they also provide essential habitat for 900 other species of vertebrates.

DU celebrates the traditions of hunting in our award-winning DU Magazine, Ducks Unlimited TV, the DU Radio Show "The World of Ducks Unlimited," our fund-raising events and other day-to-day activities. In addition, many DU volunteers and members are active in training future sportsmen in hunter ethics, firearms safety and conservation through our Greenwing program that has over 70,000 youth members.

DU will continue to support hunting as an important recreational activity, a tool of wildlife management, and a wholesome family activity, and we encourage all who enjoy the outdoors to adhere to the highest standards of ethical conduct.

Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people. Founded: 1937

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. · One Waterfowl Way
Memphis, Tennessee 38120 · (901) 758-3825
ducksunlimited.org

FRIENDS OF ANIMALS, INC.

Hunting is cruel. It is deceitful. It is socially unjustifiable. It is ecologically disruptive. Friends of Animals opposes hunting in all its forms.

The cruelty of hunting involves the gratuitous pain caused wild animals. True, wild predators also hunt, but their killing is not gratuitous. Only humans kill for pleasure.

Hunting is deceitful because it claims to be something it isn't. Hunting tries to cover truth with an enormous glossary of euphemisms. Even scientific literature refers to "harvests" and "culls" and "bag limits." Hunters hardly ever like to acknowledge that

they actually "kill." Beyond this, hunters are fond of portraying themselves as conservationists, benefactors of wilderness and practitioners of "sustainable utilization of species." Hunters hardly ever acknowledge they actually like to deprive an animal of its life—although this is the whole intent of hunting. Anything else would just be a walk in the woods.

Hunters often portray themselves as "sportsmen" and the animals they kill as "game." But sportsmanship suggests an able conduct marked by generosity for fair play. Where is the fair play in a grown man or woman using a modern firearm to kill an inoffensive animal?

Hunting is socially unjustifiable because it is an unnecessary waste of life and of resources. In developed countries such as the United States, most of the land has already been taken from Nature. There is a question of social ethics involving the presumed "right" of hunters to turn what little wild areas are left into seasonal shooting galleries.

Hunting is ecologically disruptive. The hunter, carrying weapons with which his prey did not co-evolve, becomes a super-predator that disrupts natural ecological dynamics. The concept of "natural selection" becomes meaningless among heavily hunted wildlife populations, and hence evolution itself—the very foundation of life in all its diversity—is undermined.

This disruption is exacerbated by hunter-controlled governmental agencies that manipulate wild areas to stimulate ever-greater populations of hunted animals. The whole philosophy of deer management is a paradox: the more you hunt, the more deer you get.

An international organization that works to protect animals from cruelty, abuse and institutionalized exploitation. FoA's efforts protect and preserve animals and their habitats around the world. Established: 1957. Membership: 200,000

Friends of Animals · National Headquarters
777 Post Road, Suite 205 · Darien, CT 06820
(203) 656-1522 · friendsofanimals.org

THE FUND FOR ANIMALS

The Fund for Animals is unalterably opposed to the recreational killing of wildlife. Besides being a piteously unfair and cruel slaughter of innocent animals, sport hunting is also ecologically destructive. Despite claims to the contrary, hunters take a heavy toll on endangered and threatened animals. Last year alone, they killed dozens of bald and golden eagles and grizzly bears and even such extremely rare animals as Florida panthers and whooping cranes. Despite dire warnings about the future of duck

populations, hunters annually position themselves along the migratory flyways and massacre, often indiscriminately, millions of ducks. And while the black bear cannot yet be considered endangered, hunting is leading to regional scarcity of the bears in many parts of its range. In addition, hunters have littered the environment with toxic lead shot, which animals will be living and dying with for decades.

There are also more subtle ecological processes that hunting disrupts such as natural selection. Hunting by humans does not ensure the survival of the fittest animals, but precisely the opposite — individuals who would not normally have reproductive success will have it because hunters do not select the weakest animals as nature does. By often killing the ablest, hunters downgrade the quality of the gene pool. It's no surprise that some ecologists refer to hunting as "evolution in reverse."

Much of the problem is a consequence of how our government wildlife agencies operate. Rather than being concerned about the needs of wildlife, they cater to the desires of hunters.

It's a fact that the prime function of the state wildlife agencies is not to protect individual animals or biological diversity, but to propagate "game" species populations for hunters to shoot. The agencies' expenditures demonstrate the bias. On average, they spend well more than 90 percent of their funds on game species projects, even though non-game animals constitute the vast majority of each state's fauna. State agencies spend millions manipulating habitat for "game" species by burning and clearcutting forests. They pen-rear and stock "game" animals to increase "shooting opportunities." And they pour millions of dollars into law enforcement of game regulations and into hunter education, which includes the construction of target-shooting ranges. The fact is they're out to conserve hunting, not wildlife.

And it's not just an issue of animals' rights, but one of the public's rights as well. As a consequence of widespread hunting, non-consumptive wildlife enthusiasts cannot safely walk in the woods during hunting season. They get fewer opportunities to view wild animals, which become skittish or nocturnal for fear of being shot by humans. And most importantly, they are denied an equal voice in determining how our wildlife is treated. A mere seven percent minority of the public—the hunters—has 100 percent control of our wildlife.

For these reasons and others, The Fund for Animals opposes sport hunting and seeks a restructuring of state wildlife boards and commissions to ensure that

all parties legitimately concerned about wildlife are proportionately represented.

The Fund For Animals · 519 C Street NE New
Washington, DC 20002 · (202) 676-2314
fund.org

▶ THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

The Humane Society of the United States is strongly opposed to the hunting of any living creature for fun trophy or for sport, because of the trauma, suffering and death to the animals that results. The HSUS also opposes such killing because of the negative effect upon the young who may learn to accept and live with needless suffering and killing. The HSUS believes that a civilized society should not condone the killing of any sentient creature as sport.

The HSUS believes that the characterization of wild animals as "game" denies their intrinsic value and belittles their ecological importance. The Society finds that a great deal of wildlife allegedly killed for management reasons actually is killed as "game" for "sporting" purposes. In such cases, we oppose both the killing and the duplicity. It is the goal of The HSUS to ensure ethical stewardship of wildlife and its environment.

The HSUS recognizes that the welfare and responsible management of animals may, on occasion, necessitate the killing of wildlife. When such killing is permitted, it must be used as a last resort, be demonstrably necessary, be conducted by responsible officials, and methods utilized must result in an instantaneous and humane death.

The HSUS also recognizes that the legitimate needs for human subsistence may necessitate the killing of wildlife. In such cases, killing must be accomplished in a humane and non-wasteful manner and must not involve endangered or threatened animals.

The HSUS is dedicated to creating a world where our relationship with animals is guided by compassion. We seek a truly humane society in which animals are respected for their intrinsic value, and where the human-animal bond is strong.
Founded: 1954

The Humane Society of the United States
2100 L Street NW Washington, DC · 20037
(202) 452-1100 · hsus.org

▶ THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

The Izaak Walton League of America believes hunting should be considered a valuable management tool where it is compatible with other resource uses and purposes.

Establishment of hunting and fishing seasons should be based upon the best scientific and biological data that can be obtained. These decisions should not be forced by political pressures and should be calculated to assure healthy, reproducing populations of game species and a balance of predacious animals and birds.

All hunting and fishing license revenues, and taxes on sporting arms and ammunition, should be utilized to enhance wildlife and to protect and restore habitat. Hunting should be characterized by the highest order of humaneness, sportsmanship and respect for species hunted.

Promotes means and opportunities for educating the public to conserve, maintain, protect and restore the soil forest, water and other natural resources of the U.S. and promotes the enjoyment and wholesome utilization of those resources. Members and Supporters: 50,000

The Izaak Walton League of America
707 Conservation Lane · Gaithersburg, MD 20878
(301) 548-0150 · iwla.org

▶ NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

The National Audubon Society has never been opposed to the hunting of game species if that hunting is done ethically and in accordance with laws and regulations designed to prevent depletion of the wildlife resource. We have made this clear repeatedly in official statements of policy, and it remains Audubon policy.

Audubon will advocate restrictions on hunting, including the complete closure of a hunting season, whenever we are convinced that the welfare of the species involved requires it. However, we insist on sound scientific information before deciding these issues.

Among the oldest and largest conservation organizations in North America. Its purposes are (1) to promote the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment and (2) to educate man regarding his relationship with, and his place within, the natural environment as an ecological system. Founded: 1905

National Audubon Society · 700 Broadway
New York, NY 10003 · (212) 979-3000
audubon.org

▶ THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Well-regulated hunting is a beneficial use of renewable wildlife resources that, when left to nature, are finally lost to predators, disease and, often, starvation and old age. Proper hunting is in complete accord with the moral tenets of man and the historical facts of his existence. Man's hunting heritage predates recorded history for hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of years. This reenactment of the chase today is a healthy recreational exercise and includes both physical and spiritual components.

The hunter's interest in pursuing his sport has been the principal factor in fostering sound wildlife management and conservation practices. Provision for the hunter's harvest provides the incentive for the hunter's contribution, a contribution without which all else would be lost. The commitment of the hunter's contributions of voluntary taxing, licensing and regulation assure the propagation of all wildlife.

Hunting is dominant among American traditions, and it has contributed substantially to our sound national character. Its future is a primary concern of the Association.

The NRA protects and defends the Constitution of the United States, especially with reference to the inalienable right of the individual American citizen to enjoy the use of firearms and to provide for the defense of self, family, property and the Republic; promotes public safety, law and order and the national defense; trains members of law enforcement agencies, the armed forces, the militia and people of good repute in marksmanship and in the safe handling and efficient use of small arms; fosters and promotes the shooting sports; and promotes and defends safe hunting as a shooting sport and as a viable and necessary method of fostering the propagation, growth, conservation and wise use of our renewable wildlife resources. Membership: 4 million. Organized: 1871

The National Rifle Association of America
11250 Waples Mill Road · Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 267-1000 · nrahq.org

▶ NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION, INC.

Since the National Shooting Sports Foundation was created "to foster in the American public a better understanding of and more active participation in the shooting sports," its position on hunting is one of strong support. NSSF believes that hunting is a desirable part of modern recreational patterns. NSSF feels that Americans have a right to hunt but to do so on private

land is a privilege extended by the landowner.

Hunting with proper controls is an effective and needed tool of game management that is the responsibility of modern man. It is important for hunters to transfer their knowledge and their understanding of the hunting ethic to the next generation and to finance the conservation of both game and non-game wildlife. Over recent decades, such support, public and private, has amounted to some 14 billion dollars, with another 1.5 billion dollars being added every year.

No game species has been moved toward serious threat of extinction by hunting alone. On the contrary, numerous species have been returned to healthy numbers through hunter-sponsored, hunter-financed habitat management. NSSF believes that, in the ecological and environmental future of this nation, hunting has an important role, just as the hunter himself has played a vital part in its past.

Non-profit, educational trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry whose mission is to promote, protect and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. Founded: 1961

National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.
11 Mile Hill Road · Newtown, CT 06470-2359 (203)
426-1320 · nssf.org

NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

You'll see the National Wild Turkey Federation's commitment to hunting through everything they do. North America's hunting heritage is such an important aspect of the NWTF that it's part of their mission statement: "Conservation of the wild turkey and preservation of the hunting tradition."

The NWTF believes that hunting is an honorable pursuit that has been passed on from one generation to the next. It brings families and friends together and links our past and future.

Hunters were the first conservationists. Their work and support is responsible for the comeback of the wild turkey and many other wildlife species. The sportsmen and women of this country have done more for wildlife and their habitat than any other outdoor group.

Because of this fact, NWTF is more than a conservation organization. They're also a driving force in protecting the hunting heritage for this simple reason:

*Without shooting,
you wouldn't have hunting.*

*Without hunting,
you wouldn't have conservation.*

*Without conservation,
you wouldn't have wildlife.*

The NWTF also believes there's a place for everyone to enjoy the outdoors. NWTF outreach programs such as JAKES for children, Women in the Outdoors and Wheelin' Sportsmen for the disabled allow the sharing of our hunting traditions with an ever-growing audience.

The NWTF is working hard to make sure that hunting continues as a tradition in this country because it's the right thing to do.

The NWTF is a non-profit conservation organization founded in 1973 with a mission dedicated to conserving wild turkeys and preserving hunting traditions.

The NWTF is a grassroots volunteer organization with nearly a half million members organized in state and local chapters stretching across North America.

Growth and progress define the NWTF and have resulted in impressive strides in wildlife management on public, private and corporate lands as the NWTF has forged dynamic partnerships throughout the nation.

The numbers tell the story about the accomplishments of the NWTF, its corporate sponsors and wildlife agency partners. In 1973, there were an estimated 1.3 million wild turkeys in this country. Today there are close to 7 million.

The NWTF celebrates its hunting heritage through its five national publications (Turkey Call, The Caller, Women In The Outdoors, JAKES and Wheelin' Sportsmen) and e-newsletter, News from the Roost, as well as Turkey Call and Turkey Country, its nationally syndicated television shows, Web sites, Wild Turkey fundraising banquets, state and national conventions and more.

National Wild Turkey Federation
770 Augusta Road · Edgefield, SC 29824
1-800-THE-NWTF · nwtf.org

THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

The National Wildlife Federation represents millions of members and supporters whose primary interest is in the conservation of our nation's renewable resources. Although our members and affiliates have many and varied opinions on how these resources might be best utilized, hunters and non-hunters alike support our broad conservation objectives.

We support hunting because, under professional regulation, wildlife populations are a renewable natural resource that can safely sustain taking. Although we understand the moral philosophy of those who feel that hunting is wrong and that wildlife populations should be protected completely, the real and fundamental problem facing wildlife is not hunting but, instead, is habitat degradation and destruction. The National Wildlife

Federation, therefore, is committed to conserving wildlife habitat.

To accomplish this objective, hunters and non-hunters should unite efforts to preserve wildlife habitat, the key to wildlife variety and abundance. We are hopeful that those having a true interest in meeting this objective, like millions already, will continue to support the National Wildlife Federation and its efforts.

The nation's largest member-supported conservation group, the National Wildlife Federation unites people from all walks of life to protect nature, wildlife and the world we all share. NWF has educated and inspired families to uphold America's conservation tradition since 1936. Its common-sense approach to environmental protection brings individuals, organizations and governments together to ensure a brighter future for people and wildlife.

The National Wildlife Federation
11100 Wildlife Center Drive · Reston, VA 20190
(800) 822-9919 · nwf.org

▶ **OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

An organization of professional communicators, the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) avoids advocacy within issues not related to journalism. Our mission is to improve the communication and managerial skills of members, set high standards for communicating outdoor subjects, promote outdoor communications in all media and encourage appropriate natural resource use and conservation.

OWAA recognizes legal hunting as an appropriate use of natural resources. Many OWAA members cover and promote hunting.

Outdoor Writers Association of America
121 Hickory Street, Suite 1 · Missoula, MT 59801
(406) 728-7434 · owaa.org

▶ **PROFESSIONAL OUTDOOR MEDIA ASSOCIATION (POMA)**

POMA is a group of individual communicators and corporate partners who believe in, defend, support and promote the heritage of hunting, fishing, shooting, trapping and other traditional outdoor sports through writing, photography and other means. By doing so, members hope to educate the general public about these sports and encourage more participation in them.

POMA · P.O. Box 1569 · Johnstown, PA 15907
(678) 201-8129 · professionaloutdoormedia.org

▶ **QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

Since its founding in 1988, the Quality Deer Management Association has supported legal, ethical hunting as an integral component of sustainable wildlife management and conservation. Hunting is the most effective tool to manage wild white-tailed deer, a keystone species which, left unmanaged, can significantly degrade ecosystem integrity, thereby negatively impacting wildlife and human health.

Hunters have a long and illustrious history of providing billions of dollars to purchase, restore and manage millions of acres of wildlife habitat throughout North America on which many game and nongame species now depend. Protection of the rich hunting tradition is a key component of QDMA's mission and an essential element of the North American model of wildlife management, the most successful conservation model in world history.

The QDMA and its nearly 50,000 members throughout North America and around the world are dedicated to ethical hunting, sound deer management and preservation of the deer-hunting heritage.

Quality Deer Management Association · 170
Whitetail Way · P.O. Box 160 Bogart, GA 30622
(800) 209-3337 · QDMA.com

▶ **ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION**

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation strongly supports hunting practiced in a legal, responsible and ethical manner as a legitimate, outdoor recreational activity, and believes that the hunting of game animals is a long-standing tradition and part of our cultural heritage. Hunting is a sound wildlife management tool that can help regulate wildlife numbers on a sustainable basis within the carrying capacity of their habitats and should be practiced with respect for the individual animal, the species and the land.

The Foundation upholds the hunting tradition by protecting places where animals will continue to thrive and people will continue to hunt, and encourages the highest standards of ethical conduct among all who hunt. It is our desire to foster a deep love and respect for the land, the wildlife it supports, and the outdoor experience.

The Foundation's mission is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, and their habitat. Projects funded by RMEF include: land protection, habitat enhancement, management, research, conservation education, and hunting heritage. Membership: 110,000. Founded: 1984.

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation · 5705 Grant Creek Road · P.O. Box 8249 · Missoula, MT 59801
(800) 225-5355 · rmeff.org

SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL

Safari Club International (SCI) is dedicated to protecting the hunting heritage worldwide and to the conservation of wildlife. SCI believes that hunting plays an important role in wildlife conservation. Along with its sister organization, the SCI Foundation, SCI carries out many activities to demonstrate the role of hunting in conservation, to educate the public on the role of hunting, and to engage in humanitarian services, such as providing game meat to feed the hungry, that show the valuable role that hunters play in today's society.

SCI, with more than 50,000 members worldwide and with chapters in over 15 countries, is the leader in protecting the freedom to hunt and in promoting the conservation of wildlife. In addition to its annual Convention that makes worldwide hunting opportunities and accessories available to tens of thousands of hunters every year, SCI is active at all levels (state, national and international) to advocate the cause of hunting.

Safari Club International · Safari Club International Foundation · 4800 West Gates Pass Road · Tucson, AZ 85745-9490 · (800) 711-8314 · safariclub.org

THE SIERRA CLUB

For more than 100 years, the Sierra Club's policy has been that responsible use of the earth's resources can include hunting and fishing, appropriately regulated.

The Sierra Club seeks whenever possible to work side by side with hunters to protect natural habitats. Pollution of land and waters, draining and development of wetlands and loss of woodlands, are all reasons for hunters and Sierra Club members to work together.

There are exceptional specific instances, though, when the Sierra Club does oppose hunting in certain areas or in the case of specific species. For example, federal law prohibits most hunting in national parks and national monuments managed by the National Park Service. These are lands that are protected in trust for

all Americans to come and visit and be inspired by the unique beauty and life of the place. The Sierra Club supports this prohibition.

The Sierra Club also opposes hunting of animals that are endangered or threatened with extinction. And the Sierra Club may oppose hunting in specific cases where scientific evidence indicates that a species needs protection, even if that species has not been formally listed as threatened or endangered. Sometimes, for financial or political reasons, a formal listing is delayed for years even though there is reasonable scientific evidence that the species and its habitats need protection.

The Sierra Club has thousands of members who hunt and fish as they explore, enjoy and work to protect our country's great natural lands. We have found we have a lot in common with hunters and anglers. Our common experience and values involve spending time outdoors in wild and natural places and being intensely aware and observant of natural life around us.

Together we form a powerful alliance for conserving our fish and wildlife resources and the natural habitats they depend upon.

The mission of the Sierra Club is: To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

The Sierra Club was founded in 1892 by John Muir.

The Sierra Club · 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105-3441 · (415) 977-5500
sierraclub.org

THE U.S. SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE AND U.S. SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE FOUNDATION

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation believe that regulated hunting, fishing and trapping are wholesome recreation experiences and reliable wildlife management tools. They deserve to be defended from the attacks of the animal rights movement.

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation protect and advance America's heritage of hunting, fishing and trapping. They defend these outdoor pursuits in the courts, in legislative bodies and in public education forums. Through their association with local, state and national conservation organization, the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance

and the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation represent 1.5 million sportsmen and sportswomen in all 50 states and in Washington, D.C. When sportsmen come under attack, the organizations provide money and manpower to defend America's outdoor heritage.

Sportsmen and sportswomen are the greatest conservationists in the United States. Thanks to their dedication to conservation and the support of the nation's wildlife managers, America's wildlife is thriving.

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation, partnering with the Boy Scouts of America and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, has developed the Trailblazer Adventure Program to recruit families to take part in outdoor sports. All who participate in the program are afforded the opportunity to participate in the year-long Trailmaster mentoring program. It allows youth and their parents to learn more about outdoor sports from a seasoned sportsman mentor. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation represent 1.5 million sportsmen and sportswomen in all 50 states and in Washington, D.C. When sportsmen come under attack, the organizations provide money and manpower to defend America's outdoor heritage.

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U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation's Sportsmen's Legal Defense Fund is the nation's only national legal defense capability established exclusively to represent hunter, angler, trappers and wildlife management agencies in defense of their activities.

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance protects the rights of hunter, anglers and trappers nationally in the courts, legislatures, at the ballot, in Congress and through public education programs.

U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation · 801 Kingsmill Parkway
Columbus, OH 43229-1137 · (614) 888-4868
ussportsmen.org

▶ THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

The Wilderness Society views hunting as a legitimate use in wilderness areas, national forests, lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management and certain wildlife areas, subject to appropriate regulation for species protection. Because they provide such strong protection for wildlife habitat, wilderness areas offer some of the highest quality hunting experiences found anywhere. The Wilderness Society recognizes that hunters have made a strong contribution to the protection of these

lands and waters, and we are pleased to have worked often as partners in these efforts.

National conservation organization formed to secure preservation of wilderness and proper management of all federal lands, carry on an education program concerning the value of wilderness and how it may best be used and preserved in the public interest, make and encourage scientific studies of wilderness, and mobilize cooperation in resisting degradation of federal lands. Membership: 175,000. Organized: 1935.

The Wilderness Society · 1615 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036 · (800) 843-9453
wilderness.org

▶ THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

The Wildlife Management Institute supports and encourages recreational hunting that is conducted legally, safely and ethically. The Wildlife Management Institute does not recognize any pursuit or taking of wildlife outside prescribed laws and regulations established and enforced by state, provincial and federal wildlife management agencies as recreational hunting.

Violations of hunting laws, regulations and ethical tenets seriously undermine the quality of the hunting experience and the public and political support of hunting traditions. Violators of hunting laws and regulations should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Hunting designated wildlife populations is a legitimate, healthful and worthwhile recreational activity. Hunting also supports and reinforces important family, social and cultural traditions and values. Recreational hunting serves as an important link to improve participants' understanding and appreciation of natural resources and the critical needs for stewardship and management of those resources.

Recreational hunting also helps regulate some wildlife numbers and reduces wildlife conflicts with people, such as minimizing crop depredations, highway accidents, etc. Revenues from the sale of licenses and permits also provide significant economic support for protecting habitat and managing all forms of wildlife. Recreational hunting provides significant economic benefits to many local and state economies, as well as the nation. In some areas, hunting appropriately provides subsistence for native people.

A private, non-profit, scientific and educational organization, supported by corporations, groups and individuals, to advance

professional management of natural resources in the interest of conservation and for the benefit of people.

The Wildlife Management Institute
wildlifemanagementinstitute.org

▶ THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Hunting has co-evolved with the needs and cultures of mankind. Archaeological evidence indicates that early cultures were dependent upon wild animals for subsistence. As skills in animal husbandry and agriculture were acquired, dependence on hunting for subsistence decreased. Today hunting is principally useful for recreational purposes, for utilization of harvestable surplus to benefit man and for controlling populations.

Most wild animal populations produce more animals than their habitats can support. These surplus animals are removed by mortality factors that regulate population numbers within the limits of the habitat. Hunting can be used to remove a portion of these excess animals that would otherwise be lost to natural mortality.

Professional wildlife managers are charged with the responsibility of managing wildlife populations in an ecologically sound and socially acceptable manner. Hunting, when based on biological information and properly regulated, can be used effectively to satisfy this responsibility. In addition, hunting, through licenses and taxes, provides the major source of financing for habitat acquisition, law enforcement, research and management programs for wildlife, both game and nongame species.

The policy of The Wildlife Society, in regard to hunting, is to:

1. Assist decision-makers so that judgements on hunting and the welfare of wildlife are guided by both biological and societal consideration.
2. Endorse the principle that hunting, when properly regulated, is a biologically sound means of managing wildlife populations.
3. Encourage expansion of programs for hunters to increase their knowledge of wildlife ecology and

management and to emphasize hunter ethics and responsibilities.

Association for those professionally employed in the biological or related fields of wildlife conservation. Aims to establish and maintain the highest possible professional standards; to develop wildlife conservation and management along sound biological lines; and to prepare and disseminate information to effect these ends. Membership: 9,100. Organized: 1937.

The Wildlife Society · 5410 Grosvenor Lane
Suite 200 · Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 897-9770 · wildlife.org

▶ WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

The mission of WWF is to protect rare and endangered species and habitats all over the world. We therefore explicitly object to any activity that threatens the survival of any species or the conservation of wilderness areas that support these species. But, WWF does not, for example, oppose hunting by indigenous peoples to meet their basic needs for food and shelter. We do insist that hunting and trapping be regulated so that the survival of any species not be threatened, and we vigorously oppose any hunting or trapping activities that violate international, national or state law, which includes illegal poaching.

Private, tax-exempt international conservation organization. Makes grants to qualified scientists, government agencies and other organizations based on a set of global priorities established in cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Funds are used for research, for habitat management and protection, to encourage sound environmental policy, administration and law and to provide training and grassroots conservation education. One of 27 independent national affiliates of World Wildlife Fund—International, Gland, Switzerland. Established: 1961

World Wildlife Fund · 1250 Twenty-Fourth St. NW
Washington, DC 20090-7180 · (202) 293-4800
worldwildlife.org



The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) is the trade association for the firearms, hunting and recreational shooting sports industry. Find out more about how NSSF supports programs designed to ensure the future of hunting and the hunter and conservation at nssf.org.

NSSF
The Firearm Industry
Trade Association