



Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Guaranteeing You a Place to Hunt and Fish

Today's anglers measure their solitude on a trout stream in moments rather than hours. Duck hunters arrive at their favorite sloughs well before dawn — only to join the crowd that's already there. Big-game hunters have begun to accept intense pressure from other hunters as an inevitable part of the chase. All across the nation, wilderness adventures have taken on an "elbow-to-elbow" quality.

Millions of hunters and anglers share this common experience — they've come to understand that quality hunting and fishing depends on having access to a "place." A place where they are free to explore a forgotten lake for bass, walk to a distant ridge for grouse or scan a secluded meadow for elk or turkey — free to move at their own pace, for their own purposes.

Unfortunately, "a place" is precisely what most of them



have lost. As the outdoors has become commercialized, private lands posted and public land increasingly scarce, lack of access to fields, woods, lakes and rivers has become more than a problem — it has become a barrier. Outdoor enthusiasts feel crowded, pushed and, worst of all, in a frame of mind to push back. The result is that they lose sight of their common vision and their shared goals. Consequently, they lose their ability to speak with a unified voice.

A Voice for Hunters and Anglers

Increasing access to quality land and water is critically important to millions of outdoorsmen and women nationwide. Driven by its mission to "guarantee you a place to hunt and fish," the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP):

- unifies the voices of America's 40 million hunters and anglers
- attacks the barriers to access that confront them every season of every year
- brings their message into committee rooms, state-houses, the chambers of Congress and the Oval Office

Congress and the administration are making decisions *now* that



Over a hundred years ago President Theodore Roosevelt declared the conservation of our natural resources to be a national priority. Now the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership carries his fight for "a square deal for conservation" into the 21st century, working to guarantee that all Americans, forever, have opportunities to hunt and fish in places that provide quality habitat and support healthy wildlife populations.

“Take the hundreds of outdoor organizations like B.A.S.S., bring them together and concentrate their efforts on a common political objective — now you’ve got a good sense of the potential power of TRCP.”

—B.A.S.S./ESPN Outdoors

affect access to quality places to hunt and fish. Unless we speak out, we can’t expect our message to be heard on critical issues such as:

- the devastating loss of our nation’s wetlands
- the failure to adequately fund programs that provide hunting and fishing opportunities, such as the National Wildlife Refuge System
- a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that falls far short of its potential to provide wildlife habitat and access to hunters and anglers
- the need to establish a nationwide walk-in access program for hunters and anglers
- the importance of managing federal lands and waters to achieve abundant wildlife populations that support hunting and fishing

TRCP: An Organization of Organizations

While reason, facts and persuasion are the fuel, the real engine of influence in Washington is

power. And TRCP takes full advantage of the power that comes from its unique structure as an organization of organizations. That structure, in addition to 80,000 individual members, consists of 1,200 local, state, and national sportsmen’s organizations and outdoor industry businesses that share our values of access and conservation. These 1,200 affiliate organizations include:

- Ducks Unlimited
- B.A.S.S./ESPN Outdoors
- Cabela’s
- National Rifle Association
- New York State Conservation Council — NYSCC
- Izaak Walton League of America
- Bass Pro Shops
- Austin and Halleck
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Pheasants Forever
- Bushnell Optics
- Trout Unlimited
- Mule Deer Foundation
- Wildlife Management Institute

Combined, these 1,200 affiliate organizations represent

over 5.5 million committed outdoorsmen and women — a number that, when speaking through the unified voice of TRCP, speaks clearly and with commanding power.



TRCP Campaigns

While its goal is increasing access to public and private land and water, the partnership also recognizes that access is meaningless without high quality habitat for fish and wildlife. Consequently, TRCP undertakes campaigns to educate the public and the persuade decision-makers to:

- establish nationwide programs to ensure hunters and anglers access to public and private lands
- protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat
- increase funding for existing conservation programs

TRCP pursues its goals through grass-roots organizing, educational outreach, and collaborative undertakings with legislators, policy-makers and land managers. Current TRCP campaigns are summarized on the back of this brochure.

What We Intend to Accomplish

TRCP recognizes that “guaranteeing you a place to hunt and fish” is a daunting task. To maintain the confidence of our members, TRCP must perform. Here’s what we intend to accomplish in the next five years:

- increase conservation funding for critical fish and wildlife habitat by \$2 billion dollars
- open millions of new acres to hunting and fishing
- establish a TRCP grassroots army of hundreds of thousands of

conservation-minded sportsmen and women

- protect recreational fisheries and tens of millions of acres of public lands for hunting and angling
- recruit 5,000 affiliate clubs, organizations and outdoor industry businesses to support the TRCP conservation agenda

The Power of the Partnership

The partnership has already made great strides in developing a powerful membership base and seeks to invite everyone who cares about quality access to hunting and fishing to join us. We multiply the effectiveness of our members by:

- focusing our collective power to favorably resolve issues important to hunters and anglers
- updating members on pertinent political issues and debates
- publicizing results of the most recent research and studies in the field of conservation
- encouraging personal involvement to influence public policy at the national level

“TRCP leverages the collective power of the corporate sector and non-profit conservation organizations to bring the value of public access and habitat protection to the forefront of our national debate on conservation — a strategy that is long overdue.”

—Izaak Walton League of America

“Being part of TRCP dramatically increases the ability of member groups to achieve their own organizational objectives, which means the nation’s wild places and wildlife will be the ultimate winners.”

—Wildlife Management Institute



Current Partnership Campaigns

The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership organizes nationwide campaigns to educate the public and to shape policy on issues of critical importance to hunters and anglers. Following are summaries of current campaigns.

Access to and Funding for the National Wildlife Refuges

Working to ensure that sportsmen and women will always have access to the National Wildlife Refuge System, TRCP seeks to educate Congress and the public on the importance of hunting and fishing as scientific wildlife management tools. While advocating full Congressional funding for the system, TRCP is constantly exploring innovative ways to increase the Refuge System's budget to benefit hunters and anglers.

Roadless Areas in the National Forests

TRCP brought together diverse organizations and competing points of view to build consensus and recommend changes to the Forest Service's roadless-area protection regulation. In meetings with the White House and the administration, TRCP continues to promote the interests of hunters and anglers in shaping the regulation.

Energy Development on Federal Lands

Insisting that oil and gas production on public lands must

not be developed at the expense of fish and wildlife resources, TRCP speaks for hunters and anglers in dialogs with public and private stakeholders.

Implementing USDA Conservation Programs

TRCP is working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to write policies that maximize the benefits of its programs for fish and wildlife and that enhance the opportunities of hunters and anglers across the country.

Impacts of Transportation Systems on Fish and Wildlife

To address the effects of our nation's roads and highways on fish and wildlife habitat, TRCP has organized a broad coalition of groups to meet with lawmakers and promote ways of integrating conservation priorities into federal transportation policy.

Caribou National Forest

TRCP is working with forest planners to protect this pristine area, designated as a public land by Theodore Roosevelt in 1903, from the detrimental effects of proposed road building and increased backcountry recreational vehicle use.

For more information about the partnership, please visit our Web site at www.trcp.org or contact us at:

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
 555 Eleventh Street NW 6th Floor
 Washington, DC 20004
 (202) 508-3432



Theodore Roosevelt, circa 1883

"Outdoorsmen and women know that conserving quality fish habitat is the key to finding a quality place to hunt and fish. TRCP is in the business of rocking the boat in Washington until the voice of hunters and anglers is heard."

—Trout Unlimited