

Boone and Crockett Wildlife Conservation Program at Clemson University

Clemson University and Boone and Crockett Partnership Highlights:

- A transformational partnership for wildlife conservation in South Carolina and the Southeast.
- Focus is on game and wildlife conservation on private lands in South Carolina and the Southeast.
- Enhanced education and training of Clemson students to become the next generation of wildlife leaders, professionals and land managers.
- Applied research focused on the needs of private landowners.
- Wildlife conservation educational programs targeted toward private landowners.
- Wildlife conservation continuing education programs for land managers.

Deep Roots

Since its inception as a land-grant institution, Clemson University has been closely linked to the land on which it resides, stewarding natural resources with wisdom and training those who would cultivate that land. Caring for the land of the state of South Carolina and the broader Southeast region is central to the mission of the University and traces back to the very roots of its founding.

To honor that mission and further the University's impact, Clemson seeks to establish a Wildlife Conservation Program in partnership with the Boone and Crockett Club. Founded in 1887 by Theodore Roosevelt, the Boone and Crockett Club promotes the conservation and management of wildlife, especially big game, and its habitat, preserves and encourages hunting, and maintains the highest ethical standards of fair chase and sportsmanship in North America. Boone and Crockett partners with universities across the nation to pursue these goals, and because of Clemson's current leadership in wildlife outreach programs to private landowners, a Boone and Crockett program at Clemson would represent a seamless and powerful partnership. Such a partnership would allow Clemson to train students to be the next generation of wildlife conservation leaders.

Were he to look out over his property today, Thomas Green Clemson would not believe how far his vision has expanded – and nor would Teddy Roosevelt. Both of these men founded institutions that far outlasted them, and the growth and success of the respective organizations make for an even more impactful partnership.



Conservation in Action

The Boone and Crockett Wildlife Conservation Program at Clemson University will focus on outreach, undergraduate and graduate education and applied research efforts to enhance and promote game species management, wildlife conservation and wildlife conservation policies. Since 90 percent of land and wildlife habitat in the Southeast is privately owned, carrying out Boone and Crockett's goals in the Southeast is determined less by federal-level policy change and more by state government, local policy decisions and private landowner education and outreach, which makes such a program at Clemson all the more meaningful.

The program, led by the Boone and Crockett Distinguished Professor, will include wildlife conservation outreach and educational programs for private landowners, youth and the public; landowner-focused game species research; and student development and engagement with private landowners, policy makers and the public. Our Clemson Cooperative Extension Service (CUCES) will provide an extensive outreach delivery system for the Boone and Crockett Distinguished Professor. The Distinguished Professor will also have an opportunity to provide educational programming to support youth wildlife and hunting programs, coordinating with Clemson's Shooting Sports Program as well as other youth programs in wildlife management and conservation. In order to recruit the best and brightest students to become future leaders in wildlife conservation, the Distinguished Professor will also work with partners to establish a Graduate and Undergraduate Student Scholarship Program.

How You Can Help

In order to make this program possible, Boone and Crockett and Clemson University are partnering to raise \$5M in both endowment and operating to support the Boone & Crockett Wildlife Conservation Program at Clemson University. Your gift is critical to furthering Clemson's mission of enhancing wildlife and wildlife habitat on private lands in the Southeast, researching more effective ways to sustain and enhance wildlife, and providing students with opportunities for handson learning in partnership with private landowners. Share in our passion for conservation by truly leaving a legacy – in the students you impact and the natural resources they study.

To support the Boone and Crockett Wildlife Conservation Program at Clemson University with a gift that will impact generations to come, please contact Margaret Owens at 864-276-7245 or mr6@clemson.edu.

