



Rough Rider Reader

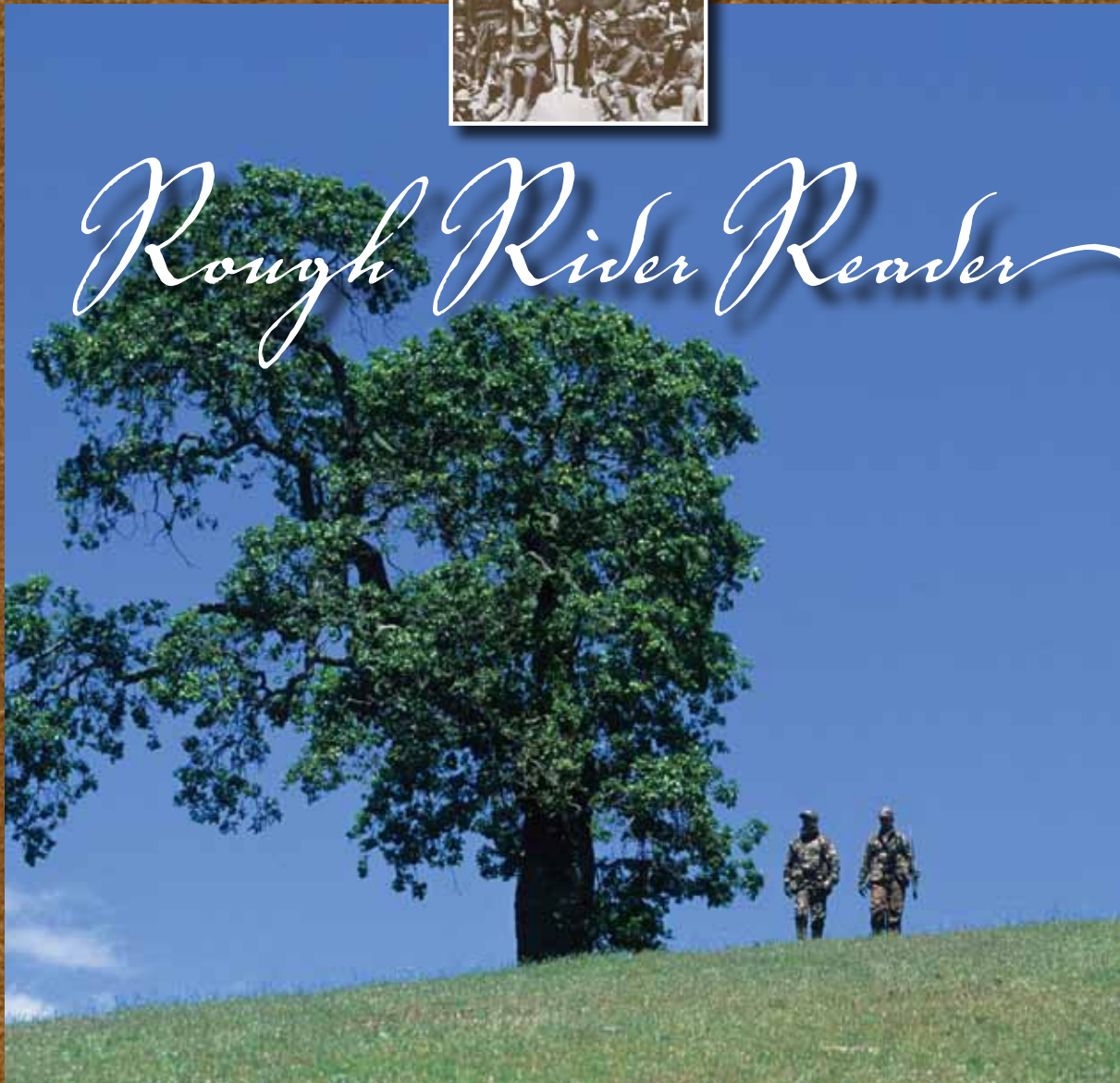
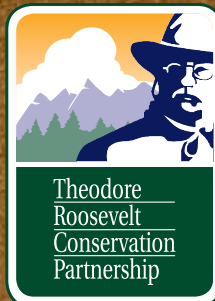


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A QUARTERLY REPORT FOR OUR INNER CIRCLE • SPRING 2010



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Message from the Chairman

IN 2010, TRCP AND ITS SUPPORTERS RISE TO MEET CONSERVATION CHALLENGES



As we enter the spring of a new year and new decade, I and the other TRCP board members are keenly anticipating the conservation challenges of 2010. Last year was a time of transition, with members of the Obama administration being appointed and growing accustomed to their new roles. Even now, more than a year later, the conservation community is awaiting action on many of the commitments that were made on the campaign trail and in the days since the presidential election.

A recent article in *Field & Stream*, authored by respected conservation editor Bob Marshall, put it best. Describing the sportsmen's "report card" for the first year of the Obama administration, he gave the administration a grade of "I" – for "incomplete." Whether restoration of Clean Water Act protections for our headwaters, the current unraveling of the Conservation Reserve Program or the dead-slow progress of reform of the 1872 mining law, America's sportsmen want to see results on the ground ... not just spin and rhetoric.

While we appreciate actions such as the recently announced reforms to the federal energy leasing process on our Western public lands, we also hope that a landscape-level conservation strategy will be implemented for renewable energy projects. So far, the jury is still out on that issue.

Sportsmen are not interested in the highly polarized gridlock that unfortunately characterizes many debates in Washington, D.C., these days. We are bipartisan and non-partisan in our common interest in healthy habitats for fish and wildlife, adequate funding for conservation programs and improved sportsmen's access to the places where we love to hunt and fish. That is exactly what the hard-working professionals and volunteers at the TRCP and our partner organizations look to achieve – every day.

*Sportsmen want to see
results on the ground ...
not just spin and rhetoric.*

As well as a time of political transition, the last year and a half has been a time of financial crisis for many of the foundations and donors who give so generously of their time and money for conservation. The TRCP experienced a challenging year to raise the funds needed to continue our efforts in the interest of American hunters and anglers on matters of national conservation policy. We have worked since our inception to attract the most highly skilled policy professionals and forge partnerships among sportsmen's organizations to speak with one strong voice for the resource and the sportsman. To our great relief, many of our longstanding foundation supporters prioritized the TRCP's brand of hard-hitting, non-partisan conservation advocacy for continued funding. In addition, many hard-pressed donors stepped up to help us with generous donations to the Jim Range Conservation Fund and the TRCP general operating fund. We are so appreciative of this support and pledge to redouble our group's efforts to move the needle on the conservation issues that matter most to hunters and anglers.

Finally, I want to offer special thanks to Anheuser Busch and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for recognizing TRCP co-founder Jim Range as the 2010 Budweiser Conservationist of the Year. Never before has this prestigious award been bestowed posthumously. It acknowledges a lifetime of important conservation achievements that took place far from the mountains and rivers where most of us would like to spend our days. Jim Range labored in the halls of Congress and behind the scenes in Washington, D.C., fighting for the habitat, funding and access on which our sport depends. The votes of thousands of TRCP partners like you resulted in his election as the 2010 honoree.

Generations of sportsmen will benefit from Jim Range's contribution to conservation. The TRCP works to perpetuate this legacy into the future. The recognition of Jim's lifetime of work inspires us to continue to fight for what is important.

As the old saying goes: You don't get the sport you deserve ... you get the one you fight for!

Thanks for joining us in this fight as we march into 2010 and beyond!

Jim Martin, Chairman of the Board
Conservation Director, Berkley Conservation Institute

Global Climate Change

SHIFTING WEATHER PATTERNS HAVE UNWELCOME IMPLICATIONS FOR SPORTSMEN

As director of the TRCP Center for Western Lands, I oversee our group's work on a range of issues crucially important to American sportsmen. Lately, however, I find myself concentrating on a single issue – one with serious implications for the future of our fish and wildlife populations and hunting and angling traditions: climate change.

I had been under the impression that most sportsmen appreciated the threat of climate change. I imagined them thinking, "Haven't most scientists already concluded that changes in sea level, glacial melt, temperature and precipitation not only are occurring, but are accelerating? As a result, the distribution and abundance of fish and wildlife are changing. I will tell my elected leaders to pass a climate change bill that mitigates the effects of these changes before I lose my hunting and fishing opportunities."

But a recent Gallup Poll indicates otherwise: An increasing number of Americans maintain that the effects of climate change are exaggerated. In 1997, 31 percent of those polled believed that the effects were overstated; in 2009, the proportion rose to 41 percent. Now, in 2010, 48 percent of Americans polled feels that the impacts of this global shift are inflated.

While more than half of Americans still believes climate change is real, that number is dwindling, as well. And more than a third feels that even scientists are uncertain about climate change. Recent allegations of scientific fraud and record-breaking snow in the Northeast certainly failed to bolster its believability among skeptics.

The daunting challenge of persuading a dubious public almost makes me want to give up and say to heck with it. I'll just retire and go fishing and hunting while I still can. I'll let the future take care of itself.

But then I remember my six grandkids. One of them hunts elk, and all of them love fishing. They remind me that retreat is not an option – not when the quality of their lives is at stake.

The TRCP must communicate to sportsmen that climate change is real and escalating. Our goal is to highlight, through presentations to rod and gun clubs, media coverage and reports, the growing base of scientific evidence showing the threat our changing climate poses to the health and well-being of fish and wildlife populations and their habitats. We

must convey this data to the hunting and fishing community in terms that hit home.

In the future, global climate change will cause a shift in the geographic ranges of species and habitats. Big-game populations must adapt to alterations in their forage base and modify migration patterns to accommodate the changing weather. Variations in water quality and quantity will transform both saltwater and freshwater ecosystems and fisheries. Wetland loss in the prairie pothole region will severely reduce waterfowl productivity in North America's duck-breeding "factory." Invasive species, parasites and disease-causing organisms may flourish in warmer temperatures, profoundly affecting habitat and challenging the survival of upland gamebirds.

Hunters and anglers, who are inextricably linked to the natural world and aware of changes in the places

where they hunt and fish, will be among the first to experience these impacts. If American sporting traditions are to exist in our children's lifetimes, we must address the challenges of global climate change now.

Our nation must continue its stewardship of natural resources to assure that the economic and ecological values associated with fish, wildlife and their habitats successfully survive a changing climate. Good hunting and fishing are the byproducts of responsible stewardship. And dividends such as flood control, clean water and healthy habitats further the case for this investment.

Theodore Roosevelt said, "Ninety-five percent of wisdom consists of being wise in time." In the 20th century, sportsmen were "wise in time" to see that declines in fish and wildlife populations were reversible, if action was taken quickly and decisively. They helped pass the Pittman-Robertson Act in 1937 and the Dingell-Johnson Act in 1950 to ensure that state agencies received funding to restore game populations to the abundant numbers we cherish today. As sportsmen, we must be "wise in time" again – and confront the threat of climate change before it's too late.

If American sporting traditions are to exist in our children's lifetimes, we must address the challenges of global climate change now.

—William Geer, director
TRCP Center for Western Lands



Jim Range Conservation Fund

TRCP CO-FOUNDER JIM RANGE

Established in 2009, the Jim Range Conservation Fund offers TRCP partners the opportunity to transform their passion for hunting and fishing into “boots-on-the-ground” action that Jim believed was crucial to America’s sportsmen. The fund bears the name of TRCP co-founder and board chairman Jim Range, who passed away unexpectedly in January of last year.

We are pleased to announce that to date, the JRCF has raised \$500,000 thanks to the commitment and generosity of many individuals and foundations. In this, the second year of the JRCF, we ask that sportsmen devoted to the future of hunting and fishing make a gift to the fund. Under the direction of the JRCF Leadership Council, the fund will be used to further the following efforts:

- enhance the TRCP’s flexibility to seize the unexpected opportunities or confront sudden challenges on issues that affect the conservation of fish and wildlife habitat and hunting and fishing;
- supplement funding to the TRCP’s signature conservation programs in three major areas: Western public lands, agricultural lands and marine fisheries;
- provide general operating support to the TRCP to ensure greater financial security, longevity and the ability to invest in new organizational components necessary to move the TRCP to a new level of strategic effectiveness.

At the TRCP, we can see these goals coming to fruition as we reflect on the time following Jim’s death. Highlights of the past 12 months include advancing climate change legislation, efforts to amend the Clean Water Act to include critical protections and taking action to safeguard key Western habitats from irresponsible oil and gas development. The TRCP’s initiative work also involved assisting the federal government in better managing energy development offshore.

Jim Range was never short on words, and he always voiced his opinions with a vocabulary and seasoning that remained his trademark. While his sudden death continues to shock and sadden us, we can easily hear him offering advice on issues we face today and bolstering our efforts to build the TRCP into a force that will exist long into the future.

The TRCP staff and board ask that you consider investing in the Jim Range Conservation Fund to ensure that Jim’s voice will continue to influence the way we conserve our fish and wildlife habitat and experience our hunting and fishing traditions. To donate, complete and return the pledge envelope included in this issue of the Rough Rider Reader or visit the TRCP Web site, www.trcp.org, and click the round JRCF logo in the top-right corner of the home page. For more information or to ask questions about supporting the TRCP, contact info@trcp.org.

“Jim saw a changing world in which the voices of hunters and anglers were being overshadowed by people and interests who don’t hold the same reverence for ducks in flight at sunrise or elk bugling in the fall. With his characteristic energy, he convinced colleagues and friends to form the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership in the tradition of our 26th president to speak with a louder voice to assure the future of fish and wildlife and hunting and fishing. This will be one of Jim’s most enduring legacies.”



— Dr. Rollin Sparrowe
TRCP co-founder and board member

THE JRCF LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The use of all funds raised through the Jim Range Conservation Fund will be guided by the TRCP board of directors. A group of Jim Range’s closest friends and colleagues has stepped forward to lead this effort and to ensure that Jim’s conservation legacy endures.

Co-Chairmen:

The Honorable Howard H. Baker Jr. Ted Turner

Council:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| James A. Baker IV | Charles S. Potter Jr. |
| Charles “Chip” H. Collins | Theodore Roosevelt IV |
| Matthew B. Connolly Jr. | John M. Seidl |
| R. Beau Turner | David Perkins |



PHOTO BY FRANCISCO BEDESCHI

FEATURED ROUGH RIDER

The TRCP's Rough Riders are a select group of passionate individuals determined to demand proper stewardship of our natural resources, who have invested in this vision for the future with financial contributions to the TRCP of \$500 or more. Featured in this issue is longtime conservationist and member of the Jim Range Conservation Fund leadership council Beau Turner.

BEAU TURNER

LAMONT, FLA.

DIRECTOR OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TURNER ENTERPRISES, FOUNDER OF THE BEAU TURNER YOUTH CONSERVATION CENTER, BOARD MEMBER OF THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB

What quality best defined Jim Range?

His honesty and his deeply held commitment to protecting our natural resources.

How did Jim convey the importance of land conservation to sportsmen?

He spoke from the heart with real passion. He was so committed that he made you want to join him in protecting our fish and wildlife resources. Jim believed you could never work hard enough for the right thing, something he espoused with the creation of the TRCP.

How did your involvement in the conservation world evolve into a leadership role with the JRCF?

Jim was such a special person and an outstanding conservationist that I wanted to ensure his values were promoted and enhanced through the JRCF. I grew up with an elevated awareness of the natural world and found that getting personally involved with a cause was the best way to fully enjoy and safeguard the things we love the most.

What are some accomplishments of the JRCF thus far?

The work to protect wildlife resources from inappropriate gas exploration and development is extremely important, and with the help of the JRCF, the TRCP has been very effective in this aspect. The growth of the JRCF has been impressive, and I want to see it flourish as we move forward.

What are some of your goals for the future of the JRCF?

It is important to develop new friends and nontraditional allies in the campaign to protect America's fish and wildlife resources. It is important that the JRCF form unique alliances with groups that value sportsmen as well as conservation.

The Turner Foundation

FEATURED FOUNDATION

LINDA OREL

ATLANTA, GA.
PROGRAM OFFICER FOR THE
SAFEGUARDING HABITAT PROGRAM



Can you inform us about your work?

I help the Turner Foundation create a strategy about how to distribute grants to help groups in specific geographic areas including Alaska, the northern Rockies, southwest New Mexico and Arizona and the Southeast. My work supports organizations focusing on national conservation issues in Washington, D.C., as well as a more general marine conservation program.

Are you particularly attached to any places or programs?

I love all the programs at the Turner Foundation. Through my work, I've spent time in Alaska with grantees and enjoyed meeting with conservationists on the ground. I can't pick one program that I am more attached to than another; I appreciate the work all our grantees are doing. As for special interests of mine, I am fascinated with predator conservation, especially how predators such as wolves, jaguars, panthers and sharks balance and improve the health of entire ecosystems.

Why is involving sportsmen with the Turner Foundation's conservation efforts important?

It's extremely important to involve groups like the TRCP in our work for two reasons. From a political perspective, sportsmen represent a balanced demographic that includes nearly all the towns and counties in areas where we work. Commonly, environmental organizations have an increased member base in urban areas, so having sportsmen involved is very important for representing the conservation interests of the people who live in both urban as well as rural regions.

More importantly, sportsmen are the people who spend time in nature – on lakes, rivers, streams and mountains. Hunters and anglers possess connectivity to the land that provides them with a natural passion for environmental advocacy and conservation. Sportsmen are vested in creating protections because these are the places they appreciate and want to be.

How did the Turner Foundation get involved with the TRCP's work?

The Turner Foundation has been a major supporter of the TRCP for many years. Since the formation of the TRCP, the Foundation has been involved in discussions regarding the need to engage and activate members of the hunting and angling community.

What is the biggest challenge facing members of the conservation community today, and what is your approach to such challenges?

There is an economic push to develop land to extract oil, gas and coal and to construct buildings and roads for residential, industrial and commercial uses. Increased development puts pressure on the land and water on which sportsmen rely. Additionally, air and water pollution decimates natural resources, and invasive species threaten natural systems. Although perhaps the biggest looming issue that exacerbates all existing threats to our lands is climate change.

Do you enjoy outdoor pursuits? Where do you spend most of your time outdoors?

I really enjoy hiking, especially with my husband and daughter. I love to be outdoors. Whether hiking, biking, swimming or camping, it feels great just to be outside in the fresh air. I live in Atlanta, so I spend lots of time in the Georgia mountains and visiting family on the lakes and beaches of New England.

In what direction would you like to see the TRCP move in the future?

The TRCP is already moving in the right directions, and it is our hope at the Turner Foundation that we continue supporting the TRCP's work. We very much appreciate what you do, especially your work on wetlands and energy. We hope to get involved with your climate change initiative.

Sportsmen Values Mapping



PHOTO BY CARL HEILMAN

HABITAT ALONG THE UPPER MISSOURI RIVER BREAKS IS RICH IN WILDLIFE AND FAVORED BY MONTANA SPORTSMEN.

MAPPING PROJECT CHARTS PRIORITY LANDS FOR CONSERVATION

SPORTSMEN REVEAL HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE WEST

Picture a map the size of a dining room table. I'm not talking about your standard four-seater but the big old table where all your friends and relatives sit for holiday dinners. While you're at it, picture about 100 of these table-sized maps. For nearly three years, this collection of maps has accompanied me across Montana as I met with rod and gun clubs throughout the state.

Most of the maps sport tears and are worn soft with use – but they bear more than just the scars of my travels. Marked within their borders are what some would consider the hidden treasures of the West: the prized hunting and fishing spots where hundreds of Montana sportsmen spend their time. As part of the TRCP's Sportsmen Values Mapping project, I've been collecting geographic data on areas favored by Montanans for hunting and angling – areas that often hold critical habitat for fish and wildlife, as well. The information on these maps is an invaluable asset as Montana weighs future energy development and considers appropriate uses of state and federal public lands.

The TRCP developed its Sportsmen Values Mapping project to ensure that hunters and anglers are represented in management decisions that could affect where and how they pursue their passions. The project, which captures sportsmen's input to delineate important hunting and fishing areas, complements critical habitat maps already in use by federal and state agencies. It shows politicians and decision-makers the access

opportunities sportsmen value the most and want to see managed for the future and continued use of hunting and fishing.

You might be wondering how I persuaded hundreds of Montanans to reveal their favorite hunting grounds and fishing waters. It took convincing, but the members of the clubs I visited were willing to share their expertise – with crossed fingers, no doubt. This intimate knowledge will help shape energy and public land policy for years to come.

The Sportsmen Values Maps provide important and previously unavailable data to federal and state agencies for uses including the following:

- Balancing oil and gas leasing with the needs of fish, wildlife and sportsmen;
- Identifying key high-use areas warranting special conservation strategies because of their value to organized sportsmen's clubs;
- Identifying areas needing additional public access;
- Creating greater persuasiveness for overarching national resource policies and laws.

The information collected by the TRCP in Big Sky Country went directly to the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, which produced GIS maps based on the results. The department doesn't create maps like this for just anyone. But they realized what the TRCP was able to offer them: details about Montana's most treasured hunting and fishing areas that they hadn't been able to get anywhere else.

The project also gives sportsmen an added stake in the future of their hunting and angling traditions. The rod and gun clubs have access to an incredible amount of information about Montana's fish and wildlife. Collectively, it's a resource that no one else can provide. These guys aren't scientists; they're just hunters and anglers. But they know more about Montana than most people ever will. They care about being able to continue hunting and fishing on these lands – and making sure that their kids and grandkids will be able to as well.

—William Geer, director
TRCP Center for Western Lands

A pilot version of the Sportsmen Values Mapping project was initiated in Montana in 2007. The TRCP is in the process of implementing the project in other Western states. Visit www.trcp.org/issues/energy/294 to learn more.

Washington Watch

TRCP WEIGHS IN ON BIOFUELS AS FARM BILL DEBATE INTENSIFIES



Even as the political waters reach a boiling point on Capitol Hill over the hot topics of health care, a jobs bill, bank regulation and Middle East war, work on the next Farm Bill is beginning to simmer on the back burner. Encompassing key legislation affecting fish and wildlife habitat on private lands, the Farm Bill authorizes and funds a range

of sportsman-favored programs, including the Conservation Reserve Program, Wetlands Reserve Program, Grasslands Reserve Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program and the Voluntary Access and Habitat Incentive Program, or “Open Fields.”

The current Farm Bill was passed by Congress in 2008 and is up for review and modification in 2012. But the TRCP has never stopped working for the sportsmen-conservationist community on this important legislation. The Farm Bill includes approximately \$200 billion in funding for commodity production, food aid and conservation programs. Monies in the bill provide incentives for farmers and other private landowners to manage their land to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, improve fish and wildlife habitat and produce more renewable energy from crops – also known as biofuels. Our outdoor traditions owe a great deal to the programs authorized in the 2008 bill.

Why are we taking action now? House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson has announced that he intends to hold hearings on Farm Bill programs in the spring and signaled that increased federal attention will be given to biofuels production on America’s croplands and forests. The TRCP will remain actively engaged in this discussion to ensure the push for biofuels does not negate the benefits derived from previous habitat conservation victories.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005, a driving force behind the debate over biofuels production, requires the blending of renewable fuels into the U.S. motor-vehicle fuel supply to meet the demands of the EPA’s Renewable Fuel Standard Program. The program aims to increase the nation’s production of renewable fuel from 5.4 billion gallons in 2006 to 36 billion gallons by 2022 – an escalation with profound implications for our agricultural lands and the sporting traditions and fish and game species that depend on them.

The land requirement for this increase in biofuels production is substantial. According to a recent study by The Nature Conservancy, more than 67 million acres in the United States will be developed for new energy projects by the year 2030. This energy push will put tremendous pressure on farmers to vastly increase biomass production from grain, grass and wood to feed ethanol refineries. And our country’s unprecedented demand for renewable energy will drive up farm land rental prices and may put

the Conservation Reserve Program, or CRP, at a competitive disadvantage when farmers sign up for farm programs.

The TRCP’s Agriculture and Wildlife Working Group already is tackling this challenge and continuing its support of the CRP, America’s largest and most successful private-lands habitat conservation program.

As biofuels generation grows, production methods must be developed that achieve no net loss of habitat or reduction of water quality. The TRCP is committed to preventing the decline of the CRP, which is at risk of losing millions of acres from expiring contracts, reduced funding and competition from renewable energy production. We are working with our partners on innovative proposals to increase incentives for farmers who participate in the CRP.

One approach being pursued is to offer multiple or “stacked” benefits, such as carbon credits, to landowners who maintain fish and wildlife habitat that in turn sequesters carbon to ameliorate the impacts of climate change. Programs like this offer a range of benefits from which all of us – landowners, fish and game populations and sportsmen – stand to gain.

According to a recent position statement from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, “Habitat and wildlife benefits from biofuels production will depend largely on where the biofuels are grown, what is planted and how the biomass is managed and harvested.” Ultimately, the fish and wildlife habitat value attached to the production of biofuels will depend on the habitat type created, land use replaced by biomass crops, invasiveness of planted materials, harvest management practices, residual ground cover and amount of habitat available as wildlife cover. The TRCP is invested in assuring that, as biofuels programs advance, proper conservation of habitat remains a priority both nationally and locally.

The Agriculture and Wildlife Working Group has commenced meeting early and often to develop the most effective strategic policies to ensure that renewable energy language in the 2012 Farm Bill will sustain the fish and wildlife benefits of past Farm Bills. By locating biofuels production on lands already dedicated to row crops rather than converting native habitat and by providing additional incentives to landowners to continue signing CRP contracts, our partnership will safeguard the fish and wildlife treasured by all hunters and anglers while enabling the country to responsibly use biofuels to meet our most pressing national energy needs.

—Tom Franklin, TRCP director of policy and government relations and certified wildlife biologist

American sportsmen must work to sustain fish and wildlife habitat as renewable energy production expands.

Union Sportsmen's Alliance



PHOTO COURTESY OF USA

RICH TRUMKA, IN THE MIDDLE WEARING A TAN AND GREEN SHOOTING SHIRT, AT A USA SHOOT.

RICHARD TRUMKA: STRAIGHT SHOOTER FOR CONSERVATION

AFL-CIO president finds mission in halls of Congress and afield

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka was the first member to join the TRCP's Union Sportsmen's Alliance, established by the TRCP and its union partners, and proudly carries USA membership card No. 1. This is only appropriate, considering Rich has played a pivotal role in getting the USA off the ground and committed considerable time and energy to furthering the TRCP's conservation mission.

"This is not a marriage of convenience; we got involved with TRCP because we're interested in everything that has to do with conservation," Trumka said in regard to the partnership between the AFL-CIO unions and the TRCP.

Like his father and grandfather before him, Rich headed into the coal mines of Pennsylvania right out of high school. But he later earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Penn State before going on to Villanova University, where he obtained a law degree in 1974. That same year he became a staff attorney for the United Mine Workers of America. In 1981 he was elected to the UMWA board, and a year later, he became its youngest president. A visionary leader, he was awarded the Letelier-Moffitt Human Rights Award for his actions on behalf of South Africa's mine workers during the last years of apartheid.

Elected secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO in 1995, Rich went on to spearhead the establishment of a global coalition of coal miners. He also became co-chair of the China Currency Coalition, an alliance of industry, agriculture, service and worker organizations supporting U.S. manufacturing. He was elected president of the AFL-CIO in 2009.

Rich Trumka is a serious, lifelong hunter, not one of those "dress up and shoot a duck for the camera" types. His idea of relaxing is disappearing into his reloading room and spending hours working up loads for his favorite rifles, taking time to hand measure each charge of powder and seating bullets to exacting specifications. The guy is a crack rifle shot and no slouch with a bird gun, either. He once made a Scotch double – taking down two birds with a single bullet – while hunting grouse with TRCP co-founder and late chairman Jim Range. Jim, a man known for his skill with a shotgun, was impressed.

Rich has taken a number of deer and elk trophies. But just like millions of other hunters, he hopes to fulfill his lifelong dream of taking a big whitetail buck, "with a drop-tine or two," he told me with a gleam in his eye as we ate breakfast at the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade Show, or "SHOT Show," a couple of years ago.

In late 2007, Rich testified at a Senate leadership council meeting for Open Fields/the Farm Bill – legislation enabling sportsmen to partner with the farming and ranching community to encourage conservation of fish and wildlife habitat. The council members took notice. Representing 11.5 million American workers, nearly 70 percent of whom hunt or fish, Rich demonstrated to legislators that a new alliance between labor and conservation interests had been established. Its goal: to work for the good of fish and wildlife, conservation and every American who cares about a healthy future for his or her children and grandchildren.

If any Rough Riders know of one of those whitetails with funny-looking drop-tine antlers running around and want to eliminate it from the gene pool, give me a call. I know a guy who'd be happy to cull it from the herd. And the man is a straight shooter.

—Ken Barrett
TRCP senior staff writer

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