

Wildlife Conservation Service Record of Lowell E. Baier

Lowell Baier's formal association with the organized wildlife conservation arena began in the late 1960's when he helped organize the National Capital Area Chapter of Safari Club International. He served as the Chapter's Vice President from 1972-1974, and received the Chapter's distinction in 1974 as being voted its Outstanding Sportsman of the Year.

Lowell Baier is one of the original 20 founders of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS), the only single-species organization in the world that focuses on the health and propagation of indigenous wild sheep, and which has generated and funded in excess of \$50 million since its inception for major habitat restoration and/or acquisition, scientific research and population surveys, disease-prevention projects, public-education and poaching-prevention measures, as well as transplants to re-establish extant herds of wild sheep into historically suitable habitats. FNAWS is the most significant single-species organization created after the Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, and Trout Unlimited. His FNAWS service record follows.

- Became 14th of 20 Charter Founders in 1974 and remained fully engaged for 12 years, 1974 to 1985, in all aspects of FNAWS operations and projects, growing the Foundation to a membership of 5,000+.
- Served as member of Board of Directors, 1974 to 1985, legal counsel 1974 to 1975, vice president 1981 to 1983, Chair of Headquarters Selection and Relocation Committee 1979 to 1981, and National Convention Chairman 1978 to 1981.
- Earned Outstanding Achievement Award in 1979.

Lowell Baier's history with the Boone and Crockett Club began in 1975 when he was invited to attend its annual meeting in New York City in 1975 by Dick Reeve and Frank Cook. He continued to attend each annual meeting thereafter as a guest until he was formally elected a Regular Member of the Boone and Crockett Club in 1980. Baier's record of service to the Boone and Crockett Club actually started in 1977 before he became an official member of the Club.

- Secured preservation and transfer (1977-1978) of the National Collection of Heads and Horns established by Wm. T. Hornaday in 1906 from the American Museum of Natural History and the New York Zoological Society, New York, NY, to the Club, and then organized a permanent museum display at the National Rifle Association Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Thereafter it was moved in 1982 to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, WY, where it is viewed by 300,000 visitors annually.
- Oversaw creation of second permanent museum exhibit for the National Collection of Heads and Horns at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in 1986, featuring an authentic log cabin and outdoor camping scene depicting frontier life at the turn of the last century and replicating the Boone and Crockett exhibit at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

- Oversaw creation in 2000 of third permanent museum exhibit at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center on the life and career of Lee Sherman Chadwick (1875-1958), a recognized wildlife conservationist and inventor of more than 200 patented items.
- Served on Boone and Crockett Club's Board of Directors/Executive Committee, 1982 to present:
 - President, 2008
 - Executive Vice President, 2005 to 2007
 - Vice President, 1985 to 1994 and 2002 to 2004
 - First Vice President, 1995
 - Served as member of Strategic Planning Committee, Professorship Committee, Grants-in-Aid Committee, Membership Committee, Museum Committee, Historical Committee, Facilities Committee, and Ranch Committee.
- Served as member from 1982 to 1984 of a select committee that in 1985 chose the location for, purchased, and established the 6,000-acre Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch and Research Station in Dupuyer, MT, as an adjunct property to support the University of Montana postgraduate program, and which now includes the Elmer E. Rasmuson Conservation Education Center created in 2000 to host an extensive wildlife conservation and natural resource summer orientation program for high-school teachers, and a year-round program for K-12 students.
- Played key role in 1984 as one of a select committee that envisioned and established an endowed chair, the Boone and Crockett Chair, as well as the Wildlife Conservation and Natural Resource postgraduate program, at the University of Montana, Missoula, MT, which has since graduated 13 master's and 13 doctoral candidates (as of 2007), is now established at Texas A&M, College Station, TX, and is being established at Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, and Michigan State University, Lansing, MI.
- Functioned from 1985 to 1987 as Chairman of the Centennial Committee that organized, produced, and hosted diverse seminars, programs, products, meetings, a 100 year history of the Club, a historical TR film festival, a centennial bronze of TR, and a variety of celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of the Boone and Crockett Club, including a meeting with President Ronald Regan to recognize the Centennial.
- Oversaw selection from 1990 to 1992 of a new headquarters location for the Boone and Crockett Club from seven select cities, purchasing and initially renovating the celebrated 1910, 15,000-sq-ft. historic Old Milwaukee Railroad Depot building, moving the Club from Alexandria, VA, to Missoula, MT, and assisting in re-staffing the office support team.
- Authored a political and organizational history in 1992 of how the Boone and Crockett Club functioned and secured its major conservation milestones from 1887 to 1990, which became a central structural and architectural component in the strategic-planning initiative to refocus and redirect the 100-year-old institutional organization to embrace its roots back to its historical legacy of wildlife conservation leadership in America.

- Served as member of a select committee that from 1990 to 1994 envisioned and created a strategic plan to reorganize and reposition the 100+-year-old Club, including new bylaws, major organizational restructuring, a revised membership criteria, and a new professional support staff; plan returned Club to a leadership role in the national wildlife conservation arena within 10 years. The staff now consists of 19 professionals and an annual operating budget approaching \$3 million.
- Served as chairman and spokesperson in 1988 to 1989 to draft a conservation and natural resource agenda for President George H. W. Bush's administration, an initiative that became the foundation for a subsequent agenda drafted for President George W. Bush; Club's recommendations included the 2004 Healthy Forest Restoration Act.
- Vice Chairman, Board of Directors that established the National Conservation Leadership Institute in 2005-2006, an advanced leadership-training school for mid-career state and federal fish and wildlife agency wildlife-management professionals across the United States in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, and the Kennedy School of Government to bridge the 50 to 90 percent attrition rate of current senior-level management professionals by 2005-10. Classes began in 2006 at the National Conservation Training Center, Sheperdstown, West Virginia.
- Serve as Boone and Crockett Club's member on the United States Forest Service (USDA) Steering Committee, organizing and producing the 100-year centennial celebration and seminar series commemorating creation of the U.S. Forest Service, Jan. 3-5, 2005.
- Boone and Crockett Club's delegate at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation, St. Louis, MO, August 29-31, 2005, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order No. 13355.
- Principal spokesperson for 50+ national conservation organizations and many prominent individuals that facilitated acquisition of Theodore Roosevelt's 23,550 acre Elkhorn Ranch, Medora, ND into Federal government ownership, 2005-2007, which virtually expanded the Theodore Roosevelt National Park by 33.5%. Authored a major historical research article on the national significance of the Elkhorn Ranch where the very notion or idea of conservation of our national resources and protection of our scenic vistas was inspired and conceived by Theodore Roosevelt in 1884-87, and is popularly called the "Cradle of Conservation" and the "Walden Pond of the American West".

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