



# 66 MILLION HUNTERS IN AMERICA

## HUNTING IS CONSERVATION

Since its founding in 2017, the American Conservation Coalition (ACC) has worked to bridge the divide between those championing smart conservation practices and the policies put forward by elected officials. We quickly found that the sportsmen community needed more support from environmental groups.

## TEDDY ROOSEVELT'S LEGACY

Like many sportsmen, Teddy Roosevelt's appreciation for the environment was shaped by hunting. He went on to write *Hunting Trips of a Ranchman*, which illustrated his adventures and insights into conservation. His legacy includes the founding of the **U.S. Forest Service** and the expansion of the **National Parks Service**.

## CONSERVATIONISTS IN THE UNITED STATES

- 50 million recreational fishermen and 16 million hunters in the U.S.
- **81% of hunters and anglers identify as conservationists**, a statistic that holds true across party lines:
  - 83% of Republicans
  - 81% of Democrats
  - 80% of Independents
- Hunting also comes with a positive economic impact!
  - Recreational fishing contributes approximately **\$150 billion** annually to the economy, employing **945,500 Americans**.
  - Hunter spending generates over \$185 million per day, including expenditures on firearms, travel, and more.

## FUNDING CONSERVATION WORK

Hunting and fishing licenses have played a critical role in funding environmental conservation since 1937, following the passage of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act. These funds support fisheries, habitat, and population protection efforts. **\$1.8 billion in angler dollars go toward conservation annually.**

**Challenges:** Despite their contributions, hunters and anglers face obstacles like Sunday hunting **restrictions in 11 states**, which have halted over 27,000 new jobs, \$730 million in wages, and approximately \$2.2 billion in additional economic activity.

### FUN FACT

Knowing where your food comes from has more benefits than we think! Wild game meats are higher in protein and nutrients, like Iron and Zinc, than commercially raised meat. Living off the land is crucial to sustain local populations and support one another.

It is vital to continue finding ways to support wildlife habitat and conservation efforts, which hunters have historically funded, and to teach young people about the importance of hunting! Join ACC today and support the next generation of conservationists.

