

Access to the Great Outdoors

IBEW Joins Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership to Protect Places to Hunt and Fish

New housing developments and shopping centers multiply on ground that was once bountiful in corn and deer. Runoff from highways and industrial toxins threaten pristine wetlands. For hunters and those who love to fish, it's getting harder to find tranquil, open areas. The good places left are often in private hands, off limits to working people.

Like other traditions that enrich our lives, hunting and fishing can no longer be taken for granted. That is why IBEW President Edwin D. Hill has endorsed and joined the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP). He encourages individual members to join this dues-free organization. The Building and Construction Trades Department (BCTD) and its President, Edward Sullivan, along with other unions, are also actively building support for TRCP.

TRCP members are conservationists who support the Second Amendment and a citizen's rights to own and use guns. But they know that even achieving conservation and gun ownership objectives won't matter if outdoor enthusiasts don't have access to places to go hunting and fishing.

Larry Csonka, National Football League hall of fame member, host of the Outdoor Life Network's *North to Alaska* and *Csonka Outdoors*, is volunteer spokesman for the TRCP. He addressed the BCTD Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. on March 29th. Csonka encouraged members to join TRCP because together

we can speak with a strong, powerful and influential voice, assuring a bright future for hunting and fishing for future generations.

IBEW support for TRCP follows the path of prior commitments, like the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, one of the members of TRCP's policy council. The foundation has sponsored hunting and fishing outings where IBEW members have joined members of Congress to combine love of the outdoors with lobbying to preserve our hunting and fishing traditions (See "What A Sport," *IBEW Journal*, January/February, 2002 p. 10).

TRCP's policy work encompasses

issues like energy development, transportation infrastructure, fish and wildlife management funding, sportsmen's access and more. The goal is to mobilize members to speak out, send letters and e-mails to elevate conservation on the American political agenda. The TRCP's conservation work is enhanced by the expertise of diverse organizations on the group's policy council such as Ducks Unlimited and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. TRCP has already influenced decisions of the Administration, halting potential threats to isolated wetlands and migratory bird habitats.

TRCP provides its partners with vital information on important issues and provides them with easy ways to join in taking action to make their voices heard. Add chances to win great hunting and fishing trips and

equipment, and it's little wonder that in just a few years over 93,000 individuals and 1,300 affiliated groups have joined the TRCP, collectively exceeding 8 million individuals.

TRCP is dues free, and you can join by either logging on to www.trcp.org, calling toll free 1-877-770-8722, or filling out and sending in the clip-out form below. When you do your name will automatically be entered into TRCP's Ultimate Outdoors Package Give-a-way. The winner will receive a Ruger rifle, a Bushnell Optics package, Drake hunting apparel, and a B.A.S.S. gift certificate, with a total value of \$2,500. Individual partners become part of a hunting and angling organization that's growing fast and working hard to "Guarantee Us All Places to Hunt and Fish...Now and Forever."



Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

GUARANTEEING YOU A PLACE TO HUNT AND FISH

"It is entirely in our power as a nation to preserve large tracts of wilderness as playgrounds for rich and poor alike, and to preserve the game. But this end can only be achieved by wise laws and by a resolute enforcement of the laws. Lack of such legislation and administration will result in harm to all of us, but most of all harm to the nature lover who does not possess vast wealth."

—President Theodore Roosevelt, writing about America's first national park, Yellowstone.

Join the TRCP, It's Free, for your chance to WIN the Ultimate Outdoors Package.

NOTE: This is not sponsored by the IBEW. Please do not send inquiries to the IBEW.

Please clip off this portion and mail it back to:

TRCP, PO Box 16868, Missoula, MT 59801

Drawing to be held December 1, 2004—

Entries must be received by November 15, 2004

Log on to: **www.trcp.org** for more information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Email addresses and contact information will not be sold or shared. Communication via e-mail helps keep TRCP free.

I am a member of IBEW Local #: _____