

The Architecture of North American Wildlife Policy

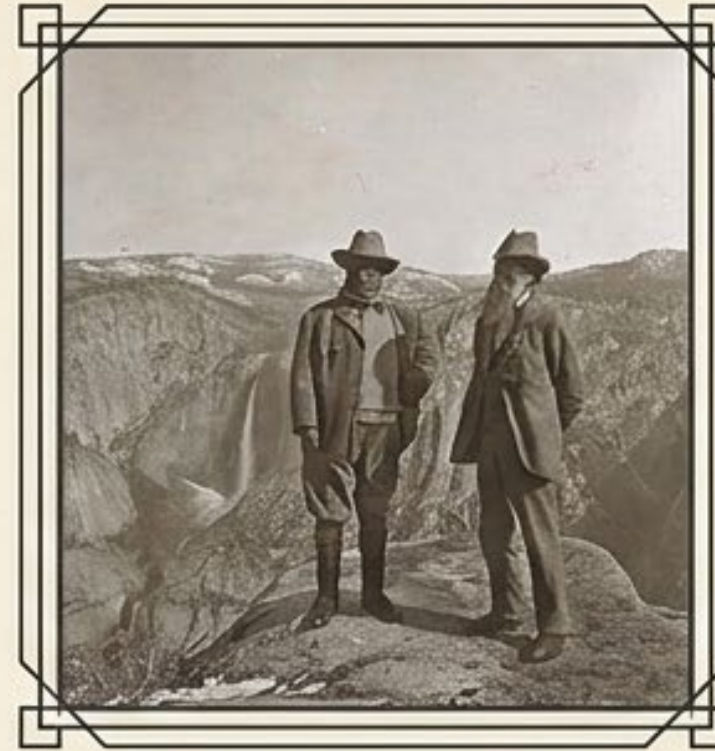
From Historical Foundations
to Executive Action



The 19th Century Precipice

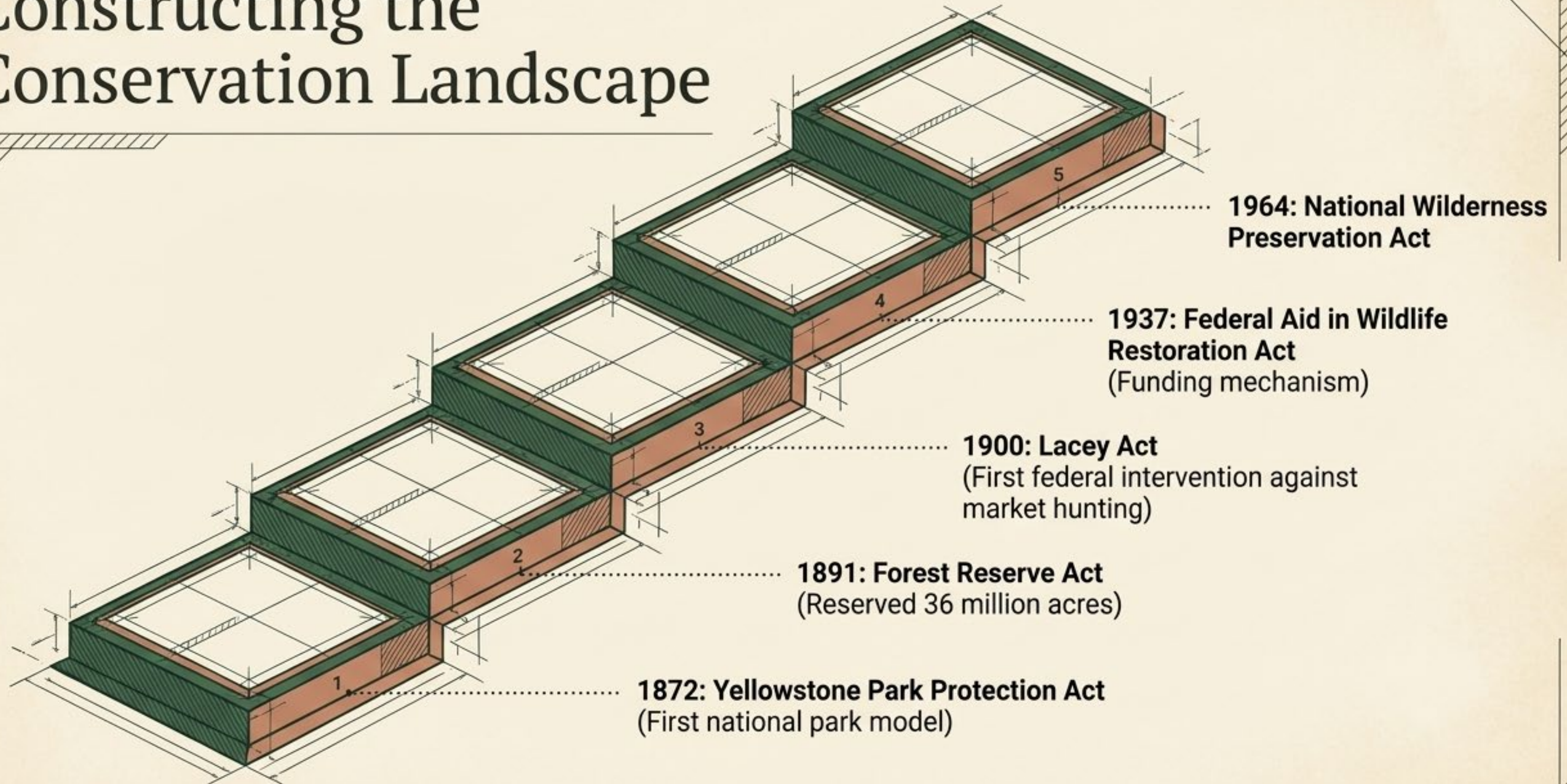
- Extinction of the passenger pigeon and great auk.
- Decimation of bison and elk populations.
- Devastating impact of unregulated market hunting.
- Widespread habitat destruction.

A Deliberate Intervention

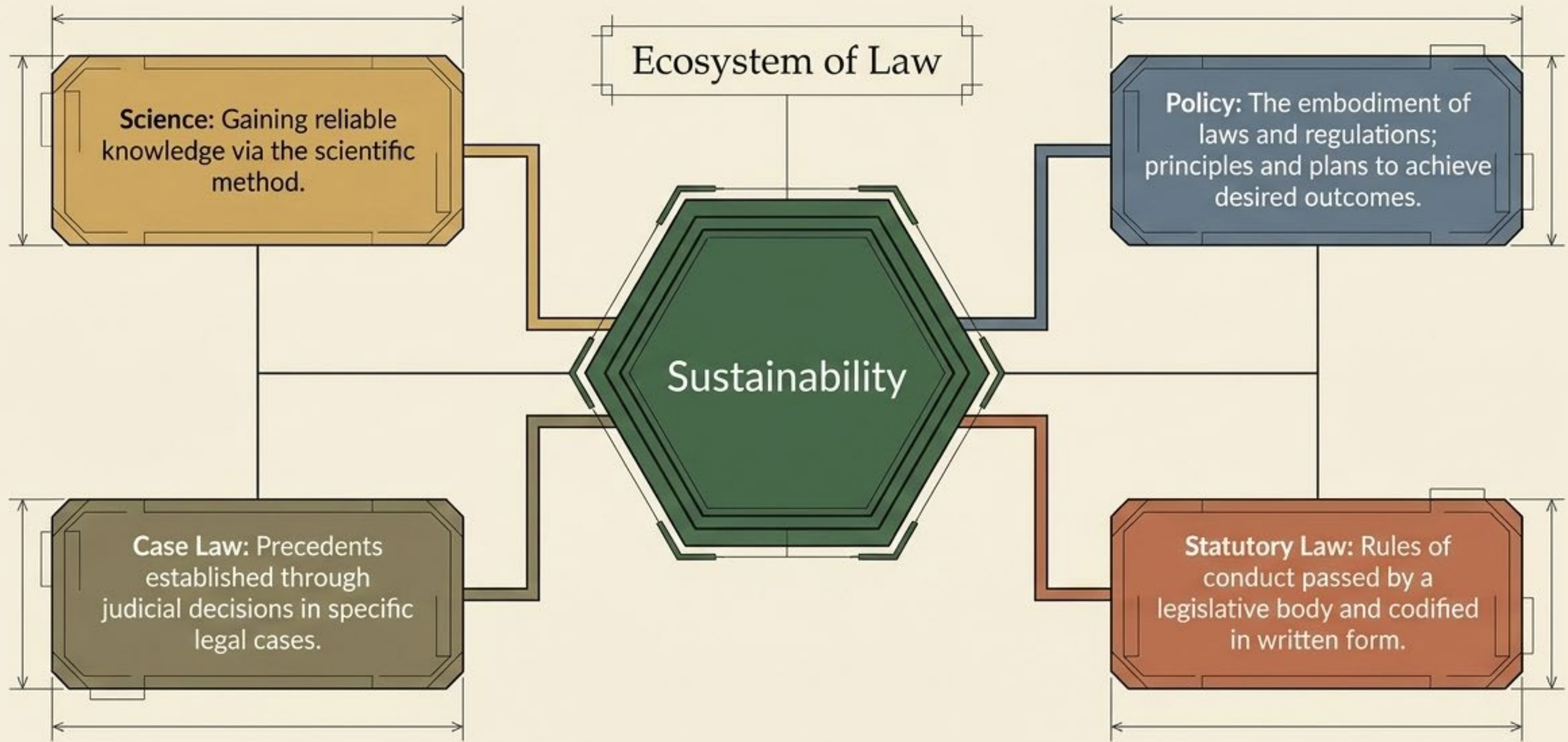


The 1887 founding of the Boone and Crockett Club by Theodore Roosevelt and George Bird Grinnell assembled "100 people of influence" to reverse the tide through science-based policy.

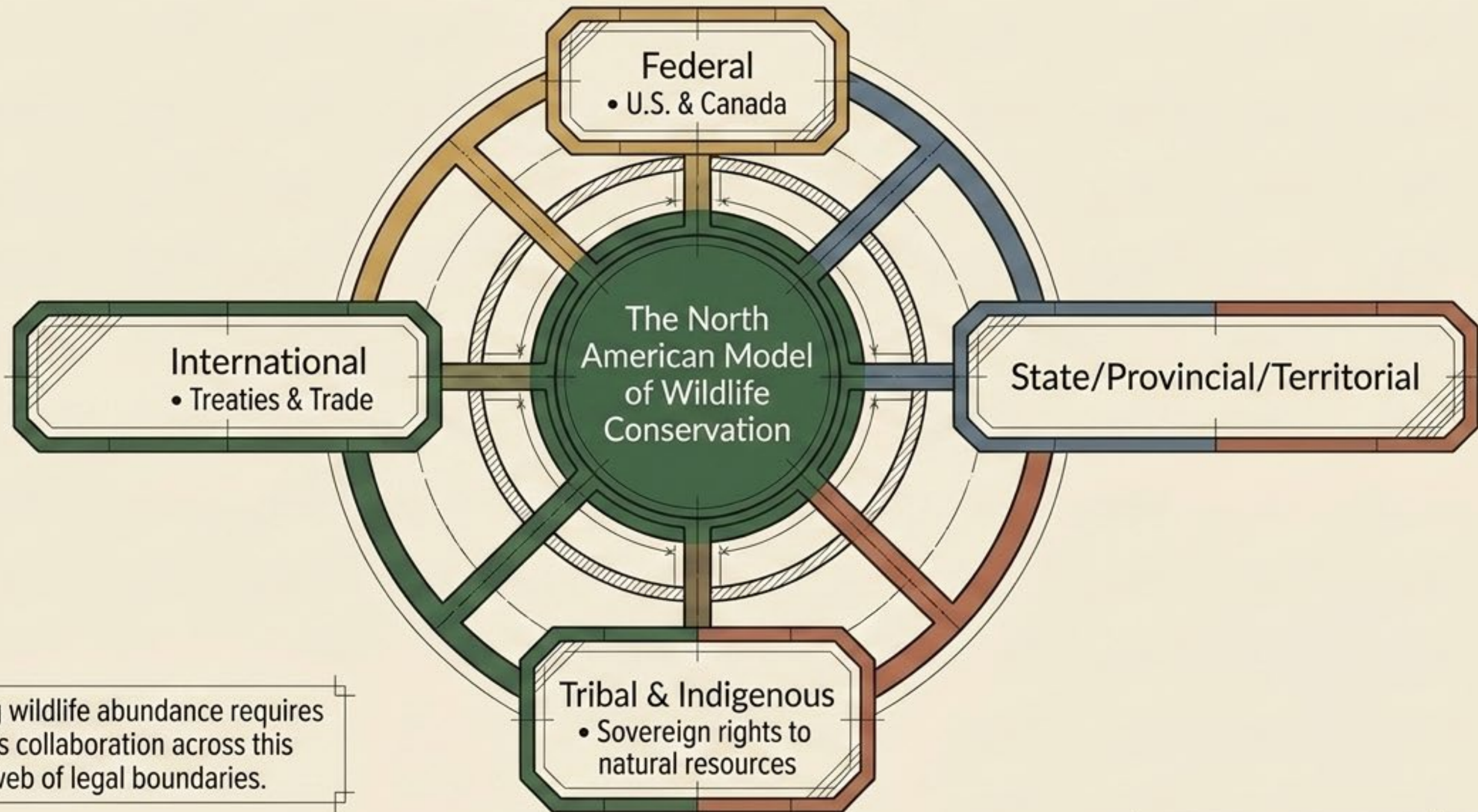
Constructing the Conservation Landscape



The Lexicon of Wildlife Governance



A Continent of Intersecting Jurisdictions



The Mechanics of Executive Action

While legislation builds the foundation of wildlife law, Executive Orders (EOs) direct its enforcement.



Constitutional Basis

While there is no explicit constitutional provision for EOs, authority is derived from Article II:

- “ - Section 1: “The executive power shall be vested in a President” ”
- Section 3: “he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed” ”

Half a Century of Executive Impact

Administration & Order	Conservation Impact
Nixon (EO 11643, 1972)	Restricted chemical toxicants for predator control on federal lands (later revoked by Reagan).
Clinton (EO 13112, 1999)	Targeted invasive species; established the National Invasive Species Council.
Bush (EO 13352, 2004)	Mandated large-scale cooperative conservation across federal agencies.
Obama (EO 13648, 2013)	Combated wildlife trafficking; drastically altered USFWS policy on ivory importation.

Case Study: Facilitation of Hunting Heritage

President George W. Bush's 2007 Executive Order 13443.

The Goal

Created a 58-recommendation plan to shape conservation and wildlife-dependent recreation for the 21st century.



The Challenge

Addressed modern threats to hunting, including urbanization and habitat loss.

The Boundary

Explicitly mandated that federal agencies respect state management authority and private property rights.

Translating Order to Action

EO 13443 ratifies the creation of the Sporting Conservation Council.

The Council develops a comprehensive 10-year implementation plan.

Institutional Permanence:
The council is rechartered across the Bush, Obama, and Trump administrations (evolving into the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council).

Core Duties

- Advising secretaries on habitat restoration
- Expanding hunting access on federal lands
- Recruiting new sportspeople
- Increasing public awareness

The Architecture of Abundance

The abundance of North American wildlife is not a matter of luck—it is the engineered result of constant, vigilant policy management.

From the sweeping legislation championed by the Boone and Crockett Club in the 19th century to the sharp, targeted tool of the modern Executive Order, science-based policy remains the vital backbone of conservation.

