

2009 Success Rates

2008-2009 winter lion hunts

We took 6 hunters and killed 5 lions.

The first hunter was a return client who is in his late 80's. He harvested a female on the third day of the hunt.

The second hunter also harvested a female on the second day of his hunt.

The third hunter harvested an old female on the third day of his hunt.

The fourth and fifth hunters shot one large tom and a coyote.

The last hunter harvested an old tom that tried to run a cow elk through the tent on the last day of his hunt. It was a great story.

Cast and blast success rates

We had two hunters on the first hunt. They harvested a 6' boar and almost got another one.

The second hunt we had two hunters but they cancelled out.

The third hunt we had one hunter and he missed a 6' boar, had a shot at a wolf but the season had not opened yet and he shot a coyote.

Elk/deer combo success rates

The first hunt we had 5 hunters. We shot a wolf, a 6' bear and a 6 point bull. We missed a big wolf and almost shot a 5 point bull. The rut was late getting started and the hunters did not have as many opportunities as they would normally have. The weather was hot. We had 60-80 cows above camp all week long and a bull did not show up with them until the end of the week.

The second hunt we had 5 hunters and one cancelled out. We killed a 4 point bull, a 5 point bull, missed a 5 point bull and had two or three more close calls with bulls. We also shot a 24" buck and caught some great trout in the lake.

The third hunt we had 4 hunters and shot three 5 point bulls and a cow. The 12 year old hunter who shot the cow had an opportunity at two bulls

but his dad wanted him to shoot a cow for his first elk. There is nothing better than father/son hunts. We saw a bachelor group of bucks and had some close calls with wolves but did not have deer or wolf tags.

The fourth hunt we had 3 hunters and shot two 6 point bulls and a raghorn bull. We also missed a pretty nice buck. I howled in a wolf to 35 yards but my hunter had already started down the trail and I did not have a gun on me. **BIG MISTAKE!!!!**

The fifth hunt we had three elk hunters, a deer hunter and a bird hunter.

The bird hunter shot some grouse but no chuckars. The deer hunter passed up a 24" buck on the last day of his hunt. The other three elk and deer hunters missed a 28" buck, killed a 24" heavy buck, passed up a small 6 point bull and shot a 5 point bull. My guide shot at a wolf with his pistol but did not get it.

The sixth hunt we had 2 hunters in the wilderness and 1 hunter who had drawn a goat tag and purchased an elk tag also. He killed a big billy the first day but did not see a big bull. The two hunters in the wilderness shot a 4 point buck, missed a small bull and missed 3 or 4 bucks.

The seventh hunt we had 9 hunters but only 8 had deer tags. We killed 5 bucks, missed 4 or 5 bucks, and passed on several bucks. We missed a 5 point bull, stalked and chased some bulls and had some hunters who did not get an opportunity to shoot a bull. The weather started warming up by the end of the hunt.

The eighth hunt we had 8 hunters but one cancelled out. We killed 3 bucks, missed 2 or 3 bucks passed on some small bucks and did not harvest any bulls. The weather was very warm. We saw 200-300 cows but the bulls stayed back in the timber.

The last hunt we had 9 hunters but one cancelled out. We harvested 6 bucks, one small bull and missed 1 or 2 bucks. We stalked a large bull and had it at 150 yards broadside but did not get a shot off. You have to love bull fever!

Again, I know I have missed some opportunities because I either forget or do not hear about all the missed shots and close calls from my guides. The overall season was down somewhat on opportunities but the great news was that we finally had a wolf season after 15 years. We

encouraged all of our hunters to purchase a wolf tag and did not charge extra for this opportunity. The season tally was 14 elk, 19 bucks, 2 bears, 1 goat, 1 wolf and my wife and guide each shot their once in a lifetime Rocky Mountain Bighorn rams.