

As I write this we are in the middle of our Moose rifle rut hunts and the hunting has been fantastic! Six moose kills for the last six hunters. Our bowhunting season Aug 25 to Sept 14 was also a great success, although with bowhunting it is much tougher to get that 100% kill success. We are almost always at 100% opportunity though. We were very close to that this past bow season even though we had rainy, windy and cool weather almost the whole time. The mule deer wouldn't bed in the muddy fields for spot and stalk hunting, the moose wouldn't come into the natural salt licks and the gusty winds messed with the elk bugling. Very challenging conditions. Fortunately we had some good hunters along with talented bowhunting guides who worked hard to get it done no matter what.

MULE DEER BOWHUNTS

On the Mule Deer bowhunts our 8 hunters had 12 shots and we ended up killing just 4 bucks. Only one hunter didn't get a solid, close enough bow shot. We saw some big bucks but the shots that connected were not on the huge ones. Doug Boer and Ryan Hyland drove up from South Dakota and Ryan took his first bow killed mule deer with one long shot, a wide, heavy base 140 gross score deer. Bob Prince killed a really cool looking non typical, scoring 145. Mike Wood and his guide Kyle Mudge focused on and shot a big framed buck that scored 170, a great deer and a very happy hunter. Jim Anthony brought a group of 4 guys including his son Jim Jr, Matt Webb and Rick Kuckelman. Matt was the lucky hunter that week taking a long tined deer that grossed 167. Everyone said they would love to come back for another mule deer bowhunt. It's a great hunt.



Mike Wood with a big 170 inch deer.



Matt Webb with a great archery buck.

EARLY SEASON MOOSE BOW HUNTS

We must have used up all of our luck on opening week because even though we still seeing good bucks and had decent crop conditions we really struggled to kill more muleys for the four guys in camp the 2nd week. The hunters were Vince Leonard, Clint Welding, and repeat hunters Jeremy Lenge and Nick Slocum. We got one flesh wound, a miss and Nick was the only one who killed, a long tined 177 inch deer on a longer than we like to take shot. So we ended the mule deer bowhunts with 4 kills for 8 guys and the early season moose hunts with 2 kills for 2 hunters.

ELK AND MOOSE COMBO BOW HUNTS

Our Elk and Moose combo bowhunts are done Sept 7-14 for a 7 day hunt for just 4 hunters. Troy White and son Lukas drove out from Ontario for their 3rd combo bowhunt in 3 years and guide Josh Harb and Lukas started out the season with an incredible one day hunt, taking both animals within 10 minutes of each other! They got into bugling elk right away and Lukas nailed a big 5 point bull and then while blood trailing the elk they ran into a wide, big panned bull moose, one more arrow and Lukas was done hunting. The next day Troy killed a cool looking 5 point bull also called into bow range. An amazing hunt for them. They were so satisfied, had so much meat and the long drive ahead that they left a couple of days early. Troy also rebooked for 2017, 2018, 2019... The 2 other hunters Robb Gottenburg, 3rd time hunter, and Michael Evenson 1st time with us, had tougher hunts not taking any animals but they both had close encounters with moose and elk. That's bowhunting!



Five time repeat hunter Ron Johnson with his early season bull.



Lukas White with his elk, taken same hour as his moose!



Lukas White with his awesome moose.



Third time hunter Troy White with his 2nd bull in 2 years

One of the highlights of the season for me was guiding my lovely wife, Jen for Elk and Moose bowhunting, something she hasn't been able to do much while raising our kids, Brooke and Tyler now 9 and 7 years old. We left the best hunt spots for our hunters but she was still able to get a couple shots, tough ones, at bugling bull elk and then she killed a great moose! I called it right into 25 yards. She was thrilled!! I found a dumber than average moose and got him with my bow too. Plus, I took a big Mountain Goat billy in our BC area in early August, my 3rd bow killed one over 4 hunts, 9 1/2 incher, official net score of 48 1/2. Thanks to guide Kyle Mudge for that one.



Jen Ukrainetz and her 25 yard shot moose.



Mike Ukrainetz and guide Kyle Mudge with Mike's 2016 Goat

We can't wait for next year! All of our mule deer hunts are full for 2016 and we only have one early season moose bowhunt open. We are also getting quite a few bookings for 2017 on all of our hunts. Contact us right away if you are interested in a great bow or rifle hunt with top notch guides, an awesome cook, all based out of a nice lodge.

Mike & Jen Ukrainetz
www.mikesoutfitting.com
info@mikesoutfitting.com
1-780-864-3770

