



# BIG GAME HUNTS

## About This Bulletin

This bulletin is a summary of many questions we take from year to year, and it should give you a good overview of the type of experience you'll get with A Lazy H in our back country wilderness hunts. The Montana hunting season is the earliest and the longest in the lower 48 states. We start hunting in mid-September in the early camps, and move to the general season camps in late October. We wrap up with late November hunts along the Rocky Mountain front west of our place. As such, the seasons, type of hunting, weather, and many other factors evolve as we move through the Montana fall. We're sure you'll have more specific questions and we welcome hearing from you. Until then, enjoy!

## About Us

Our outfit has been continuously taking big game hunts into the mountains of Montana since the early 1930s. We've been taking hunters a long time. Our outfit was one of the first to begin taking hunts into the area now called the Bob Marshall Wilderness. A Lazy H has always been a family owned and operated outfit. We strive to provide a top-notch hunt to every guest. We do whatever it takes to ensure this high level of quality. In the past 60 years there have been many changes in the country, in our outfit, and in our guests. However, the one constant through it all has been our unwavering commitment to quality and dedication to service. Feel free to contact us and ask any questions you may have.

## The Camps

We hunt both the early and general seasons for rifle. Our early season camps are at Strawberry Creek and Big River Meadows. These camps are in elk and deer District 151 in the Flathead National Forest. Both camps are in the heart of the Bob Marshall Wilderness, which is home to one of Montana's largest big game herds. Our late season camp is on the South Fork of the Two Medicine River in elk and deer District 415 in the Lewis & Clark National Forest near Glacier National Park. All backcountry camps are accessed by horseback and pack mule train. Our camps are clean, efficient, and well equipped to support a true wilderness hunt. We also provide late season mule deer hunts on national forest land west of Choteau in late November. The deer hunts are not based in camps so they have a little different cadence to them.

### Strawberry Creek Camp

This is a beautiful camp located at the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Flathead River on Strawberry Creek. We use this camp for our early season guided and unguided hunts in September and October. It is approximately a 6½-hour ride from the nearest trailhead. This camp has ready access to timbered bottomland as well as the open country of the Continental Divide.

### Big River Meadows Camp

This camp is on another tributary of the Middle Fork of the Flathead River on Gateway Creek. Big River Meadows is an impressive open park nearby. We use this camp as our primary early season guided hunting camp in September and October. It is approximately a 7½-hour ride from the nearest trailhead. Strategically located between bottomland timber and open slopes of the Continental Divide, this camp has quick access to prime elk and mule deer country.

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### **Two Medicine River Camp**

This camp is located on the South Fork of the Two Medicine River. It is approximately a two-hour ride from the nearest trailhead. Our close proximity to Glacier National Park allows us to hunt the residential elk herds as well as some elk migrating out of the park to their wintering grounds. The valley is covered intermittently by open hillsides and dense timber in the bottomland. We use this camp for our general season guided hunts in late October and early November. By November, we can usually count on snow at this camp.

### **The Game We Hunt:**

#### **Elk ▪ Mule Deer ▪ Black Bear ▪ Moose ▪ Big Horn Sheep**

In our early season camps, the principle game we pursue are elk (wapiti) and mule deer. Black bear are also common in the early camps. We encourage our hunters to have the elk-deer combination licenses. There are mainly mule deer in the mountains. During the last week of November, we hunt mule deer out of the ranch along the Rocky Mountain front. Additionally, in late November we also hunt big horn sheep along the Rocky Mountain front (if you are fortunate to draw a special big horn sheep permit).



### **Number of Hunters in Camp**

We typically limit the size of the camp to six hunters per trip. Camps of this size are consistent with the quality of hunt we provide. We are fortunate that our hunting areas are strategically located such that we can disperse hunters widely into quality areas. We will gladly accommodate hunting parties smaller than six. There is no extra charge for small groups. We will also take single hunters in the guided camps. If multiple, independent groups want the same hunt, we may choose at our discretion to combine them in the same camp. Unguided and guided hunts are not mixed, but we may choose to fill hunts up to a maximum of six hunters in a guided camp.

### **The Trailheads for your hunt**

The Bob Marshall is huge. There's no getting around it. In order to get to camps we stage out of a mix of public and private trailheads along the eastern Bob Marshall. Our main facilities are in Choteau, but we also have a trailhead near Swift Dam, west of Dupuyer and another one west of East Glacier. These are where the stock, gear, and supplies are staged, and where your hunt will begin and end.

### **Equipment**

We are confident you will find the equipment well maintained and in excellent condition. The guided camps are fully furnished. Literally, the only equipment our guided hunters need to bring is their sleeping bag, personal clothing and rifle. We have great flexibility for our unguided hunts. More information is provided on the rate sheet, or you may call for details and options on unguided hunts.

### **Camp and Food**

Our commitment to quality and service applies to everything we do. We do not cut corners with equipment, livestock or supplies. We think you would be hard pressed to find a cleaner, more comfortable, more professional camp in the mountains. There is a limit to comfort in the backcountry, but we make every effort to furnish the essentials for a high-quality camp. This includes comfortable cots to keep you off the ground at night, large heated wall tents for sleeping, large tables and benches in a comfortable dining tent, and some of the best food in the mountains. We make it a priority to serve hearty, filling meals. Breakfast and dinner are served in camp. Sack lunches are prepared for the day's hunt away from camp. Meals prepared in camp are complete with lots of meat, fresh vegetables and delightful desserts.

### **Crew**

We employ some of the finest packers, guides and cooks so that we can provide you the caliber of hunt you expect from us. We are very fortunate in that we have superior people returning annually to work our camps. We supply one guide for every two hunters. For an additional charge, we will also provide a one-on-one guided hunt.

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## Licenses and Permits

Important Dates:

ASAP – Deposit confirms hunt

March 10 – License applications should be in our hands if we're delivering them to the state

March 15 – License application deadline – online or paper applications must be completed

May 20 – Licenses are mailed out to successful applicants

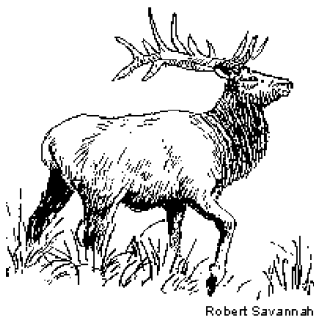
August 31 – Black bear license deadline

We will send license applications to you when they become available in mid-January. Elk, deer and elk/deer combination licenses are guaranteed to all hunters confirmed for a hunt with a licensed outfitter. As such, there are no drawings for these licenses. License fees and hunter certification forms (provided by us) must accompany the application. In order to ensure that you get your license, please return your signed big game license application and confirmation deposit (if applicable) to A Lazy H as soon as possible. We review each form for completion. We must have your elk and deer license applications no later than March 10. We will then attach the outfitter certification form to your application and personally deliver to the Montana Fish and Game (F&G) Department by March 15<sup>th</sup> – the license deadline. You can also download a license application directly from the F&G home page at [www.fwp.state.mt.us](http://www.fwp.state.mt.us). We will assist you if you wish to get a black bear license. You must apply for black bear licenses by August 31<sup>st</sup>. Detailed information on licenses can be obtained from the Fish and Game Department at (406) 444-2950 or the above website. Please see the Districts – Licenses – Maps document on our website for more detail.

## Meat Handling

There are two general ways meat is handled:

1. Some hunters bring their own vehicle and wish to take the meat home with them. We can freeze quartered meat and have it ready for you at the end of the hunt. In this case it is most appropriate to bring coolers and canvas with you to properly cover the meat for the trip home.
2. For local processing, we recommend a wild game specialist here. We will deliver the meat to them as soon as it comes out of camp. The processors will cut up the meat to your specifications and can ship it to your home at your expense. If time allows, we recommend you take as much home with you as possible. We can help you box it up and take it as excess baggage on the plane. There will be an excess baggage fee to do this, but it will invariably be less than shipping meat cross country. The current rate for processing an elk with standard cut is \$250, and a deer is \$95.



## Trophies

Should you wish to have your trophy done by a local taxidermist, we have trusted local men we've worked with for years. These folks have done many of our hunters' trophies as well as our own. We are sure you will approve of their workmanship on some of our trophies around the place.

## Guns

While gun choices vary greatly with a hunter's personal preferences, for the first year elk hunter, we suggest the 270, 7mm magnum or 30.06 calibers, which have been the most widely and successfully used rifles on our hunts. Smaller calibers are not recommended for large game like elk and mule deer, due to the distances we shoot and the force needed to bring down big game.

## Included in the Base Daily Rate

Our mission is to provide you an outstanding big game hunting experience. For things we have control, we make sure it's done right. We take care of details for equipment, comfort, and safety. For guided hunts, we want to make sure everything is covered on our end, and that all you have to bring is your personal effects. The base daily rate for guided hunts includes the following items; (Please call if you require more detailed information.)

- Parties up to six in guided and up to four in unguided camps
- One guide for every two hunters
- Hunting of mule deer & elk on same trip with combination license
- Hunting of Fall black bear also on same trip with bear permit
- Best meals in the mountains
- All equipment in camp at your service
- Everything furnished except personal items, licenses, and rifle
- A saddle horse for each hunter for the duration of the trip
- Camp chores attended to by the crew
- Skinning and salting of trophies

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- Delivery of meat to the processor or locker, and trophies to a local taxidermist
  - All trips are inclusive of riding one day in and one day out of the mountains, which is a non-hunting day

## Reservations and Deposits

We require a 33% deposit to confirm your hunt. A hunt is not confirmed until the deposit is received. We may be able to hold your reservation for up to a week without a deposit, but we encourage deposits promptly once you're decisions is make. These deposits are not refundable with the following exceptions:

- Your deposit will be refunded if you do not receive a big game license in the event of a drawing, or it can be credited to a hunt for the following year.
- Should you be unable to come due to serious medical illness, we will be happy to credit your deposit to a hunt of equal duration and party size for the following year.

## Tentative Schedule of Guided Hunts

These dates are subject to final confirmation of the big game season by the Montana Fish & Game Department.

Hunt 1	In: September 14	Out: September 21	Elk/Mule deer
Hunt 2	In: September 23	Out: September 30	Elk/Mule deer
Hunt 3	In: October 3	Out: October 10	Elk/Mule deer
Hunt 4	In: October 12	Out: October 19	Elk/Mule deer
Hunt 5	In: October 23	Out: October 29	Elk/Mule deer
Hunt 6	In: October 30	Out: November 5	Elk/Mule deer
Late Hunts	November 11	November 24	Mule deer

## Transportation to the Ranch

If you choose to drive to the Ranch, we will provide a map to you before you arrive. Commercial airlines (United, Delta, and Alaska) provide service to Great Falls (GTF). Should you fly your own plane, you may choose the Great Falls or Choteau airports. Occasionally, you may have other business or extensions of your hunting trip while in Montana, and may need to arrive or depart from other nearby airports. Other airports within a half-day's drive from Choteau are Billings (BIL), Missoula (MSO) and Helena (HLN). In all cases you must arrive the day before the trip goes into the mountains as we pack up your gear that afternoon to ensure an early start the first day of your trip.

## References

Over the years, we have seen many of our guests return more than once to A Lazy H. We have compiled a list of previous guests who would be more than happy to discuss their experiences hunting with us. If a reference list has not been supplied with this bulletin, please do not hesitate to call and request references.

A large part of any big game hunt is in the anticipation and preparation for the hunt. The thrill and experience of the hunt are the things most remembered and valued. Successfully killing a prized big game animal is a treasured bonus. We are committed to providing a complete quality, fair chase wilderness hunt. If you have any further questions, please give us a call at (800) 893-1155 or drop us an email at [info@alazyh.com](mailto:info@alazyh.com). We are delighted to answer your questions and help as you plan your next big game hunt with us.

