



# BIG GAME HUNTS

## About This Bulletin

From one hunting season to the next, we receive hundreds of inquiries about our hunting operation. To answer in detail and individually the many questions asked in these letters would be overwhelming. We have collected these letters and attempted to summarize in this bulletin the general questions we get about our outfit, our hunting areas and how we hunt. This is an honest effort on our part to give you an accurate picture of what our Bob Marshall Wilderness hunts are all about.

## About Us

Our outfit has been continuously taking big game hunts into the mountains of Montana since the early 1930s. We are descendants of a long and honorable line of outfitters, guides, and sportsmen. Our outfit was one of the first to begin taking hunts into the area now called the Bob Marshall Wilderness. We have been providing the highest quality hunts ever since. 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. This area is a narrow strip of country between the Bob Marshall Great Bear Wildernesses and 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 out of our Ranch west of Choteau. These are in the last week of November. For the November deer hunts, we lodge hunters at our ranch house.

### 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 4½-hour ride from the nearest trailhead. This camp has ready access to the 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 5½-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.

---

### **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 late (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 few whitetail deer in the mountains. Should you have an interest in a special hunt, there are special permits for moose, which each can be hunted from the camps. 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 and up to four hunters in an unguided camp.

### **The Ranch**

The A Lazy H Ranch is located at the foot of the east slope of the Rocky Mountain front. We are 25 miles west of Choteau, Montana and 85 miles west of Great Falls. The South Fork of the Teton River runs through the west boundaries of the ranch.

### **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.

---

## Licenses and Permits

Important Dates:

ASAP – Deposit confirms hunt

March 10 – Elk & Deer license applications and Hunter/Outfitter certification forms due to A Lazy H

March 15 – State license application deadline

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 obtained by general drawing. The success rate varies by type of license and from year to year. Landowner sponsored and outfitter sponsored licenses are not available in Montana. After we have received your deposit, we will help you with the application process. We like to review it for completion and then forward on to the State prior to the deadline. We would need this done by March 10. However, if you are so inclined you can download the license application from the State website directly at [www.fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/applications](http://www.fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/applications). In all cases the license applications must be to the Fish & Game (F&G) Department by March 15<sup>th</sup> – the license deadline. Special permits (big horn sheep, moose, mountain goat, etc) have later dates [and application forms](#). 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. The Fall License and District sheet has current license prices.

## 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. In this case we deliver the meat to your vehicle at the ranch. In this case it is most appropriate to bring coolers and canvas with you to properly cover the meat for the trip home.
2. If you wish, we will deliver the meat to a processing plant in Great Falls. Delivery to the processing plant is free of charge. The processors will cut up the meat to your specifications and ship it to your home at your expense. If time allows, you may be able to take it home with you as excess baggage on the airplane. Please keep in mind that meat processing will cost around \$175 per elk and around \$60 for a mule deer. Also most airlines will carry meat but they often charge for bags above 50 pounds and will generally not take bags over 99 lbs. They are also restricting passengers to 2 checked bags, thus making it difficult to take a lot of meat back on commercial flights.



## Trophies

Should you wish to have your trophy taken care of in Montana, we can recommend some highly talented taxidermists. These folks have done many of our hunters' trophies as well as our personal trophies. We are confident you will approve of their workmanship when you examine the heads at the Ranch.

## 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, not for the longer shots.

## Included in the Base Daily Rate

Our hunting area and our commitment to quality sets us above our competitors. We are also aware that the Montana big game licenses are among some of the most expensive in the West. Therefore, we make every effort to price our big game hunts so they are competitive with the very best of the top-notch outfitters. Rate sheets accompany this bulletin. 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
- Arrival night's stay at our Ranch
- 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
  - 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

## Reservations and Deposits

We require a 30% deposit to confirm your hunt. A hunt is not confirmed until the deposit is received. We will hold your reservation for approximately two weeks without a deposit. 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 31	Out: November 6	Elk/Mule deer
Hunt 6	In: November 6	Out: November 12	Elk/Mule deer
Ranch Hunts	November 17	November 24	Mule deer

Due to the distances required to get to our camps, the shortest hunt we provide is six days. Our schedule is based on seven and eight day trips. We can provide hunts lasting up to 10 days upon special request. As hunts are filled, the dates of the schedule above may vary slightly, particularly the later camps.

## Transportation to the Ranch in Montana

If you choose to drive to the Ranch, we will provide a map to you before you arrive. Commercial airlines (Northwest, Delta, and Horizon Air) provide service to Great Falls. In most cases this service is by jet airplane. Should you fly your own plane, you may choose the Great Falls or Choteau airports. Please refer to the Rate Sheet for the per-vehicle cost to pick up a party. Guests must arrive the day before the trip goes into the mountains. The arrival night's stay at the Ranch is included in the overall fee. From past experience, we know that it is best if you send your sleeping bag and gear well ahead of time. There are have been instances of luggage and gear not arriving at the airport with the passengers. Please send your gear to the attention of Al Haas at the Ranch – airlines are now charging extra for anything over 2 bags. Your rifle case will count as a bag. We will hold it here for you until you arrive at no charge. You may bring your gun or bow & arrow case with you personally when you arrive, if you so desire.

## 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.

