



HUNT STORY

Moose Hunting 2002 Dave Burtch and Bob Huber of Michigan

Dave and I have been hunting together for about 17 years. We have hunted caribou, elk, mule deer, whitetail deer, but have never hunted moose. Dave talked to a friend at Gander Mountain and he highly recommended Del Bredeson. Dave and I talked to Del, as well as other clients and we were impressed.

We booked our moose hunt for the end of September 2002. We drove to Grande Prairie, Alberta and met Del, our guide. When we arrived at Del's house we loaded up our gear and supplies for a week of camp hunting. Del towed his boat to the river landing and loaded up the boat with all our supplies and then drove downstream to camp. The country was beautiful in all its fall colors. We arrived at camp in an 8-wheel Argo, what a vehicle for getting back into the bush.



The first day of our hunt we cruised through the timber looking for moose and we saw quite a few cows and calves. Finally we came out on top of a hill and spotted some cows and a bull about 200 yards away. Dave was first up and we tried to get a better look at him through the trees, however it was pretty thick and Del told us to be patient and he would move eventually. Dave made a stable rest and waited, then the moose decided to lie down. Dave's blood pressure jumped 30 points for about an hour. The three cows kept feeding in and out of the little valley and the bull finally got up and moved about on step, Dave's 30-06 roared and he took one step and tipped over. The rack measured 38 inches with nice wide palms.

On the way back to camp we spotted another group of moose with a nice bull and Del said they would be here tomorrow if we don't spook them. The next morning we loaded Dave's moose into the Argo and hauled it back to camp. We decide that the bull we saw yesterday was a good one and decide to go after him. Del took us close to where we saw him the previous day while we still hunted the small pine lowland and swamp.

We didn't see him so we moved closer and found a cow feeding. Del said "the bull is close". We continue our hunt towards the bull and cow, but the wind is making the hunt tricky as it constantly changes directions. We travel another 150 yards and find him - on the move. I get into position and find an opening and the 7mm magnum puts him down. He is a real nice bull with a 43-inch spread and a massive body. Now the work begins.

Del is an expert at handling huge animals, and soon all four quarters of the moose and his head are piled into the Argo and we are headed back to camp. We do some scouting and see more moose, elk, deer and beaver. While on our departure boat trip down the Wapiti River, a bull moose walks out onto the gravel bar not more than 35 yds from the boat and no one has a camera! Del calls the moose and we video a small bull that comes in as close as 50 yds until he gets our scent and heads for the bush.

Dave and I have had a great time. We took home two really nice moose as well as seeing lots of other wildlife and experiencing Bredeson's rustic camp. Del is a pretty good cook too! Thanks to Evelyn for cooking for us as well, and Misty the dog for keeping the bears and moose away from the camp.

Dave Burtch and Bob Huber

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