

We had another very successful 3 week bowhunting season hunting mule deer, elk, moose and whitetails. We hosted 13 avid bowhunters who said they all had a great time and would love to return for another hunt. We definitely had some challenges with the early crop harvest affecting the mule deer hunts and then warm gusty winds really messing with the elk, moose and whitetail hunting. We persevered and our overall success rate was very good, especially for **shot opportunities which were very close to 100% for all the species.**

We do the **8 mule deer bowhunts** during the first 2 weeks of the season, Aug 25 to Sept 6, which normally takes advantage of the standing crops for the spot and stalk hunting. Unfortunately, very hot, dry and windy conditions through all of August had the crops suddenly maturing early and then getting cut down much sooner than usual. We still could have been **100% on shot opportunities** on 170 score bucks but some guys were holding out for huge 180 plus score deer which they did see, even a couple that broke 190, but no kills on the giants.



Lance Kovar from Texas



David Bartley from Texas

We did shoot five 170 score deer though with the best being killed by **Mark White from Texas** with a heavy, deep forked 177. The other mule deer bowhunters who shot good deer were **David Bartley, Lance Kovar, Dale Harkins and Mark Fischer, all from Texas.** We also had 2 moose tags and a whitetail tag to fill during the first 2 weeks and we were 100% on opportunity but only one moose was killed by 5 time repeat hunter Mark Fischer. Mark rebooked for 2013 spring bear and another mule deer bowhunt. We now only have one mule deer bowhunt open for 2013.

The 3rd week of the season, September 7 to 14 is when we do the **elk and moose combo hunts.** It is an exciting time to hunt elk during the peak of the rut and we had some incredible hunts with multiple bugling bulls. My experienced elk hunters tell me it is

some of the most vocal, rutting action they have ever heard.

On some days the warm, gusty winds did make it almost impossible to call the bulls into bow range but in the end all 4 hunters shot 6 point bulls, **100% success!** The biggest one to hit the dirt was a heavy, mature **296 score bull by Mark Watkins** from Minnesota. We also saw a few bulls that easily broke the 300 inch mark. If you are a physically fit hunter who has good bow hunting instincts, knowing when to move, when to stay still etc, you have a very legit chance to shoot a 300 plus inch bull elk and kill a bull moose. **The 4 hunters saw 45 moose in total**, 13 of them were bulls and they had several close range opportunities but no moose kills.



Mark Watkins from Minnesota



Mark Fischer from Texas

I was also able to get out a few days after the bow season and I took a good 7 by 6 bull with my bow during the general rifle season. If you also want to get a mule deer, elk, moose or whitetail deer with your bow feel free to send me an email or give me a call about our bowhunts. **We really do live in a Big Game Bowhunters Paradise!**



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