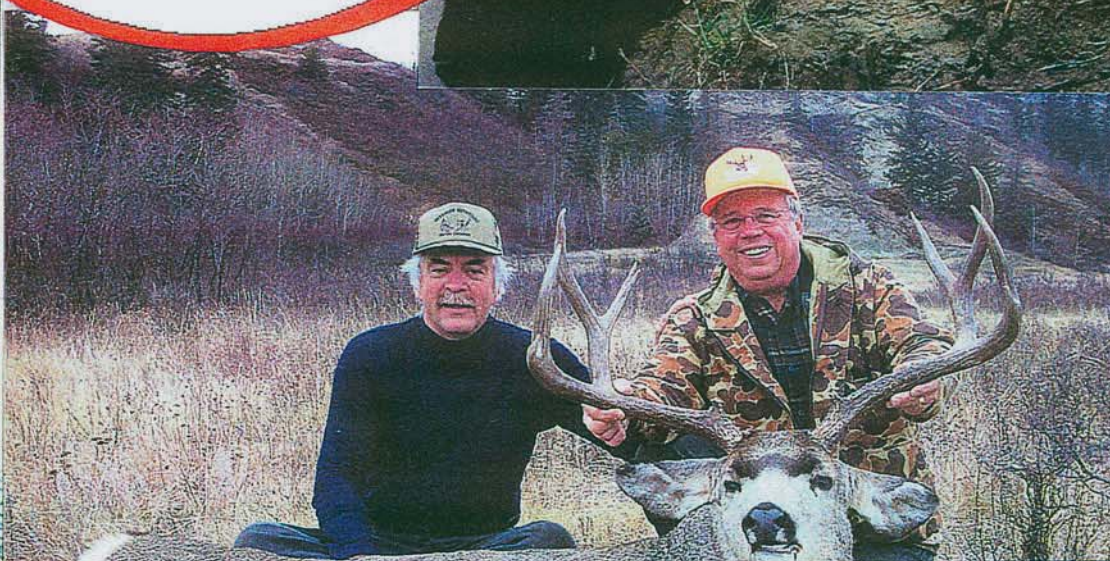




**Blue Bronna  
Outfitting 2004**  
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## Blue Bronna Outfitting 2004 Review

I hope this letter finds you all having a great beginning for 2005. This past year was a very good one for us with 34 big game hunters taking 30 animals. As always there were some disappointments as hunters set realistic, high goals and we just were not able to come up with the size animal we knew was out there, however over all it was a great year.

As most of you know we had sold our elk and mountain mule deer operation a couple years back however we have received that area back and will again be in the mountains. I have always enjoyed hunting the WMU 402 area (known as the most prolific wildlife area in Alberta) as one never knows what type of animal can come out of this terrain. In 2003, I saw two elk over the 400" mark, something I never expected to see in this zone and then last fall, one of my guides took a 215" mule deer and two other guides saw three or four bucks over the two hundred B&C mark. Five years ago, when this area first went on draw for mule deer I predicted that we would get huge bucks out of this area and now it is happening. The "good old days" are really right now in Alberta.

Our spring bear hunts started off like normal with plenty of good bears being seen. Mike Kautz had a dream of getting a colored bear and on the second day of his hunt scored a beauty 6'+ cinnamon with guide Tanner Walgenbach. Bill Harron with guide Brad Brown took a black boar as did Brad Myszka with his bow, guided by Glenn Brown. He took a second bear so as to have one on video for friends back home. The most impressive part of this hunt was Brad turning down a legal six and a half foot cinnamon sow with a two year old cub. It is hunters like this which keep us in big bears.

Jim Nick with guide Brad Brown knocked down a great black bore which got up and disappeared. Jim also refused to shoot another bear as he said "I had my chance at the kind of super bear that I wanted". Unfortunately Don Gorke didn't connect on five bears on five different days including a huge boar which we saw several times but we all enjoyed the great pike fishing. Remember this bear hunting is all spot and stalk and we still have openings for 2005.

September started with a 6\*6 elk being taken by Dave Jensen on his first day hunting and followed with a very nice five point taken by hunting partner Bill Winborn. Guides were Glenn and Brad Brown. We then moved up to Slave Lake for a moose hunt where Brad guided 3 of four moose hunters to good bulls. We were trying to come up with a bull over fifty inches for the last hunter but though we knew of a couple in the area we just ran out of time.

Tanner and Brad also guided Gordon Bennett and Don LaFave to a couple good Shiras bulls while Scott Chattaway and Quenten Barrett guided a couple bow hunters for Shiras. Quenten's hunter shot a nice 48" bull with Mark Spillane (Scott's hunter) getting within 40 yds and 70yds of a huge bull (over 60"). The hunter only tried for this bull turning down several other opportunities, unfortunately Mark did not get a shot at him. We believe this is the same bull we have seen for 3 years now and that he is a potential new world record if we can get him.

The last week in October saw us back in the 402 mountains again. Brad, Joel Wilkinson and I guided with Heather Majak doing a superb job of cooking and camp work. When we set up camp there was quite a bit of snow, however it continually warmed up throughout the hunt making for poor elk hunting conditions. There were 100's of cows around but the bulls had pulled back and were just not accessible. All three hunters (Pete Demos, Stuart Morrison, and John Vieau) got good mule deer (160 – 175) however the big boys let themselves be seen only after we had taken these deer. We are still learning the best places to hunt for the big deer found in these mountains but we think it is going to be here that we really start breaking the 200" mark in a serious way on mule deer.

Back by Three Hills, Ralph Holsclaw and I saw a lot of good deer and then shot a nice buck but not near the buck we wanted to when we mistook one buck for another in one of those hunting moments where the shot had to be made before the deer was gone. Lloyd Whaley and guide Tanner could not find a big enough whitetail which would stand. Lloyd did get one of those Hail Mary shots at a great whitetail but despite some extreme efforts on behalf of Lyndon, Joel and Tanner the whitetails won again.

A group of five hunters(led by Bill Bieber) from Ohio came and hunted in zones 220 and 206 with 3 whitetail tags and 5 mule deer tags. These hunters got eight deer and although they shot nice bucks(158" W.T. & 178" M.D.) the big (we later heard 233") mule deer Tanner was trying to find in WMU 206 and the 197"(we discovered this buck the day after the 2003 season closed) which had several shots taken at him by these fellows in 220, just did not fall to our luck.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of November Neil Skinner with guide Dan Adkins, Carl Bullo (guide Terry Wilkinson), and Mark Zauhar (guide Lyndon Earl) shot a 185 thirty two inch wide, 191 inch, and 167 inch 3 pt. consecutively. All hunters went home by Thursday afternoon so we actually had a couple days for us as guides to hunt.

Thursday evening Lyndon Earl pretended to guide myself and Dan Adkins (he already had filled his whitetail tag so was really along just because we allowed him to come). We both shot a couple decent bucks. Now that us guides were done I thought it time to tak my daughter Amber (14) out for her first deer hunt. I pulled her out of school Friday afternoon and she spotted a couple does after sighting in her 25-06. It was quite cold so we pulled over by the field and I advised we just stay in the truck and wait and see if some more whitetails would come out as the two does had run off. Shortly a very nice 165 pt. buck showed up in the trees. We got out and went over to a fence for a rest but Amber dinged the fence and he pulled back in the bush. I gave a couple grunts and another smaller buck stepped out and proceeded to walk towards us. He kept coming and Amber listened to me telling her to "wait, wait" until he was 100 yds. away and broadside. I told her to go ahead and shoot. With one shot she dropped it in its tracks. She stood up and told me her legs were shaking so hard she could hardly stand but "this is way better than school".

Mark Thompson shot a good 140 whitetail in the last couple days of the hunt with Jim Nick missing a huge (200" +) whitetail (it was shot at this season over 14 times by different hunters we know) which Brad Brown has seen several times since the season ended.

Joel and Bill Smith could not find the over 200" non-typical mule deer he was looking for although they did see one typical of that size and Tanner was not able to find a big whitetail for Ken Spanton. Glenn Hochstetler got the shot he needed at a nice four point 180 M.D. only to get to it and find he had shot the 5\*5 standing beside it. I found a nice 196" mule deer for Ray Robinson only to have it shrink to 187" upon being shot. He also shot a nice old 130 inch whitetail after we let a 160 inch go two nights in a row as it was just to dark to judge him properly. Two days later I saw this buck in broad daylight and found he had broken several tines so hopefully next year we will get him as a booner.

The last afternoon of the season found myself and Lyndon Earl with no hunters just looking at deer. We saw a couple bucks we had not seen all season including 3 mule deer over 180 and 5 in the 190 category. It looks like 2005 should be a very good year. I still have a few whitetail, elk, moose and bear hunts left so let me know soon if you intend to hunt "THE BEST OF ALBERTA" with Blue Bronna Outfitting (403 443 5718).

See you in Reno at SCI booth #3025,

Glenn Brown



