



2009 Caribou Hunts

On Sunday, August 23rd 2009 at 6:00 AM the phone rang and it was Benoit Demers, manager at Bobby's Caribou Camp calling on the satellite phone with exciting news: "The caribou have invaded the camp, there are thousands of animals and many, many BIG BULLS". Good news of course for the hunters in camp. The cold Spring and late Summer had set back all natural cycles including the caribou's migration into our hunting territories. The caribou criss crossed the tundra west of Kuujuaq and provided non-stop action until the end of September. The number of bulls sighted each day varied but the migration was ours to enjoy with our hunting guests until we packed out of Trophy Lake Caribou Camp on September 27th. Our official success rate based on permits issued and animals registered with the Quebec Wildlife Ministry was **1.81 bulls per hunter**. Although hunting

success is of primary importance, our guests reports once again praised our professional staff, our camp infrastructure, the great food we serve and the flawless organization of all trip logistics. Those who placed confidence in Arctic Adventures 40+ years of experience were rewarded with memorable hunts.



Amanda Sheppard

Ken Frisbie

Michel Labbe, head guide and his lifetime partner Maryse Bombardier shifted from Inukshuk Caribou Camp to Trophy Lake Caribou Camp this past season. Trophy Lake Camp is located on the northwestern shore of Lake Nuullualuk on well travelled migration routes. The waterways provide access to a large hunting territory which guides and hunters were able to hunt successfully using motorized 22' freighter canoes. Water levels at all camps were higher than usual this year. This helped our guides navigate in areas where waterways are shallow and impassable. The abundance of water was also good for the migration as caribou need plenty of humidity in their food supply to remain healthy. Caribou do not drink water as do most other animals, they get their water from the food they consume.

The guests' comments from those who hunted Trophy Lake Caribou Camp heaped praise on Michel, Maryse and guide Gilles Deziel. We were especially impressed with the magnificent photos

Amanda Sheppard sent in while hunting with her dad Wendall Sheppard. One could grasp the deep appreciation she had for the land and the tundra. We have posted several photos for everyone to enjoy. They thoroughly enjoyed their hunt and the time they spent together hunting and being taken care of by our professional staff. During the week of September 3rd to 9th, we hosted three father and son teams. Following the trip Dan Emerton wrote:

"My son Daniel and I had the hunting adventure of a lifetime! Good hard hunting, plenty of hiking every day, windy rainy weather and good food combined with a warm cabin back at camp. We made new friends and memories that will last us the rest of our lives! Every detail from start to finish was worked out perfectly. We had a great hunt, even better that we had hoped for. I cannot think of any suggestions to make our trip better. Everything was perfect!"



Lake Ikirtuuq Caribou Camp

Semi-guided Caribou Hunt

Lake Ikirtuuq Caribou Camp opened on August 19th and hosted 35 hunters who shot 66 bull caribou. The camp posted an official success rate of 1.89 bulls per hunter. The Trophy Brook trout fishing was great as it has been for many years due to our proactive “catch and release” camp policy. Two to five pound scarlet colored brookies were abundant in the connecting streams and many hunters caught their “trophy of a lifetime” Brook trout during their stay. Wing shooting for Ptarmigan was also very popular and although it wasn’t a banner year for Spring hatches, there were plenty of birds to hunt. With few trees to obstruct wing shooters, the success ratio of birds shot to coveys flushed was relatively high.

Some years we see bears around our hunting camps and other years we don’t see a single bear. During the 2009 season there were three Black bears shot by our guests and one was exceptionally BIG. It all started when Lloyd Weigel bought our donated hunt at

the 2008 SCI Convention in Reno, NV. Lloyd Weigel travelled to camp with his son Mike and son-in-law Robert J. Rardin. While at camp a huge bear was spotted across the lake in front of camp. In no time the hunters were quietly ferried across the lake and the stalk was successful. Mike Weigel’s 75 yard shot dispatched the 500 pound bear. The bear’s skull was green scored at an amazing 20 inches! Robert Rardin’s guest report sums up their trip:

“Father-in-law, brother-in-law and myself arrived at the dock and it was frigid, wind was blowing sideways and raining buckets. We no sooner got our stuff put away and the weather started improving. The rest of the week was awesome. Sun and light wind. We had the time of our lives and we will definitely come back. Camp, food, new friends and great memories. Thank you guys for the great adventure and experience I got to enjoy, not to mention the memories.”



Bobby’s Caribou Camp

Guided Caribou Hunt

Hunters who opted for our one guide per two hunter camp were amazed by our Inuit guides who shared their knowledge of the land and their extraordinary hunting skills. Caribou migrated into the territory in great numbers on August 25th and hung in until we closed camp on September 26th. The Brook trout fishing in early season and the wing shooting for Willow ptarmigan afforded many memorable experiences once hunters had tagged out their two bulls.

Benoît Demers did a great job of keeping the camp operations running smoothly throughout the season and camp chef Benoît Martin served up incredible meals which totally impressed our hunters. The strength of our outfitting operations is based on the quality and professionalism of our staff. As we deliver quality, personalized service during each hunt, our guests quickly realize that they are being hosted by staff who care about their success and satisfaction.

During the last hunt of the season, I travelled to Bobby’s Camp with a great group of hunters. Outdoor writer and professional outfitter Kevin Wilson and his wife Heather were at camp to experience the challenges of hunting caribou with black powder, rifle and bow. They worked hard with their guides Johnny Snowball and Jobie Annanack, and cameraman Bill Carrette of Adventures North Productions. Heather harvested a nice bull with her bow and shot another bull with a 400 + yard shot with her rifle. Kevin harvested his bull with his muzzleloader and came home with a true appreciation of what our caribou hunts have to offer his readers.





Tunulik II Fishing Camp



Gregory Gallacher, Keith Conerly and Travis Hicks , three hunters from Cabela's were on a return hunt. Keith and Travis arrived in camp without their rifles which had been lost by their US carrier on their flight to Montreal. We loaned them rifles for the first two days of their hunt and their rifles arrived on day three. All three hunters harvested their two caribou and were fun to be with during our time together at camp.



Steve MacInnis producer of the Adventures North T. V. Show and I hunted most of the time behind camp with guide Charlie Partridge. Each day we glassed hundreds of caribou and saw great numbers of migrating Snow geese. Steve captured footage to die for including a 470 yard shot I made with my 270 on a good bull. The hunts are being aired on the Sportsmen's Channel, Wild T.V. and the Global Network during 2010. It was an action packed week and I was proud of our operation, our staff, and their efforts to make each hunt a memorable experience.



Brook trout fishing at its best !!

2009 was another successful season at the Tunulik II Fishing Camp. Rain and a period of colder temperatures slowed down the hatches and dry fly fishing in the early season. As water levels returned to normal, fishing greatly improved and our guests caught many 3 to 5+ pound colorful brookies each day. The Arctic Char were very late leaving the freshwater due to a late Spring and ice out. As a result the Arctic Char migration started towards the end of the season.

produced big trout and exciting angling. The home pools and the waters below camp also provided excellent fishing. As the fish enter the river from Ungava Bay, they are bright silver and full of energy. Many guests were impressed with the fishing they experienced in the lower section of the river close by the camp.

The Tunulik II camp hosts 30 anglers each year and the Brook Trout fishing continues to amaze all who have the special opportunity to fish the beautiful waters of the Lagreve River.

Camp manager and head guide Calvin Buckle and Bobby Snowball Jr. did a great job navigating the river and setting guests up on the river's most productive pools. Carole Buckle and her brother Elvis Conway did a tremendous job serving great meals and keeping the camp clean and organized.

Donald Thom, silver medalist at the 2009 World Fly Fishing Championships, and Calvin explored the upper river and found a number of new pools which



Jean-René Fournelle



Payne River Fishing Camp



Canada's best Arctic Char fishing camp!

Although the planet is undergoing global warming, the ice on the salt waters of the Payne fjord did not break up until June 28th this past season. The previous year, the waters iced out on June 5th which was the earliest ever recorded. In spite of the late Spring the Arctic Char were present and active in great numbers when we opened camp on July 3rd. Our first group of 10 anglers fished from July 3rd to 9th and they caught many big char during their stay.

catching Arctic char in unbelievable numbers.



Stephen Ashton

On July 9th the second group of anglers was accompanied by Steve MacInnis, producer of the Adventures North T.V. Show and his cameraman Bill Carrette. Three talented fly fishermen Randy Taylor, John Beaven and Donald Thom, all members of the Canadian Fly Fishing Team were keen to test new flies, equipment, lines and techniques. When the group was not distracted by caribou, Arctic hare, wolves, seals and waterfowl, they were casting to and

I (Stephen Ashton) have been fishing the waters of the Payne River since we opened the camp in 1991. I was amazed at the way these three master fly fishing anglers experimented with new flies, lines and retrieves and consistently caught numbers of Arctic char. They drifted across shoals, anchored in new lies and discovered new hot spots which had been overlooked by our guides over the years. Steve MacInnis and Bill Carrette recorded 21 hours

of non-stop action on the water and a number of interviews which will result in several new T.V. Shows. Adventures North broadcasts on the Sportsmen's Channel in the USA and on Wild T.V. and the Global Network in Canada.

and release is a norm at the Payne River Fishing Camp. Provincial Fishing Regulations allow each angler to keep a maximum of five Arctic char. Fishing is as good as it was when the camp opened in 1991 and the Inuit of the neighboring community of Kangirsuk take pride in protecting their unique fishery!

With 35 foot tides flushing the Payne River twice each day, anglers were very pleased to know that the new Argo has resolved our fishing schedules. Calvin is able to bring guests, guides and equipment back to camp when the tide cycle interferes with cocktail time and dinner in the evening. The fishing was excellent throughout the season and the camp catch rate averaged 35 Arctic char caught per angler per day! Catch



Robert Opateny



For more information on our caribou hunting and Arctic char and trout fishing trips,

Contact us toll free at 1-800-465-9474 or E-mail us at: info@arcticadventures.ca