

WELCOME

To the 1st Take Aim Safaris newsletter for 2012!

Dear Hunting Friends

The first of our two hunts since our last newsletter was conducted in Zimbabwe in an area called Dande South, the camp and hunting area are situated in the middle of a 600.000 acres concession. The hunter on this hunt was German client he booked a buffalo, hippo and tuskless elephant hunt, the clients own preparation was perfect he had hand loaded his own .416 Rigby cartridges for his hunt he used a combination of soft nose bullets and solid bullets both with great effect. During the 15 day hunt we encountered over 300 elephant including a herd of 14 bulls some of them with really great ivory, with the help of the wind and a skilled approach we managed to get within 40 meters of these elephant bulls for a better look at them, they never knew we were there at all, we left them undisturbed and continued our hunt for a tuskless elephant. This would have been a great end result for a trophy elephant bull hunter.

We did manage to shoot a tuskless bull but not without incident, we were charged by the matriarch cow elephant from the herd and needed to do some fancy footwork to get out of the area until she and the rest of her 50 elephant strong herd had left the area. Once we did manage to recover our tuskless bull we were happy to see a perfect side brain shot had killed him instantly.

At one stage on the hunt whilst walking up the inside of a dry river bed we stalked up onto a sleeping rouge hippo, badly scarred from fighting he had taken cover from the sun in the thick jess bush, we wanted to take him and angled towards a position that the client could shoot from, as we angled into position the hippo heard us and raised to his feet lifting his head with dangerous intentions, at that point we were no more than 20 meters away from him. Quick reactions and fine shooting by the hunting client sent the hippo down dead with a frontal brain shot, the 2nd shot for safety was taken but not necessary. Not many hunters get the opportunity to shoot a hippo on dry land. This was a really great experience.

The last of the animals to go down on this hunt was a trophy buffalo bull, he was hunted on foot out of a herd of 200 + plus buffalo with some really great bulls in the herd. Again a perfect shot into the shoulder quartering towards us sent this bull right down in his tracks, all credit to the Zim PH Jannie and his team for a great tracking job on this hunt and great patience throughout the hunt, these factors combined allowed for a successful hunt than none of us will soon forget. With a few days to spare at the end of the hunt we decided to go tiger fishing, a great lodge with great facilities was a pleasure to fish and hunt at. I caught a 14 pound tiger fish, we all caught loads of fish that we always released. Here are some pictures...



DANDE CAMP SITE



Our second hunt was a plains game hunt in South Africa on a wonderful concession in the Limpopo Province, a long standing friend and client of Take Aim Safaris Ray took some magnificent trophies with some fine shooting by him and his 375 H&H, Ray plans to do some more hunting with us during 2012 so watch out for his up-coming trophies. Enjoy the pictures and as always please contact me with any hunt enquiries for plains game or big 5 animals in South Africa or Zimbabwe.



Best Wishes ~ Carl Knight