



Goose Tales



A PUBLICATION OF KASKA GOOSE LODGE, Hudson Bay Coast, Manitoba, Canada

Arriving in camp at the end of August to open up for the season, you never know what to expect. Therefore you look forward with nervous anticipation for the first glimpse of the lodge from the air.

On that first trip into camp we always fly the coast from York Factory to Kaska checking for both geese and white bears as well as the state of the fresh water ponds.



This year the number of bears between York Factory and Kaska was down from last year - but last year set a record for the number of bears in the area. Of much more importance to us were the number and location of the flocks of snow geese.

This fall we didn't see any significant numbers of white geese until we reached the Anabusco River area, which normally holds great numbers of snows. Anabusco is about 20 miles west of Kaska. Although we did see smaller flocks of snows working along the coast from Anabusco to the Kaskattama River the numbers of geese in the area were down from the same time in 2008. This wasn't a great concern as our first hunters didn't arrive for almost two weeks, which was plenty of time for the snows to move in - and they did show up in numbers starting Sept 11th.

The helicopter again proved invaluable to our hunters, who



wanted the best opportunities to shoot good numbers of snow geese. The fall weather was unseasonably warm with the prevailing winds from the southwest, which didn't give the snows any incentive to migrate, so our hunters went to the geese and enjoyed some great hunting.

In a shortened season (Sept 9 - 23) with fewer guests the total bird numbers were down from last year, but on a birds per hunter basis the bag was only

slightly lower with 8 birds per guest day vs. 10 birds per guest day in 2008. The goose count was:

Snow / blue / Ross: 415

Canada / Richardson: 570 (full limit per hunter)

Ducks: 28 (only 4 people hunted ducks for 1 day)

It was dry along the coast with the Kaskattama River as low as it has been in a number of years. The low water did make for some great brook trout fishing as the brookies were concentrated in the deeper pools. Steve Crouch caught several "*Master Angler*" brookies during a couple of afternoon fishing trips just up river from the lodge.

Guests Dan Wiens, John and Scott Marsh, along with our helicopter pilot, Glenn Davis, also had great success angling for brookies. With blue skies, south winds and the thermometer hitting 88 F on Sept 22nd the Marshes opted to spend the afternoon fishing - and they made the right choice, catching and releasing over 30 brookies in less than two hours - with many of them in the 20-inch plus range!

We are continuing to do upgrades to the camp. This season we flew in a brand new 30 KW Deutz diesel generator to replace old "Betsy", who died at the end of last season. We also installed an instant hot water system in Snow Goose cabin, which worked like a charm, providing plenty of hot water on demand.

It was great visiting with all the guests who hunted with us this season and we look forward to renewing friendships and discovering new friendships next year. We'll see you on "The Bay" next fall.

Randy Duwell

Kaskattama Safari Adventures Ltd., 5711 Portage Ave., 2nd Floor, Headingley, MB, Canada, R4H 1E7

Ph: (204) 982-9680 Fax: (204) 982-9687 Toll Free: 1-888-244-7453

Web: www.kaskagoose.com E-mail: info@gwnlodges.com

Kaska 2010 Season Trip Schedule

Trip 1A: Sept 4 - 8

Trip 2A: Sept 8 - 12 (FULL)

Trip 3A: Sept 12 - 16 (FULL)

Trip 4A: Sept 16 - 20

Trip 5A: Sept 20 - 24

Trip 1B: Sept 5 - 9

Trip 2B: Sept 9 - 13

Trip 3B: Sept 13 - 17 (FULL)

Trip 4B: Sept 17 - 21

Trip 5B: Sept 21 - 25

American-Plan hunting package rate: USD \$3,995 per person plus taxes

Labour Day Special (Trip 1A & 1B) USD \$3,495 per person plus taxes

Included:

- ◆ Exceptional waterfowl hunting on the Hudson Bay Coast where the flyway begins, plus some great catch & release angling for sea-run brook trout.
- ◆ Round-trip private air charter from Winnipeg to Kaska Goose Lodge.
- ◆ Accommodations in comfortable, fully-modern guest cabins featuring large picture windows, wood-burning stoves, electric lights, refrigerators, and two bathrooms per cabin, equipped with either a shower or a tub/shower .
- ◆ Delicious home-cooked meals served by our friendly, professional staff.
- ◆ Decoys, electronic calls, and strategically located blinds
- ◆ Transportation between the lodge and the blinds via Argo
- ◆ Bird processing and freezing
- ◆ Experienced, professional management and staff.

Not Included:

- ◆ Government taxes.
- ◆ Hunting and fishing licences, habitat and federal migratory bird stamps.
- ◆ Staff gratuities
- ◆ Ammunition, souvenirs, liquor, confectionary and misc. store purchases.
- ◆ Dogs are welcome at Kaska, however a U.S. \$150 per dog air charter cost is applicable.

Optional Extras:

- ◆ Heli-hunting / heli-fishing / flight-seeing / wildlife viewing trips.
- ◆ 2010 helicopter charter rate: U.S. \$2,600 per hour of flying time (subject to change due to fuel prices and the U.S./Cdn \$ exchange rate)

Reservations:

- ◆ A deposit of U.S. \$1,000 per person is required upon booking to confirm your reservation.
- ◆ Payment in full is required prior to May 1st, 2008.
- ◆ For bookings made after May 1st, 2008 payment in full is required at the time of booking

Specials:

- 1) **Early booking / deposit Special:** Book your trip and send in your deposit by Dec 15, 2009 and receive a \$100 discount off our 2010 trip rate.
- 2) **Labour Day Special:** Book either trip 1A (Sept 4 - 8) or trip 1B (Sept 5 - 9) and receive a \$500 discount.

GWN Wilderness Lodges
P.O. Box 280
St. Bonifacius, MN 55375

Address service requested