

Special Winter Issue

FIELD & STREAM

DECEMBER 2012-JANUARY 2013

BEST LATE HUNTS

20 EXCITING WINTER
STRATEGIES, INCLUDING:

- ▶ WHITETAILS: AMBUSH A HUNGRY BUCK
- ▶ GEESE: GO WIDE FOR HONKERS
- ▶ PREDATORS: HOUND A LION
- ▶ PHEASANTS: FLUSH SNOWY ROOSTERS

THE WORLD'S LEADING
OUTDOOR MAGAZINE

GUNS

THE DIRT-CHEAP,
TACK-DRIVING RIFLE
REVOLUTION

FISHING

SHANTY-FREE TACTICS
FOR TROUT, BASS,
AND MORE

FOOD

RECIPES AND
TIPS FOR THE
BEST DUCK EVER

GEAR TESTS

MULTITOOLS AND AIR
RIFLES (THAT WON'T
SHOOT YOUR EYE OUT)



THE PERFECT ELK HUNT

BY RICK BASS

F&S

THIS ISSUE IS VIDEO-ENHANCED.
SEE P. 4

DISPLAY UNTIL 1/15/13



Got Antler?
A 200-class
Ohio behemoth

FIELDANDSTREAM.COM

"I saw a mouth full of teeth coming down on me."

—Coyote bite victim Bill Robinson in *Close Calls*, p. 14

Campfire

YOUR HUNTING AND FISHING COMMUNITY // FIELDANDSTREAM.COM

Cheers & Jeers Worked up over waders, tap-rack-bang lessons, a relationship test (tanning agent required), and a frightening fitness regimen

I read the Oct. 2012 issue cover to cover in the week prior to opening day of archery season here in Pennsylvania, and it got me even more excited to finally get back out in the woods. I have been hunting whitetails since I was 12, but this is only my second archery season, and I sure hope a monster like your cover buck will walk by my stand.

Jarad Steirer, West Chester, Pa.

Rust-Belt Retorts

In "Rust-Belt Steel" (Oct. 2012), I found your author's tone, in comparing the new breed of Orvis-wearing fishermen on the Douglaston Salmon Run to those sporting worn-out rubber hip boots on the upper

Salmon River, to be quite arrogant. I have fished the Salmon River for 10 years and find that smiles, advice, and consideration are the norm, not the exception, there.

Mark Haile, Bloomsburg, Pa.

Where do these so-called sportsmen, Mark DeFrank and Chris Kazulen, get off intimidating a woman into leaving a fishing spot that they feel is theirs and using the words "mup ears" to refer to fishermen who come up on weekends? You shouldn't spotlight the juvenile mentality of these men or others who behave this way. I have enjoyed making friends in the Erie fishing fraternity for many years.

There are enough fish to go around, so let's just enjoy the game. A.R. Bloor, Industry, Pa.

M.I.A. on Our M-A-P

In "Here Come the Ducks," you plug the new Duck Reporters section of your website and show a small map of all four U.S. flyways—but you left Michigan's Upper Peninsula off the map!

Clyde Morgan, via e-mail

We apologize for the cropping error. The U.P. and all of the Central Flyway is covered, however, at fieldandstream.com/duckreporters. —THE EDITORS

Corrective Drill

As a U.S. Marine, I recognized that Chad Adams's "Tap. Rack. Bang." (Sportsman's Notebook) is almost word for word the military's standard doctrine for clearing a stoppage. However, we teach junior Marines to tap, cant, rack, bang—cant the rifle to whichever side the ejection port is on, before racking the charging handle. If there is a casing jammed in the bolt, gravity will aid in removing it.

Levi Slife, Littleton, Colo.

Adams should have titled this method "Tap, Rack, Reassess." In a military or wartime application, one could argue that firing your weapon immediately after clearing it is necessary. However, in a civilian, sporting, or law enforcement application, the



ON THE WEB

How a Big-Game Hunter Sculpts Skulls in Bronze

Artist and hunter Ashley Tudor creates a contemporary take on fine taxidermy by casting a bronze replica of the skull and polishing it to a high shine—a process that takes months. The finished product—her own Idaho trophy bull elk is shown here—appeals to everyone from outdoorsmen to art collectors. See step-by-step photos and more of her modernized mounts at fieldandstream.com/bronzeskull



"As I expected, the Deer Issue was packed with useful information about how to harvest your buck. That's why I subscribe to F&S over others."

—Mike McClure, Cozad, Neb.

BRYAN ALBERSTAT (MOUNT)