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# HcO. Drink. It. Up.

[www.horsecrkoutfitters.com](http://www.horsecrkoutfitters.com)  
[www.thewatermarkinn.com](http://www.thewatermarkinn.com)  
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## **2018 Hunting Schedule and Offerings (Fishing Schedule and Offerings Separate)**

Welcome to the 2018 season with Horse Creek Outfitters (HcO). At HcO we combine top guides and access to some of the most diverse hunting grounds in the world. We offer access to over 400 square miles of public hunting grounds through special use permits with the USFS and BLM. We are the only permitted outfitter in these areas. We utilize a variety of techniques and chase rocky mountain elk, mule deer, white tail deer, black bear, pronghorn antelope, rocky mountain big horn sheep, moose, goat, wolf, and lion. We can organize private land hunts, predator hunts, waterfowl hunts and upland game hunts as well.

At HcO we chase free range animals in an ethical manner. We do not road hunt, run minimal usage of ATV's and blinds, and do not condone long range hunting (note - different from long range shooting). Hunting is defined by effort, mental toughness, skill and perseverance. Physical conditioning and the ability to travel, on foot, in elevation, through rough terrain and diverse weather conditions increases opportunity and success. It's that simple; however, the most important attribute of a hunter is mental toughness and perseverance. Stay focused, positive, and attentive and opportunity/success will come. Our mission is to provide an enjoyable hunt and harvest the best possible animal, for any hunt, for all hunters, under any circumstance. Harvesting an animal is good for us and good for the hunter(s). Everybody wins. We will do everything in our power to succeed, but hunting is hunting and outside of a high fence, success is not guaranteed.

**Elk (2-5). Deer (6-7). IMPORTANT INFORMATION (8-12)**



## 2018 Elk Hunts

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### Archery Hunts: Idaho Season Dates (8/30-9/30)

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#### **Description:**

Much of the HcO staff are archery hunters personally. HcO is your archery outfit.



Public Land: Join HcO on a journey through the Idaho backcountry chasing Rocky Mountain Elk in their natural habitat. HcO operates on over 400 square miles of public land through special use permits issued by the USFS and BLM. We are the only outfitter allowed to operate in these areas. HcO prides itself in their approach to hunting. This is a true, backcountry experience. We utilize stock and clients will enjoy the comforts of a backcountry camp for the entirety of the hunt.

**Dates & Rates:**

- *8/30-9/3*: Pack in on the 29th of August and pack out on the 4th of September. Scheduled arrival at drive up base camp (meeting spot) is 11:00 am on the 29th. Scheduled departure is upon arrival back at base camp on the 4th. Hunt days - 5. 1x1 = \$5,500 per person. 2x1 = \$4,500 per person.
- *9/7-9/12*: Pack in on the 6th of September and pack out on the 12th of September. Scheduled arrival at drive up base camp (meeting spot) is 11:00 am on the 6th. Scheduled departure is upon arrival back at base camp on the 13th. Hunt days - 5. 1x1 = \$5,500 per person. 2x1 = \$4,500 per person.
- *9/16-9/20*: Pack in on the 15th of September and pack out on the 20th of September. Scheduled arrival at drive up base camp (meeting spot) is 11:00 am on the 15th. Scheduled departure is upon arrival back at base camp on the 21st. Hunt days - 5. 1x1 = \$6,000 per person. 2x1 = \$4,750 per person.
- *9/24-9/28*: Pack in on the 23rd of September and pack out on the 29th of September. Scheduled arrival at drive up base camp (meeting spot) is 11:00 am on the 23rd. Scheduled departure is upon arrival back at base camp on the 29th. Hunt days - 5. 1x1 = \$6,000 per person. 2x1 = \$4,750 per person.

**Rifle Hunts: Idaho Season Dates (10/15-11/8 Salmon Zone & 10/1-10/31 Lemhi Zone).**

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**Description:**

2017 was a successful year for HcO rifle hunters.



Lemhi Zone Trophy Hunts:

HcO has 4 allocated trophy tags for this hunt. This is our premier hunt offering in terms of size, opportunity and success. We will also assist in putting hunters in for the draw if our 4 tags allocated tags are booked. Join HcO on one of the top Idaho trophy tags available, chasing big bulls with our top guides. Access to private land is also available for these trophy hunts. *Strong physical fitness is very important on this trophy hunt.*

**Dates & Rates:**

- *10/1-10/31*: HcO will schedule an 8 day window within the designated season dates for the hunt. There will be an arrival and pack in day, 6 days of hunting and a departure day. Hunt days - 6. 1x1 = \$9,500.

Lemhi Zone Spike Elk Hunts: Join HcO on a spike elk hunt in the Lemhi Zone.

**Dates & Rates:**

- *11/1-11/7 (as available)*: HcO will schedule a 5 day window within the designated season dates for the hunt. Please plan on arriving at 3:30 pm on the arrival day, hunting 3 days and departing prior to 10:00 am on the morning of the 5th day. Hunt days - 3. 1x1 = \$2,500. 2x1 = \$2,000

Lemhi Zone Cow Hunts: Join HcO on a cow hunt in the Lemhi Zone.

**Dates & Rates:**

- *8/1-9/30 (as available)*: HcO will schedule a 5 day window within the designated season dates for the hunt. Please plan on arriving at 3:30 pm on the arrival day, hunting 3 days and departing prior to 10:00 am on the morning of the 5th day. Hunt days - 3. 1x1 = \$1,800. 2x1 = \$1,250
- *11/25-12/9 (as available)*: HcO will schedule a 5 day window within the designated season dates for the hunt. Please plan on arriving at 3:30 pm on the arrival day, hunting 3 days and departing prior to 10:00 am on the morning of the 5th day. Hunt days - 3. 1x1 = \$1,800. 2x1 = \$1,250
- *11/4-11/24 (as available)*: HcO will schedule a 5 day window within the designated season dates for the hunt. Please plan on arriving at 3:30 pm on the arrival day, hunting 3 days and departing prior to 10:00 am on the morning of the 5th day. Hunt days - 3. 1x1 = \$1,800. 2x1 = \$1,250

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## 2018 Deer Hunts

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### Archery Hunts: Idaho Season Dates (8/30-9/30)

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#### **Description:**

Spot and stalk archery deer is a lost art. HcO guides love pursuing deer with archery equipment.

#### Archery mule deer:

Subject to availability. Chase mule deer on an archery hunt with Horse Creek Outfitters. Archery elk hunters can purchase incidental deer tags to bring with them on their deer hunt; however, these are not combination hunts. To make this a true combination hunt add \$2,000 to the elk hunt. We do not utilize tree stands, hunters will pursue bucks via spot and stalk, pop up blind and natural blinds. Excellent physical fitness is a must for these hunts.

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### Rifle Hunts: Idaho Season Dates (10/10-10/24)

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#### **Description:**

HcO offers 4 day rifle mule deer hunts. Hunts are either rover or staged out of a backcountry camp. Excellent physical fitness is recommended for this hunt.

Lemhi Hunts:

Join HcO on either a high mountain mule deer hunt or a private land white tail hunt. Accommodations will be either a cabin at our Lemhi base camp for the private land hunters or a comfortable high mountain camp for our mule deer hunters. *Strong physical fitness is very*



## Dates and Rates:

- **10/9-10/14:** Scheduled arrival date is 11:00 am on the 9th. Scheduled departure date is 10:00 am on the 14. Hunt days - 4. 1x1 = \$5,000, 2x1 = \$4,000.
- **10/15-10/20:** Scheduled arrival date is 11:00 am on the 15th. Scheduled departure date is 10:00 am on the 20th. Hunt days - 4. 1x1 = \$5,000, 2x1 = \$4,000.
- **10/20-10/25:** Scheduled arrival date is 12:00 pm on the 20th. Scheduled departure date is 10:00 am on the 25th. Hunt days - 4. 1x1 = \$5,000, 2x1 = \$4,000.

**Trophy Muzzleloader Mule Deer Hunt: Idaho Season Dates (11/25-12/09)**

Lemhi Hunt: Join HcO on this late, trophy mule deer hunt with good density and quality mule deer bucks in the rut. This is a muzzleloader hunt and hunters must abide by the Idaho muzzleloader restrictions (<https://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/hunt/rules/?getPage=299>). Hunters will stay at The Watermark Inn and utilize a variety of techniques for this hunt. Hunters can expect daily access via foot and/or horseback. Excellent physical fitness is a must for this hunt.

## Dates &amp; Rates:

- **11/25-12/09:** Schedule a 7 day window with HcO. There will be an arrival day, 5 days of hunting and a departure day. Hunt days - 5. 1x1 = \$4,950.

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## IMPORTANT Details, Suggestions, Advice and Things to Remember:

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HcO will cover all food, accommodations, applicable stock, tack, field dressing, storage of meat and non-personal gear once you arrive at base camp until the hunt is complete. HcO does not cover license, tags, processing, taxidermy, gratuities, long-term storage of capes or meat, shipping or personal gear. HcO does not rent or lease firearms, binoculars, or any tactical equipment. Special accommodations can be made *prior to the hunt* for use of specific hunt related gear. Please consider options for meat transport *prior to your hunt*. If you are driving, bring coolers large enough to fit all of the meat. If you are not driving, the processor can ship meat. Shipping expenses typically

exceed \$400 for an elk. HcO will assist with logistics and advice; however, all harvested animals will either be prepared for transport via vehicle or dropped at the processor at the hunters expense unless previous arrangements have been made.

As a licensed, bonded and insured outfitter in the State of Idaho, HcO has the ability to control certain measures of the hunt. Great food, tags, special access, top of the line guides and staff, comfortable accommodations, seasoned stock, good gear and tack, safe transportation, and security with personal information. We do not, however; have the ability to control animal movement, hunting pressure outside of our own, weather, fire, client fitness, client hunting/fishing experience or seasonal mating activities. Every year offers something new and unique. We live in the area, operate in the area, and know the area as good as any man or woman. Our goal is to provide you with a successful hunt and an unforgettable experience. Hunting is hunting, it's as simple as that. Nothing is set in stone. We chase free range animals and do so in an ethical manner. We do not "road hunt," run minimal usage of blinds and ATV's and pride ourselves in our abilities as outdoor survivalists, hunters and conservationists. Booking a hunting trip is a commitment, a commitment of time, money and resources. We understand that, respect that, and will work tirelessly to make your trip the best it can be.

**Booking:** HcO requires a 50% deposit to book your spot. The remaining 50% is due 90 days prior to the hunt. As a licensed outfitter, HcO collects payments for license and tags and secures those on behalf of the hunter. It is important to secure tags well ahead of the hunting timeframe. HcO will collect money for license and tags following the initial deposit. HcO will also have all hunters complete a contract, acknowledgement of risk form and activity registration form. *All payments to HcO are non-refundable. Hunts are non-transferrable between seasons or species.* **Protect yourself and purchase trip insurance!** HcO employs numerous guides, wrangles and cooks, all of whom are experienced, professional and true backcountry adventurers. *We do not commit specific guides to specific clients at the time of booking.* HcO will place you with a top of the line guide prior to your hunt and you will have the chance to communicate with that guide prior to arrival. We take into account a wide arrange of factors when placing guides with clients and trust that your guide will exceed your expectations.

**Trip Insurance:** Buy trip insurance! Trip insurance is an additional expense, but can protect your investment into the trip. Payments to HcO are non-refundable. Trips are non-transferrable to another year. Protect yourself in the event something happens that prevents you from coming on the trip. The insurance works and is affordable. Please speak to Debbie Prindle (792) 494-2882 and/or [debbie@classtvl.com](mailto:debbie@classtvl.com) to solidify your trip insurance. Our contact is not an insurance agent, but an individual that has utilized a variety of different insurance agencies to

protect her top end travel clients and will have the best policy for you and your trip. Remember, *“you don’t need it until you need it.”*

Incidental tags: Prior to the hunt, most of our hunters will be provided the opportunity to purchase incidental tags for other species. Deer, wolf, bear, and mountain lion are considered incidental for an elk hunt. If the opportunity arises to harvest one of the aforementioned species, while the season is open, with the appropriate incidental tag, clients can choose to do so at no additional expense. An elk hunt with an incidental tag does not mean it is a “combination” hunt inclusive of that incidental tag. Once the target animal is harvested, the hunt does not turn into a “deer” hunt with an incidental deer tag in hand. If a deer is harvested during the course of pursuing elk, then that is a different scenario. HcO will book true combination hunts, including mixing different camps to try and harvest multiple species specifically for an additional cost at the time of booking or *prior to pursuing* the secondary species. Please inquire.

Arrival and departure times: Please plan on arriving and departing *at the applicable times as detailed in the schedule unless otherwise informed by the Outfitter*. Please *do not* show up to base camp early. We take the time between hunts to pack coolers, tend to stock, work on gear, address any needs and prepare for your hunt. We require that time to provide the best hunts in the industry. Thank you.

Preparation for your hunt: Training, practice, patience and physical fitness will dramatically increase both a successful outcome for the hunt and the enjoyment of the hunt itself, especially for backcountry hunters. We cannot stress fitness enough. Big animals are big for a reason. They are smart and have evaded harvest for years. They will not be easy targets and typically do not reside in easily accessible areas. Killing one requires training, hard work, effort and mental toughness. Our hunts are conducted at elevations ranging from 5,000 feet to 10,500 feet. We have backcountry camps located at elevations therein. It is difficult to train for elevation, especially for those visiting us from low elevations; however, physical training at any elevation will help. Consumption of copious amounts of water once you arrive in Idaho and throughout the trip is very important. There is a difference between mountain shape and aerobic shape. The two are symbiotic; however, learning how to hike in the mountains, how to place your feet, travel efficiently and quietly, travel up inclines, down declines, across sidehills, and through rocks with weight on your back is paramount to a complete western, free range hunting excursion. Not every person has access to the geography nor time in their schedule to train in the mountains. That being said, the best thing you can do to prepare for your hunt with HcO is to hike in the hills, on trails (off trail is far better), canyons, mountains, whatever you have access to, with a backpack. Get out and hike! A treadmill is good, hiking is far superior. It will help with your instincts, spotting and help assimilate you to the outdoors. We work with plenty of people with minimal or no horse experience. Horse experience is not necessary for your backcountry hunt; however, reading up on horseback etiquette, proper positioning and the like will better prepare you for a backcountry hunt. If you have the opportunity prior to the hunt, and can spend some time horseback, that is even better.

Train with your bow or rifle. For our archery hunters, practice shooting on inclines, declines and sidehills. Pay attention to your level. Watch hunting video. Run through scenarios in your mind. Try to be as prepared as possible to capitalize on an opportunity. Very few people can say they have harvested a free range elk with a bow and arrow. It is elite. The more comfortable you are with your weapon, the better off you will be in the field. Try to get comfortable at the range shooting out to 50 yards or more in various scenarios. Upon arrival and prior to the hunt, your guide may have you shoot your bow. It gives us an idea on range, ability and accuracy. We are an ethical outfit, we do not take unethical shots and try to keep wound loss at a minimum. If you are a rifle hunter, dial your gun in at the range. Get comfortable shooting prone out to 400 or 500 yards. That will make a 200 or 300 yard shot in the field feel comfortable. Once the gun is sighted, practice shooting off of shooting stix, from a

sitting position, from a standing position with a rest, kneeling using a backpack as a rest, etc. Practice taking the gun off of your shoulder, getting set up, acquiring the target and shooting in an efficient manner. We will always do our best to get you comfortable for your shot. We do not take unethical shots; however, prone setups, bench rests, and inanimate targets are not the reality in the field. The more you practice prior to the hunt, the more comfortable you will be when the time comes to release the arrow or pull the trigger with HcO.

Gear: HcO will send you a complete gear list and is available anytime to assist with gear recommendations. Good gear is also crucial to an enjoyable hunt. Good gear is not necessarily the most expensive or trendy gear, so discuss various gear options with HcO and we can help outfit you appropriately and affordably for your hunt.

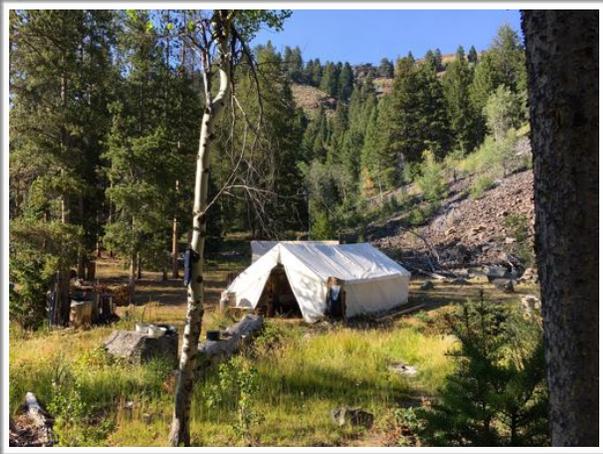
Trophy Hunts: At HcO we are blessed with the opportunity to hunt a huge amount of terrain with trophy quality animals. Hunters can be confident that true trophy class bulls and bucks reside within our hunting grounds. HcO does book specific “trophy” hunts wherein animals with a desired age, score or the like are the focal point of the hunt. Much of our offerings are not booked as “trophy” hunts. We offer the best product at a competitive price and want to keep it that way. Your HcO guide will do his/her very best to secure you the largest, most mature animal possible for any hunt we book; however, there is an additional \$2,000 expense to add the word “trophy” to your booking and target a specific trophy size animal. We spend additional time and manpower locating and patterning specific animals for trophy hunters. We respect our hunters decisions and expectations, but cannot educate multiple mature animals looking for superior animals without jeopardizing hunting quality for other hunters.

Opportunity and success rates: The best way to judge an outfit is via reputation, quality booking agencies, references from hunters who succeeded and those that did not, accurate photographs, client and employee retention, acquaintances and research. We will provide you with answers to your questions and the information you need to do your due diligence on us. In a world where it seems 350” bulls and 100% success rates are the norm, the truth is that those numbers are a fallacy and totally abnormal. Outside of a high fence, advertised “100% success rate” claims should be met with skepticism. There are plenty of mechanisms available to stack the success rate, mechanisms that do not reflect a quality outfit but, in fact, reflect the opposite. Legitimate claims do exist, but do your due diligence. High fence ranches, trophy tags, dishonesty, lack of regulation and exaggeration has created an environment wherein very little trust should be put in “success rate” claims without further due diligence. At HcO we are good at what we do. We find and harvest mature animals with our clients in an area that supports good trophy density and exceptional diversity. We would put our guides and our area against anybody. Period.

Processors: HcO works with local processor Challis Custom Meats (CCM). Typical processing times for CCM are a week or more during the hunting season. CCM will also ship meat. Once the meat is dropped at CCM, the hunter will work the details as far as processing and shipping of meat. Please call CCM @ (208) 879-6845.

Taxidermist: HcO works with Daniel Stevensen of River of No Return Taxidermy in Salmon, Idaho. Daniel is an accomplished taxidermist and produces high quality work at affordable prices. Please check out his work @ [www.riverofnoreturntaxidermy.com](http://www.riverofnoreturntaxidermy.com). Transfer of trophies to Salmon, Idaho can be negotiated and arranged; however, once the trophy is at the taxidermist, the client and taxidermist will work out the details accordingly.

Accommodations: At HcO hunters will either stay at a cabin, base camp, backcountry camp, or, hunters who book private land hunts have the additional option of staying at The Watermark Inn ([www.thewatermarkinn.com](http://www.thewatermarkinn.com)). Please add \$550 to the hunt price for accommodations at The Watermark Inn and notify HcO as soon as you can to reserve your room.



Directions: Directions to Challis and The Watermark Inn as well as travel related details can be found on both [www.thewatermarkinn.com](http://www.thewatermarkinn.com) and [www.horsecrkoutfitters.com](http://www.horsecrkoutfitters.com). Additional directions and maps will be provided individually depending on the hunt booked.

License and Tags: Please find a complete list of license and tags via the Idaho Fish and Game Website @ <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/licenses/fees/displayFees.cfm?resType=Nonresident&feeType=Tag>.

Adult Nonresident Hunting License:	\$154.75
Adult Nonresident Elk Tag:	\$416.75
Adult Nonresident Deer Tag:	\$301.75
Adult Nonresident Bear Tag:	\$186.00
Adult Nonresident Wolf Tag:	\$31.75
Adult Nonresident Antelope Tag:	\$311.75
Archery Permit:	\$20.00
Muzzleloader Permit	\$20.00
IDFG Depredation Fee:	\$10.00