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# Private Land Rifle Hunting Information Packet | 2019

IN THIS PACKET: (click on what you're interested in viewing or print this packet)

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>Private Land Rifle Hunting on the Big Timber Ranches</b>  | <b>2</b> |
| Hunt Prices & Special Permit Areas – Big Timber Ranches      | 2        |
| RIFLE ELK/DEER COMBO HUNT – BIG TIMBER RANCHES               | 2        |
| Rifle Hunt Dates – Big Timber Ranches                        | 2        |
| <b>Rifle Hunting on the Divide Ranch</b>                     | <b>3</b> |
| Hunt Prices & Special Permit Areas – The Divide Ranch        | 3        |
| ELK HUNT   | 3        |
| COMBO ELK/DEER HUNT:   | 3        |
| DEER HUNT:   | 3        |
| Rifle Hunt Dates – The Divide Ranch                          | 3        |
| <b>Rifle Hunting on the Lazy E-L Ranch</b>                   | <b>4</b> |
| Hunt Prices – The Lazy E-L Ranch                             | 4        |
| ELK HUNT   | 4        |
| Rifle Hunt Dates – The Lazy E-L Ranch                        | 4        |
| <b>What's Included and Not Included</b>                      | <b>4</b> |
| What's Included  | 4        |
| What's Not Included  | 5        |
| <b>Deposit &amp; Payment Policy</b>                          | <b>6</b> |
| <b>Travel Arrangements   Big Timber &amp; Divide Ranches</b> | <b>7</b> |
| Driving to Big Timber  | 7        |
| Flying into Bozeman or Billings                              | 7        |
| Hotels and Local Shops in Big Timber                         | 8        |
| <b>Travel Arrangements   The Lazy E-L Ranch</b>              | <b>9</b> |
| Driving to Roscoe:   | 9        |



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Flying into Billings

9

**Hunting Licenses And Permit Information**

**11**

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## Rifle Season & Application Deadlines

**General Season Rifle Dates for Elk/Deer:** October 26–December 1

Application Deadline: March 15

**Rifle Season Dates for Antelope:** October 12–November 10

Application Deadline: June 1

**Spring Black Bear:** April 15–May 31

Application Deadline: April 14

**Turkey Season: Spring:** April 13–May 19, **Fall:** Sept 1–Jan 1 \*

Application Deadline: **Spring:** March 8, **Fall:** July 26

**Duck & Geese Season:** Sept 28–TBA\*

Application Deadline: **tba**

\*Season dates subject to change due to [MFWP](#) release of 2019 Hunting Information in February.

## Rifle Hunting on the Big Timber Ranches

Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters is lucky enough to headquarter in Big Timber, Montana with some unique ranches just minutes away. Local landowners of these properties have been gracious enough to allow us the opportunity to offer our hunters and anglers access to some very special hunting and fishing areas. One such ranch is 20,000 acres of rolling hills just twenty minutes north of Big Timber in the foothills of the mountains. Though this is a



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special permit area for elk, if you are lucky enough to draw a permit, there are opportunities for trophy bulls. Of the eight Big Timber ranches we currently hunt only two require a special permit for elk. The remaining Big Timber Ranches are hunted with a general elk or deer license. All antelope hunts require a special permit. Our ranch hunts are fully guided, spot and stalk hunts. We use 4x4 vehicles to access the ranches we hunt. Accommodations include a comfortable lodge in Big Timber with all meals provided. \*A plus for our private land hunters is our ability to move from ranch to ranch during the hunt to provide them with the best possible hunting experience.

## Hunt Prices & Special Permit Areas – Big Timber Ranches

### **RIFLE ELK HUNT- BIG TIMBER RANCHES**

\$5,700 per hunter 2x1

### **ELK/DEER COMBO RIFLE HUNT - BIG TIMBER RANCHES**

\$6,700 per hunter 2x1

Only mature deer will be allowed to be harvested

### **SPRING BLACK BEAR HUNT - BIG TIMBER RANCHES**

\$3,500 per hunter 1x1

### **RIFLE DEER HUNT- BIG TIMBER RANCHES**

\$3,500 per hunter 2x1

### **ANTELOPE HUNT- BIG TIMBER RANCHES**

\$2,500 per hunter 2x1

Requires special permit

Most of our ranches only require a General License to hunt elk and deer. However, we do have a couple of ranches that require a special elk permit to hunt. We suggest when you apply for your General License you also apply for an elk permit for the areas listed below.

#### **Special Permit Areas:**

**Elk either-sex Rifle:** 570-20 & 580-22

**Antelope Special Permit Areas for Rifle:** 510-20, 340-20, 570-20

\*Check the draw area with us before applying.



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## Rifle Hunt Dates – Big Timber Ranches

**Elk/Deer:** 4-6 hunters, 7 days (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day).  
Hunt includes lodging and meals at ABO Lodge in Big Timber.

**Hunt #1:** Oct 25-31

**Hunt #2:** Nov 1-7

**Hunt #3:** Nov 8-14

**Hunt #4:** Nov 15-21

**Hunt #5:** Nov 22-28

**Antelope:** 4-6 hunters, 5 day (arrival day, 3 days hunting, departure day)

**Hunt #1:** Oct 11-15

**Hunt #2:** Oct 15-19

**Hunt #3:** Oct 19-23

**Spring Black Bear:** 4-6 hunters, 6 day (arrival day, 4 days hunting, departure day)

**Hunt #1:** April 20-23

**Hunt #2:** April 25-28

**Hunt #3:** May 2-5

**Hunt #4:** May 7-10

**Hunt #5:** May 12-15

**Hunt #6:** May 17-20

**Hunt #7:** May 22-25

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## Rifle Hunting on the Divide Ranch

For the rifle hunter focused on trophy elk, mule deer and whitetail deer, ABO has added a special trophy opportunity ranch that can be hunted with a general license. I have been guiding and outfitting for twenty years and the topography of the landscape of this ranch provides the most unique combination of land management, wildlife conservation and trophy hunting opportunity with a general tag that I have ever encountered. We use a combination of 4 wheelers, hiking and horses for this hunt.



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## Hunt Prices & Special Permit Areas – The Divide Ranch

### **ELK HUNT**

\$7,500

### **COMBO ELK/DEER HUNT:**

\$10,500/ per hunter

### **DEER HUNT:**

\$4,000/ per hunter

This ranch is hunted with a general license. A portion of the ranch is a special permit area. The ranch provides plenty of great hunting without the special permit area. However, we encourage you to apply for the special permit unit along with your general license application.

**Rifle Special Permit Area:** 580-21

## Rifle Hunt Dates – The Divide Ranch

2 Hunters Per Week – 7 days (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day)  
Hunts include lodging and meals.

**Hunt #1:** N/A

**Hunt #2:** Nov 1-7

**Hunt #3:** Nov 8-14

**Hunt #4:** Nov 15-21

**Hunt #5:** Nov 22-28

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# Rifle Hunting on the Yellowstone

These unique hunting and fishing opportunities are conveniently located 5 minutes from Big Timber and offer 8 miles of Yellowstone River frontage. The Yellowstone ranches landscape of brush and cottonwood trees, plenty of water and many channels make for great waterfowl and turkey hunting. Both ranches have a healthy deer population. The fishing is phenomenal so bring your fly rod! Archery and rifle hunting are available for deer



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and turkey. These combo hunts are based on the season and what licenses you hold. Accommodations and meals are not included with these hunting options. We recommend the Grand Hotel in Big Timber.

## Hunt Prices – The Yellowstone Ranches

### **DUCK & GOOSE:**

\$250 a gun/per day (guided)

### **DUCK, GOOSE, & TURKEY COMBO:**

\$500.00 a gun/per day (guided)

### **DEER:**

\$2,500 per hunter, 3 day hunt

### **FALL TURKEY:**

\$300 per person/per day (guided)

### **SPRING TURKEY:**

\$350 per person/per day (guided)

### **WALK & WADE FISHING:**

\$440 per guide/per half day (lunch not included)

\$560 per guide/whole day (lunch included)

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## Rifle Hunting on the Lazy E-L Ranch

The Lazy E-L Ranch is a working cattle ranch nestled at the foot of the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness. With five miles of river frontage, wildlife abounds in this spectacular, unspoiled setting. The ranch offers a high quality hunt with the opportunity to see many animals and to pick a respectable size elk or deer. Hunting reservations are made through Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters but to view the Lazy E-L Ranch website go to [www.lazyel.com](http://www.lazyel.com).

When booking a rifle hunt with Absaroka Beartooth Outfitters on the Lazy E-L Ranch, your accommodations will be a lovely vacation lodge on the West Rosebud River. This spacious,



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charming retreat offers comfortable beds and full bathrooms. It is located just outside the Lazy EL Ranch with a lovely view of the river.

Clients staying at the retreat will enjoy eating in the dining room at The Grizzly Bar & Grill, located just outside the ranch. The Grizzly Bar & Grill, a favorite local spot and known for its' good food, is owned and operated by Patrick and Jennifer O'Shea. Patrick guides and Jennifer cooks for all ABO's Lazy EL Hunts. Hunters love Jenn's food!

## Hunt Prices & Special Permit Areas – Lazy E-L Ranch

### **COMBO ELK/DEER HUNT:**

\$6,700/ per hunter/lodge 2x1 hunt

### Rifle Hunt Dates – Lazy E-L Ranch

6 hunters - 7 days (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day)

Hunts include lodging and meals.

**Hunt #1:** Oct 25-31

**Hunt #2:** Nov 1-7

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## What's Included and Not Included

### What's Included

#### **The rates include:**

- Comfortable sleeping accommodations in lodge with bedding and towels.
- All meals during your hunt
- Field care of trophies
- Experienced Guides

### What's Not Included

#### **The rates do not include:**

- Transportation to Montana



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- Montana hunting licenses and permits
- Hunting equip. including guns & ammo
- Fishing Licenses
- Fishing equipment including rods and flies
- Transport of trophies to final destination
- Any additional transportation cost
- Gratuities for guides and cook

### **Gratuities**

Clients often ask how much to tip their guide and cook. Standard in the industry is 10-20% of the cost of the trip, divided between your guide and cook at your discretion. For example, a \$5700 hunt @ 15% = \$850 tip (\$700-\$750 guide/\$150-\$100 cook). Gratuities are 100% discretionary. Always appreciated, they provide validation that our clients have had a good time and that we have done a good job.

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## **Deposit & Payment Policy**

A partial deposit of \$1000 is required to book your hunt. The \$1000 partial deposit will be refunded if you do not draw a license. The drawing takes place in mid-April. The remainder of the deposit (50% of the cost of the hunt) is due when the draw is posted and is non-refundable. The balance of the hunt is due 30 days prior to your hunt and is non-refundable. Hunts not fully paid by this date will be considered cancelled. We recommend Trip Cancellation Insurance. Montana Outfitters & Guides Association suggests Global Rescue travel insurance. <http://www.montanaoutfitters.org/travelersinsurance/>  
We accept Credit Cards (Visa/MasterCard only) and Checks  
Make Checks Payable to: Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters, Inc.

All Hunt Prices include a \$50 fee for the MOGA Hunter/Angler Defense Fund  
(Information on HADF can be found in the General Hunting Information Packet)

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# Travel Arrangements | Big Timber & Divide Ranches

Plan to arrive in Big Timber the afternoon before your hunt begins and plan to depart the morning after your hunt ends. You will be staying in the ABO Lodge at ABO Headquarters. Check in time is 4:00 pm. Check out time is at 10:00 am.

ABO Headquarters & Lodge

[1263 Hwy 10 West](#)

[Big Timber, MT 59011](#)

## Driving to Big Timber

Big Timber is located off Interstate 90 between Bozeman and Billings. Bozeman to Big Timber is 60 miles, driving time 1 hour. Billings to Big Timber is 90 miles, driving time 1½ hours.

## Flying into Bozeman or Billings

**Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport (BZN)** and **Billings Logan International Airport (BIL)** are the two closest airports to Big Timber.

The following airlines service Bozeman and Billings:

Delta 1-800-325-1999,

American 1-800-433-7300

United 1-800-864-8331

Alaska 1-800-252-7522

Most major rental car companies are available at either airport.

The service is usually very good into Bozeman and Billings. However, Bozeman is a college town, home to Montana State University, so make your reservations early. Check out Montana Travel (1-800-247-3538) or ([info@mttravel.com](mailto:info@mttravel.com)) for some of the best air fares available. Remember, Montana is on Mountain Time so keep that in mind when making your travel arrangements.



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## Hotels and Local Shops in Big Timber

If you plan to stay in Big Timber prior to or after your hunt we recommend the hotels below.

**The Grand Hotel** ([www.thegrand-hotel.com](http://www.thegrand-hotel.com)) (406-932-4459) is a charming and beautifully renovated historical hotel in downtown Big Timber. The hotel provides a wonderful full breakfast but not before 8:00 am. It has a well-stocked vintage bar which serves lunch and dinner. But for those with a "grander" palette it sports a fabulous restaurant that serves delicious gourmet dinners. The dining room is very popular so be sure to make a reservation.

**The Super 8 Motel** ([www.super8.com](http://www.super8.com)) (406-932-8888) has comfortable rooms with small refrigerators and serves a light breakfast. For a heartier breakfast, the Country Skillet is across the street and opens at 6:00 AM.

Not a hotel, but a great eatery, opening at 6:00 am, **The Bakery** is a delicious and convenient breakfast for the early riser with great coffee and tea and delicious lunches. It is located just a few doors down from The Grand Hotel on McLeod St.

**Cinnabar Creek:** Unique Montana gifts for the family. Good coffee bar. Located one block south from the Grand Hotel.

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# Travel Arrangements | The Lazy E-L Ranch

## Driving to Roscoe:

The ranch is located in Roscoe, MT.

The Lazy E-L Ranch  
Lazy E-L Ranch Rd.  
Roscoe, MT 59071

Grizzly Bar and Grill  
1 Main Street,  
Roscoe, MT 59071

**Directions from Billings:** Go west on Interstate 90 to Columbus; at Columbus go south on 78 to Roscoe. Driving time from Billings to the ranch is approximately 1.5 hours.

**Directions from Bozeman:** go east on Interstate 90 to Columbus; at Columbus go south on 78 to Roscoe. Driving time from Bozeman to the ranch is approximately 3.5 hours.

**Plan to arrive by 3:00 pm the day before your hunt begins.** You will meet your guides at the Grizzly Bar & Grill located just before you get to the ranch. This gives the guides time to get you settled and you time to site in your rifles or bows before dark.

**Please check in with Patrick to confirm your arrival time.**

Patrick O'Shea – cell 406-425-4333

**Cell service is not very good at the ranch so two good emergency numbers are:**

(406) 328-6789 (the Grizzly Bar & Grill) or 210-722-3817 (Sarah Mayo)

## Flying into Billings

Plan to fly into the **Billings Logan International Airport (BIL)**.

Most major car rental agencies are available at the Billings airport.

The following airlines service Billings:

Delta 1-800-325-1999

American 1-800-433-7300

United 1-800-864-8331

Alaska 1-800-252-7522



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The service is usually very good into Billings. However, there are limited flights into Montana, so make your reservations early. Check out Montana Travel (1-800-247-3538) or ([info@mttravel.com](mailto:info@mttravel.com)) for some of the best available airfares. Remember, Billings is on Mountain Time so keep that in mind when making your travel arrangements.

**Special Note to Hunters from the Outfitter, Cameron Mayo:** I will not be guiding the Lazy EL Ranch hunts as I will be guiding ranch hunts in Big Timber during that time. However, I have carefully chosen Patrick O'Shea as your lead man. Patrick is an experienced guide who has hunted with me for many years. He knows every inch of the ranch! Patrick along with our other experienced guides Justin Hash and Bob Lile will do everything within their power to give you the best hunt possible.

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# Hunting Licenses And Permit Information

(For more information on license & permit prices refer to the General Hunting Information Packet or go online to Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks, [www.fwp.mt.gov](http://www.fwp.mt.gov).)

**Resident and Non-resident hunters will need general licenses to hunt elk and deer in Montana.** We have a few Big Timber ranches that in addition to your general license also require an elk permit to hunt. However a general elk/deer license is all you will need to hunt the majority of our ranch offerings, including most of the Big timber ranches, the Divide Ranch, and the Lazy EL Ranch. Hunters who want to hunt the special elk permit ranches will need to apply for an elk permit for those areas. (Special Permit Areas listed under hunt dates in the Big Timber Ranches offerings.)

**You can apply for a special elk or deer permit at the same time you apply for a general elk/deer license through the draw.** Remember most our private land ranches are hunted with a general elk/deer license, so you will still be able to hunt if you do not draw a special elk permit area.

**Before you go online to apply, be aware of the following two requirements.**

**Hunter Education Requirements for Hunters - If you were born after January 1, 1985,** you are required to show proof of completing a Montana hunter safety and education course or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license, whether the hunting licence is for the rifle or archery season. **When you apply online for your license, you will need to have your certificate number, the date you received it and the state in which you received it as proof that you have completed a hunter safety course.**

For more information about licensing and how to apply for the draw, see the General Hunting Information Packet.

**Our ABO staff is ready to assist you with any questions you may have about hunting in Montana with our outfit. Our office will walk you through each aspect from booking, to licensing to arrival and everything in-between.**



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