



Early Rifle – (Cow Elk) Gear List

Clothing:

Prepare for Cool temps in the morning and evening and hot temps in the mid-day and afternoon. Temperature ranges from 20's in the morning to mid-70's in the mid-day and afternoon. Feels 10 degrees warmer at our altitude.

Any camo pattern with greens, greys, and taupe colors works well in early season.

Layering is the key.

Base layer (Marino Wool or equivalent)

Outside layer (Pant, shirt, jacket, vest, hats, gloves, head net/cover)

Have packable quiet rain gear as we experience monsoon storms in August and September.

Pants with built in knee pads are a great addition for these hunts. When stalking/crawling rocks, cactus, and other object can really hurt on the knees without knee pads.

500 Inches of Hunter Orange (Vest and Hat) – Can NOT be camo, must be solid orange or pink is also accepted by the state of Colorado.

Boots:

Early season you do not need to have heavily insulate boots, in fact having uninsulated hiking boots is probably the best option.

Boot gators for Elk are a must as we hunt around streams, bogs and, willow bottoms that can be fun to cross. Quiet gators will help keep your feet dry when needed!

Boots should be tall enough to support your ankles properly, rolling or twisting your ankle on deadfall, rocks, or other objects can end your hunt early.

Socks are super important, purchasing high quality socks and having the ability to layer socks could be the difference between blisters and no blisters...you do NOT want blisters!

Gear:

Optics

Minimum should be 10 x 42.

Built in Rand Finders are key, but not 100% necessary.

Recommended Brands:

Vortex

Leica

Swarovski

Rangefinder

If you can get one with an angle compensator, those work best for giving the most accurate yardage.

Packs:

A day pack is suitable for our hunts, you do NOT need a giant pack that would be used for a backcountry hunt. In most cases large packs just get in the way in impeded shots (especially if you have no practiced shooting your bow with a large pack on your back)

You will keep water, food, extra clothing, and a other recommended equipment in your pack, so again it does not have to be a big pack.

Miscellaneous Equipment:

- Tripod shooting stick (Primos TALL Trigger stick is the best option for our hunts)
 - Bi-pods and mono pods are NOT recommended.
- Extra Ammo (2-3 Boxes Minimum)
- Quality Firearm Strap
- Headlamp/Extra Batteries
- Sunglasses
- Quiet, packable Rain Gear (Pants/Jacket)
- Small to medium knife
- Back-up Firearm
- 2-3 190 Quart Extra Large Coolers or a chest freezer to pack meat home.
- Pick-up trucks work best for rental vehicles, full size SUV's are also good, but get a pickup if you can

Equipment you DO NOT Need

- Muck Boots – Tall rubber boots are not a good fit for our hunts.
- Large Packs
- Spotting Scope
- Skinning/Gutting Knives
- Calls/Decoys
- ATV/UTV

See the Hunt Prep Information on specifics on rifle, ammo, and rifle optics recommendations.