

Dave Myrup (UT) filed the following report regarding his hunt in the western Caucasus Mountains:

*I hunted the pristine Caucasus Mountains in the Karachayevo-Cherkesiya Republic for Kuban (Western) tur in late August and September 2008. What a beautiful and breathtaking mountain range! This is nature at its best. I hunted with **Vladimir Koshcheev of ProfiHunt** and **Fernando Gutierrez** from Spain. My friend **Garth Hardy** was to go with me, but due to health issues with his wife it was not in the cards.*

After the usual travel time and flights we had finally arrived in the hunting area late in the evening. We were greeted by the local guides and camp manager. A late supper and a good night's rest was in order. The next morning we packed up a spike camp and rode our horses deep into the Caucasus Mountains. We spotted a group of tur on the ride in, but they were all females.

Late in the day we had camp set up and we were eating. While we were setting up camp the guides had gone to look for tur. One of the guides quickly returned to camp and stated they had found five male tur. We scrambled to get our gear and headed up the rugged mountainside. About 1½ hours later we were looking at the five tur. Fernando said to me, "Dave, who gets to shoot first?" I said, "It is no problem, you can have the first shot." Moments later we had our tur. Fernando got the big one and mine was very respectable. What a day, I said to myself as we walked back to camp in the dark. The hunt had only just begun, though, as four days later I took a Caucasian chamois.

From Salt Lake City to Russia - 75,000 sky miles. Flights within Russia - 200,000 rubles. Together at the top with an old friend and some new ones - priceless.

I missed a big chamois during the hunt. I did enjoy my birthday in the Caucasus. Russia and Georgia were having problems, but for me life was great! I am sure the Lord still smiles as He looks down on the Caucasus Mountains as one of His finer creations.

My friend Vladimir gave me a beautiful handmade Russian hunting knife when we were in camp. What a great memory ... Thanks, my friend.



Dave Myrup (UT) took this Kuban (Western) tur in the Karachayevo-Cherkesiya Republic of Russia in September 2008. Dave hunted with ProfiHunt.



Dave Myrup (UT, right) with Vladimir Koshcheev of ProfiHunt and Dave's Caucasian chamois taken from the Western Caucasus Mountains, September 2008.