OVIS WORLD SLAM

MILESTONE

MARK MEGAZZI • September 2013

Mark Megazzi (CA) completed his Ovis World Slam and Triple Slam #166 after taking a mid-Caucasian tur in Kabardino-Balkariya, Russia in

September 2013. Mark had this to say about his journey:

Patience is not my greatest virtue. Having said that, taking a mid-Caucasian tur this September completed a goal that was 14 years in the making. Family commitments, job requirements,

and financial considerations all factored into a long-range plan. In 1998 I was able to start with the Dall, then 1999 the Rocky Mountain bighorn, and 2000 the Stone sheep, but decided the desert was at the time not within my means. So I started applying to build preference points, and in the meantime began goat and sheep hunting internationally. As the years went by with no luck drawing the desert, the numbers gradually climbed to where the Triple Slam was a goal that I had set for myself. Now a little about that tur hunt.

While at the GSCO convention in Reno last year, Profihunt, with whom I had earlier hunted my Kuban tur, made me an offer that I couldn't refuse. I arrived in the

hunting area on the afternoon of September 2. We left my guide Omar's house, with assistant Hussan, on horseback and after three hours of mostly riding and some walking on steep areas, we arrived at our spike camp just in time to do some quick glassing before dark.

Early next morning, with headlamps, we started walking to a sharp ridge not far from where tur were spotted the evening before. With a clear sky, lights were turned off for the final half hour. Once in position and daylight coming on, we spotted a small group of males 800 yards below, with a nice ram. It was decided we would wait for the rams we had seen last night to work their way below us to their bedding area. As no rams were

seen, I happened to look above us and had a ram looking at me at 25 yards. We both quickly turned to watch him escape. I grabbed

my gun and ran around the point to see eight rams in full flight headed away. A quick snap shot and my ram started his 500-yard roll down the mountain.

#166

He definitely wasn't the biggest in the bunch, but I still feel fortunate to have had a successful hunt. Profihunt did an excellent job with all arrangements and they have an area that has a great population of tur. We saw four different groups of males in less than 24 hours.

Mark, you chose what most international mountain hunters consider THE most difficult trophy on earth to complete your Triple Slam. All the turs are tough, but the mid-Caucasian is usually the toughest... a most fitting trophy for a Triple Slam!



Mark Megazi (CA) took this mid-Caucasian tur to complete both his Ovis World Slam and Triple Slam #166 in September 2013. Mark booked this hunt through Profihunt.

1. Dall sheep (1998) 2. Aoudad (1998) 3. Stone sheep (1999) 4. Rocky Mountain bighorn (2000) 5. Hume argali (2003) 6. Transcaspian urial (2005) 7. Dagestan (Eastern) tur (2006) 8. Kuban (Western) tur (2009) 9. Mouflon (2011) 10. Kamchatka snow sheep (2012) 11. Desert bighorn (2012) 12. Mid-Caucasian tur (2013)