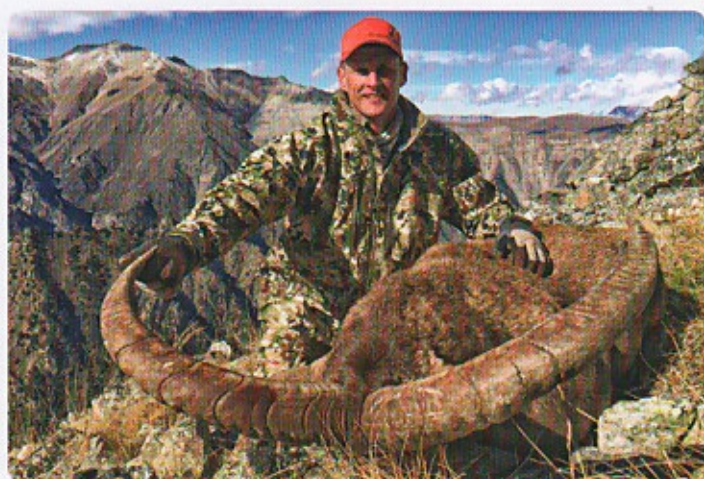


SKYLINE FEATURE

BY SCOTT KENDRIX (TX)



Scott Kendrix (TX) took this mid-Caucasian tur from Kabardino-Balkariya, Russia in November 2017. Scott was hunting with ProfiHunt.

Scott Kendrix (TX) sent us this report following his successful hunt in Russia's Caucasus Mountains during November 2017:

Along the way to achieving one's personal hunting goals, there are certain hunts that are "must have's" on that timeline to meet that end goal. For myself, the three turs were that goal on my road to my Capra Super 20 and my (hopeful) eventual Triple Slam.

We have had this hunt in the works since April 2016, when we returned from our very successful Dagestan (Eastern) tur hunt in Azerbaijan. Upon returning from that hunt, I immediately began planning a return to the Caucasus with my business' (Global Pursuit) Russian partner, ProfiHunt. We collectively ended up deciding on a late season hunt trip to take advantage of the beautiful winter capes the goats would be sporting that time of year, despite the risks of weather and much shorter hunting days compared to the August hunts.

I left the US and first headed over and hunted in Spain for a week. My hunting partner Jason Webster and I had a hugely successful hunt for great Iberian red stag and fallow bucks (no goats in Spain this trip!). After the Spanish hunt concluded, we caught the Aeroflot Madrid-to-Moscow flight and met up with the rest of the group, hunting partners Stephen Skaggs and Jason Jeter, who had arrived in from Texas. We all breezed through the Russian firearms and entry formalities with the help of ProfiHunt and were soon at our hotel in downtown Moscow. The hotel stay(s) were worthy of a story of their own. The Metropol Hotel was incredible. My personal friend Sergey (with whom I have shared ibex and argali camp with in Kyrgyzstan) and his assistant Aleksandra had arranged an incredible evening for all of us while in their beautiful city. I am eternally grateful to the both of them for the hospitality they gave us.

The next day we met up at the airport with the guides who would accompany us for the entirety, Alex Petrushenko was with Stephen and me, and Alexey Maximov would accompany Jason and Jason. We all caught the flight to Mineral'nyye Vody and from there, we split ways. Stephen and I went onto Kabardino-Balkariya to hunt the mid-Caucasian tur, while both Jasons headed SW to Karachayevo-Cherkesiya to hunt the Kuban (Western) tur. The plan was for Stephen and me to spend a week chasing the mid-Caucasian variety, rest a day in Nalchik, and then make the drive

finishing a Grand Slam of North American sheep. It was a surreal moment and one I am grateful to have experienced. It was a brutal day/night getting off of the mountain that night, and once finally down, we had a great celebration back down in the valley at camp that night once we got in ... sleep came easy this night.

The next day had Ivan making plans to move us a couple of hours west to try to wrap up this Caucasus Mountains adventure with a chance to take the Caucasian chamois. We loaded everything up and drove the three hours to the new area and met up with the local game warden/guide. He assured us that there were plenty of chamois and we should have a very good chance at taking our chamois.

The very first morning had us spying a group of 6-8 animals from base camp through the spotting scopes with several being shooters. We got our gear together and began the two-hour climb toward the group. We had hopes of a repeat of the Kuban hunt with fingers crossed to have a chance at taking both together. Once we got into the area of vertical cliffs we had last watched them bed into from down low, they were nowhere to be found, although we knew they would be close. We kept moving uphill slowly with Ivan leading the way, peeking over every edge that could keep them hidden from view. Just as we were approaching the highest cliffs, we got busted. The lead male was playing herd sentry from up above us from a hidden spot; he nailed us and sounded the alarm. Our plan soon went by the wayside as there were now chamois running in all directions. I was ready as one made the fatal mistake



This Kuban (Western) tur was taken from Karachayevo-Cherkesiya, Russia by Scott Kendrix (TX) in November 2017. Scott booked through Global Pursuit.

over to the Kuban area after the other guys had wrapped up their hunts.

Our hunt in the mid-Caucasian area was everything we thought it would be: STEEP, beautiful and what you picture a goat paradise to look like! What an absolutely beautiful pristine area with inspiring views of Mt. Elbrus. The local guides, Ahmed and Rahmed, along with the wildlife department manager Daniel, were great. All were knowledgeable, hardworking and extremely good at finding tur. They were a great group to hunt with. I was fortunate enough on this hunt to take a great 12-year-old mid-Caucasian billy on day two with a chip shot of 137 yards with my 300 H&H. He was everything I had hoped to find on this hunt with a phenomenal chocolate winter coat, age, and those classic mid-type horn configurations showing traits of both varieties on each end of the mountain range.

We then had a day of rest in Nalchik (we were able to catch up with fellow goat hunter and friend from Hungary, Karoly Molitorisz here) before heading to the Kuban area. We made the five-hour drive and arrived late in the evening and met up with well-known Kuban tur guides Ivan and Ali. We made a plan for the following day and had a great evening reliving the last week's events of the previous hunt.

The following day, we rode horses three hours up to as high as we could. There we found a high camp shack that was to be called home for the duration of the hunt (if needed). The plan from the shack was to climb to the high pass above camp, and see what was on the other side. Ali had seen some good trophies in there the week prior. Starting early the next morning, we made the three-hour climb and sure enough, there below us at 1000 yards in a huge alpine bowl was a herd of 8-9 billies, several of which would definitely be shooters. We had a stroke of luck at about 11 a.m., as the herd slowly started making their way up to us in the cliffs to bed for the day. We got set up and once the herd was going to get no closer (350 yards), we tried to complete a double with the ol' 1-2-3 SHOOT trick. Well, it worked, but it certainly wasn't quite in sync! But at 400 yards lay two big Kuban tur billies in the snow!

Stephan had just taken his 17th Capra and my 18th, completing our "Tur Slam"! It was a cloud nine moment and one that I will never forget. To complete this hunt was on par (for me) the same as

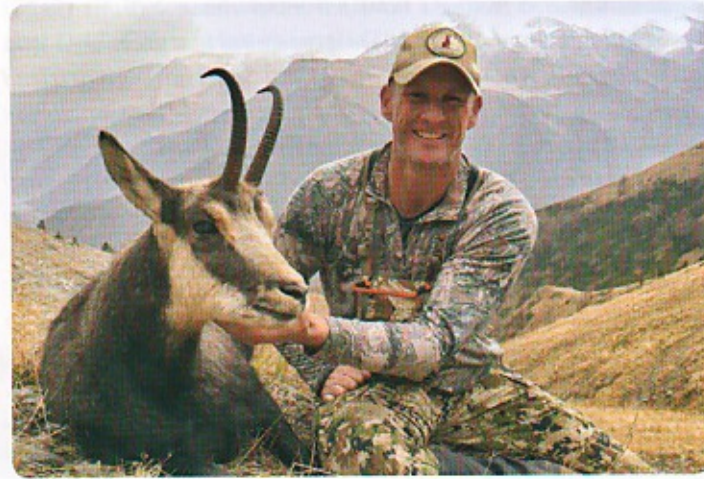
of stopping to look back at the commotion from around 150 yards. One last shot with the 300 H&H and Capra number 19 was down and I soon put my hands on my first Caucasian chamois. Stephen was led on a bit of a wild goose chase but he ended up taking the dominant male buck from the herd about 45 minutes later, a truly great chamois, but I will let him tell his own tale.

All in all, I found Russia wonderful. In fact, one of my absolute best trips abroad ever. Its people were friendly, hardworking and always welcoming. Good food and drink, wonderful mountains and fantastic Capra hunting. Moscow at the beginning and end of the trip was incredible. I cannot wait for a return. I have at least four more hunts in this great destination: Kamchatka snow sheep, Kamchatka brown bear, Chukotka moose, and Altay ibex. It is a place that has most everything. Now, for that 20th ... Maybe Switzerland or Pakistan!

Good luck on your Capra Super 20, Scott! We have no doubt you will get that done in short order. Try to talk your buddies Stephen Skaggs (OK) and Jason Jeter (TX) into sending their own hunt reports. Now that Scott has taken all three tur and the Caucasian chamois, his name can be added to the "Caucasus Quad Slam" list. Speaking of that list, at last count there are only 82 GSCO members' names on it.



Scott Kendrix (TX, left) with Stephen Skaggs (OK, right) and the ProfiHunt team along with their two Kuban (Western) tur trophies taken from Russia in November 2017.



This Caucasian chamois was taken by Scott Kendrix (TX) on a hunt in Karachayevo-Cherkesiya, Russia during November 2017. Scott was hunting with ProfiHunt.