

Hello!

from

16 Oct. 11

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MATTHEW JANKOWICZ

ADAK, ALASKA

I want to tell you about the various wildlife on Adak & some of my hunting adventures.

Adak contains hundreds of caribou. The largest caribou in the world was shot & killed on Adak. Fish & wildlife allowed hunters to take a certain number of caribou each year - to keep the population under control. When I was hunting there the tundra I would find some very large antler racks. Tundra is very hard to walk through it catches your boots a lot & tries to trip you. I notice the caribou would run thru it pretty easy. As I watched them I noticed they hop thru the tundra - so I tried to hop thru it too - especially going down hill & I could also move thru the tundra a lot easier. Of course some areas you have to be careful because the tundra will grow over water & if you not careful you could fall thru the tundra & drown. The tundra was so thick in some areas above water - you could easily walk across it - it's kind of bouncy way.

I was juking in the winter time & the snow completely covered all the tundra. As I was juking down a mountain the snow & tundra gave way & I fell most of the way into a hole - luckily I put my arms out & caught myself - so my head & arms were above the hole - because below was a underground stream about 20-25 feet below me, I probably would of hurt my self badly or been killed. Luckily a buddy of mine was below me & he pulled me out of the hole.

Adak also had other animals like foxes, eagles & a lot of salmon. The foxes & eagles were very friendly. A lot of foxes & bald eagles would come right up to you & ask for food, especially in the winter time. I was walking once below the main cliff line in the winter time & there was about 4-5 feet of snow on the ground,

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ADAK, ALASKA

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THERE WAS A PATH SHOVELLED OUT, SO WE COULD WALK BEHIND THE CHIN HAN. IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PATH WERE 3 BALTIC EAGLES. WAITING FOR SCARS, WHEN THAT WAS THE ONLY PATH I COULD USE & HAD TO USE IT TO GET WHERE I HAD TO GO, SO I SLOWLY APPROACHED THE 3 EAGLES & WENT AS FAR AS I COULD TO ONE SIDE OF THE PATH - SO I COULD GET BY THEM. THEY STOOD AS HIGH AS MY HEAD & AS I PASSED THEM, ALL 3 OF THEM STARED INTO MY EYES - LIKE THEY WANTED SOMETHING TO EAT - THANKFULLY IT WASN'T ME. & IT WAS A AMAZING EXPERIENCE.

ANOTHER TIME THE EAGLES WEREN'T AS MECE, WHEN I WAS FISHING FOR SALMON THE EAGLES WOULD BECOME VERY AGGRESSIVE. AS I WAS PULLING MY SALMON OUT OF THE WATER, EAGLES WOULD SWOOP DOWN ON THE ACRE & TRY TO GRAB MY SALMON OR SNEAK UP ON ME & GET MY SALMON FROM ME.

ANOTHER TIME I WAS HIKING WITH A BUDDY ALONG A LAKE SHORE & THE SHREWDNESS STARTED DISAPPEARING - SO WE CAME OUTSIDE ALONG THE LAKE BUT IT WOULD BE IN THE WATER & IT WAS TOO DEEP TO WALK IN SO WE HAD ONLY ONE OTHER CHOICE, WE HAD TO CLIMB STRAIGHT UP A MOUNTAIN (70°-80° ANGLE) CLIMBING FUNDRA TO PULL OURSELVES UP, AS WE WERE CLIMBED - ABOVE $\frac{1}{2}$ WAY UP - 2 EAGLES STARTED ATTACKING US & SCREECHING AT US, THEY CAME WITHIN FEETES OF US. LUCKILY WE HAD A GRENADIER ON & RELEASING POLE ATTACHED, I NEVER PULLED MY GUN OUT TO KEEP THEM AWAY, THEY KEPT ATTACKING US AS WE CLIMBED TOWARDS THE TOP & ESCAPING AT THE TOP, WHEN WE GOT TO THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN - WE FOUND OUT WHY THEY WERE ATTACKING US, THERE WAS A LARGEST BALTIC'S NEST WITH 2 YOUNG EAGLES IN IT, WHEN WE SAW THE NEST - WE THREW SOME PELLETES QUICKLY & HELED AWAY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE - WHEN I DID, I WAS HELOW AWAY FROM THE NEST & I TURN AROUND & MY BUDDY WASN'T WITH ME, HE WAS SHOCKED BY THE NEAR TAWFUL POWER OF THE PARENT EAGLES ATTACKING HIM, I YELLED AT HIM & GOT HIM AWAY QUICKLY BEFORE HE GOT HIT, WHEN THEY ARE NOW, REGRETE TO MAKE ANY COMMENT OR MENTION ME, S