

other means. After a couple of early dead ends, Ron was able to secure not one, but two landowner compensation tags with the help of Chad Bliss, chairman of the Eureka County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife.

After adding another hunter for the second antelope tag, the hunt was officially on.

Ron, Darcy, Chad, hunters, friends and family headed into the field in late August elated that the dream of N.O.W. had so quickly become a reality. The hunt was a huge success with both disabled hunters successfully harvesting their antelope and as a final bit of icing on the cake, Rob McMillin, owner of Captured Moments Taxidermy is donating the mounts.

While N.O.W. is off to a great start, lessons were learned and much work remains to build off of this year's success and secure the program's future. Gaining non-profit status, purchasing an off-road wheelchair and securing sources of long-term, stable funding and big game tags are just a few of the challenges facing Ron and Darcy. But if their accomplishments thus far are any indication



N.O.W. members after a successful antelope hunt.

of what the future holds, disabled hunters in Nevada have every reason to believe N.O.W. will be around to lend them a hand.

You can make a donation, read the full story and view a video of this year's antelope hunt or find out more about Nevada Outdoorsmen in Wheelchairs by visiting their website at www.nvoutdoorsmen.com.

67 Years of Hunting...and Counting

By Aaron Meier

When Nevada Department of Wildlife game biologist Mike Dobel first met Roger Iveson, the then 70-year-old hunter was cleaning his ducks after a successful day of waterfowl hunting in Northern Nevada.

"I had seen him around several times before, so I went up and introduced myself. When he said his name was Iveson, I mentioned that I knew several Ivesons in the area. He smiled and half joking-half serious replied 'Well, I'm the Iveson that hunts.' Even though anyone who knows the Ivesons knows that they are all avid hunters, he wanted to make sure I knew who the serious hunter was," said Dobel.

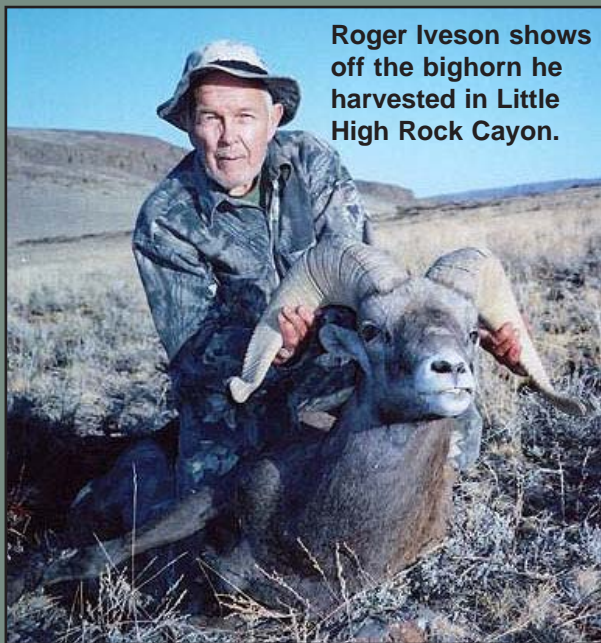
The now 75-year-old native Nevadan got his chance to prove that

fact like never before this season as he defied the odds and drew antelope, deer, elk and bighorn sheep tags all in the same year. Dobel estimates the odds of drawing all four hunts at more than 2,000 to one.

"I started scouting in July, since then, I've only been home a couple of times to stock up



Roger Iveson after a successful elk hunt. The 75-year-old sportsman drew antelope, elk, deer, and bighorn sheep tags this year.



Roger Iveson shows off the bighorn he harvested in Little High Rock Canyon.

on my supplies,” said Iveson after harvesting his bighorn in late September. “At one point I had three seasons going on at the same time.”

He reports that his antelope hunt took longer than expected, leaving him behind on his elk and deer hunt. Iveson still harvested everything but a deer. His bighorn, however, proved to be the most challenging. Hunting in the high elevation of Little High Rock Canyon, about 80 miles north of Gerlach, Iveson dug a hole just deep enough for him to lie down near where he knew the sheep would pass.

“I got into that hole about five in the morning, and I didn’t harvest my sheep until around 3:30 in the afternoon. After a while, that hole was like a torture chamber. I tell you what else, that air is thin up there” said Iveson.

Despite everyone in his hunting party pushing him to use a rifle, Iveson chose to use

his weapon of choice...a bow; after all, he’s been bow hunting for longer than most of the people in his hunt party have been alive. “I started shooting with a bow around 1957,” he stated.

With the kill, Iveson has now completed his grand slam, harvesting a Dall, Stone, California and Bighorn Sheep. Although his success should not come as much of a surprise; he has been hunting since he was eight.

Iveson was born and raised in Gerlach. As a young boy, he reports that his real hunter education came at the hands of the older sportsmen in the area. “I did a lot of hunting during the war (World War II). With all the young men off fighting, there were only old men and young kids out there, but I got a real education from those older guys,” said Iveson.

When asked how his wife Sherry handled him being out hunting for months at a time, Iveson simply smiles and states “she’s a ranch girl from Battle Mountain, she’s used to it.”

Dobel reports that from time to time he might see a hunter in his 70s out in the field, and he says that he can remember maybe two other men in their 70s bringing a bighorn into the NDOW office in Reno, but to have a man dig a hole and lay in it for hours, and then spring up and harvest a bighorn with a bow is nothing short of remarkable.

“I tell you what, I’ve seen him in the field hunting waterfowl and that man never seems to slow down. That stuff wears me out, but he just tears through it. He is one tough character,” said Dobel. “If I am half as sharp and physically strong as he is when I’m in my 60s, I’ll consider myself lucky.”



BECOME A VOLUNTEER

The Nevada Department of Wildlife is always looking for volunteers. Wildlife volunteers are involved in projects such as fish stocking, fish sampling, nesting surveys, check station assistance, angler education, hunter education, data entry, and office assistance.

Volunteers are needed throughout the year. For more information or to register as a volunteer, visit the NDOW website at www.ndow.org.