

The first thing a hunter hunts is a good spot for game; here are 12 of them, and at least one is sure to be within your traveling sights

By ERWIN A. BAUER

Selway Wilderness, Idaho

The largest elk herd in the world (about 12,000 to 15,000 animals) is located in this timbered high country along the Montana border. In addition, a hunter has a chance at mule deer, bears, and blue grouse. It's best, but not entirely necessary, to pack (by horse-pack train) into the mountains, and guides and outfitters are available for the purpose.

Commercial Shooting Preserves in the East

Much good hunting still remains in New England and the East—for example, in the Adirondacks and in Maine's Moosehead, Rangeley, and Spednic Lake areas. But for guaranteed gunning close to home, it's hard to match the commercial preserves. Depending on the rates, everything is included: guides, trained bird dogs, plenty of targets, dressing game, clubhouse, and locker rooms. Game can include partridges, quail, exotic pheasants, and mallards, but mostly the shooting is for ringneck pheasants. For a free list of preserves and their locations, write to Sportsmen's Service Bureau, 250 E. 43rd St., New York 17, N.Y.

Eastern Montana

Teddy Roosevelt was the first sportsman to discover this premium hunting area in the Yellowstone Valley around Sydney. There still are good, bragging-size mule deer in the badlands all around. Pheasant hunting in the irrigated fields and Yellowstone River bottoms is excellent. So is waterfowling in the ponds and irrigation ditches.

Upper Peninsula, Michigan, and Northern Wisconsin

This is a band of evergreen real estate laced with clear streams and dotted with cold lakes. It always furnishes good hunting, but 1960 should be particularly good for ruffed grouse. These grand game birds are about at the top of their periodical "cycle" here. A good deer season is likely, too. Hunters also will find sharptail grouse, bear, bobcats, and rabbits.

Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas

This warm and sunny valley deserves a top spot for its splendid dove shooting alone. Both mourning and whitewing doves are superabundant during their regular autumn migrations. And nearby there's also top shooting for turkeys, deer, quail, geese, and javelinas. A hunter can head-quarter at Brownsville, Harlingen, or McAllen.

Alaska

Except on the immediate fringes of Fairbanks, Anchorage, and other population centers, the entire 49th state is a promised land for hunters. It's the only range of giant brown bears, one of the world's most magnificent animals. Add also grizzly, polar, and black bears. Perhaps no better moose hunting exists anywhere—and there are Dall sheep, mountain goats, caribou, wolves, deer, and ptarmigan. For details, write to the Alaska Tourist Bureau in Juneau.

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