

Is Newsweek right? Is hunting eroding the trophy gene pool?—p. 20

May 2009

Build Your Skills: How to Snap Into Shooting Positions



2009's
Best
Gear

American HUNTER

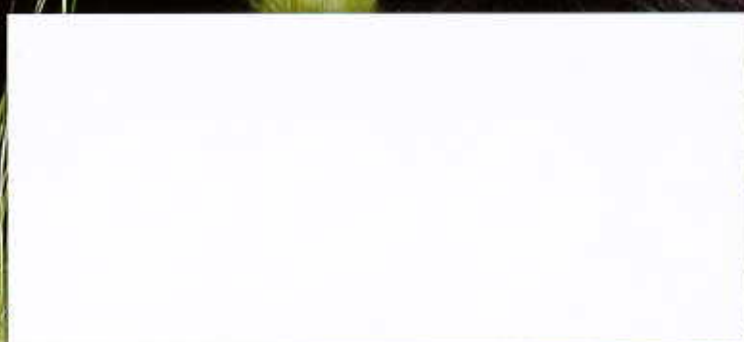
NRA Official Journal of the National Rifle Association

We're Loaded For Bear

- » Running with the Houndsmen
- » Stalking Black Bears in Grizzly Country

TESTED:

Browning X-Bolt
SKB GC7 Shotguns
Briley Thin Wall Chokes



Gear

Gear of the Year

Revision Sawfly Eyewear

The Revision Sawfly Eyewear System provides an unrestricted field of view, adjustable arms, a head strap and interchangeable clear, solar and high-contrast lenses for varying light conditions. Available in two sizes, it features indestructible polycarbonate lenses that provide high-velocity performance three times more than required by the ANSI Z87.1 standard. The system is prescription-ready with an optional Rx Carrier available. Yes, we say the eyes have it. www.revisioneyewear.com



Ammunition

Ammunition Product of the Year

Hornady .300 & .338 Ruger Compact Magnums

Hornady tops our list a second straight year with its .300 and .338 Ruger Compact Magnums based on the beltless .375 Ruger case. The .300 and .338 RCMs mark the company's entry into the short-mag world by matching the performance of two leading big-game rounds—the .300 and .338 Win. Mag., respectively—with shorter rifle barrels and 15 percent less powder. How? Hornady's remarkable double-base ball propellant, which maximizes the potential of short-fat cartridges. That, coupled with Ruger's Hawkeye and its 20-inch barrel, gives hunters more bang for the buck, proving bigger is not always better. www.hornady.com



Photos: Lloyd Hill

Vehicle

Vehicle of the Year

Kawasaki Brute Force 750 4x4

The Kawasaki Brute Force 750 4x4 is the highest-performance ATV in its class. Powered by a 90-degree, four-stroke V-twin engine, it displaces 749cc and features Kawasaki's Variable Front Differential Control that delivers torque equally to the front wheels. An independent rear suspension system and front driveshafts feature ATV cardan joints to absorb torque fluctuations and provide 10.6 inches of ground clearance. Four-bulb headlamps are an industry first. And if all that's not enough, the NRA Outdoors edition is clad in more Advantage MAX-I HD camouflage than any other ATV. www.kawasaki.com

