



Hunt/Fish Retreat

Info Pack 1

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Thank you for your interest in COFA's Hunt/Fish Retreat. Hopefully, this package will answer most all of your questions. If not, please call or e-mail Mike at 303-456-0555/mikeb@cofausa.org or George at 303-880-3800/gareinbold@msn.com.

Who is COFA?

The vision and goal of the Christian Outdoor Fellowship of America is to use God's great outdoors to promote the gospel and encourage a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We do this through hunting & fishing retreats, hiking, camping and other outdoor activities as well as speaking at churches, game banquets and men's groups.

Can you imagine the impact if each one of us made Jesus real to every hunter, fisherman, hiker or camper that we met out in the woods, waters, or fields? My friends, we can tell you, the only Jesus that most people will ever see is you while you are actively pursue your love of the outdoors. At COFA, we use the gifts, talents, and outdoor interests for him. Why not take someone with you as you enjoy hunting, fishing or horseback riding who isn't involved in a church. . . or simply needs a friend.

The doors are open for sharing the gospel and the tools are right at your fingertips: the mountains, meadows, lakes, streams, trees, and prairies. God's handiwork and the beauty of his creation are just waiting for you to share with someone. Let us help you make this happen. Invite your family and friends to a COFA event today, and enjoy the great outdoors as God intended.

COFA's Hunt/Fish Retreat

COFA's goal is to promote hunting in a wholesome Christian atmosphere, throughout the United States. We help believers share their faith in an outdoor setting with friends, family, and un-churched. Everyone will have a great time as we hunt and fish and get to know other outdoor enthusiasts in a non-threatening way.

Are you one of those men who enjoys sharing around a campfire about an elk or deer you let get away or that big fish you were able to catch? Maybe you're just interested in talking to like-minded people about hunting, guns, ballistics, elk, deer & bear. Why not try a COFA hunt. We have hunters and fishermen who would enjoy meeting and talking with you about shared outdoor experiences. Hopefully this will be the year you'll take time to hunt with us. If you have never hunted in the Rocky Mountains and have always wanted to, here is your chance to have the hunt of a lifetime.

History of COFA Hunt/Fish Retreats

COFA has been hosting elk hunts since 1987 and we believe that our hunt/fish retreats have been getting better and better every year. We have seen well over 500 people attend the past 21 years. As we add more retreat camps, we continue to see the need of speaking to every hunter and fisherman about the gospel and these retreats allow us to get the message out.

Over the years, we have seen how important it is to combine our love of hunting and fishing with our passion for sharing our faith. People can relate so much easier when they have something in common with each other. At COFA's hunt/fish retreats, if any of the men are un-churched hunters or fishermen, we have an immediate common bond – our love of God's great outdoors.

Dates and General Area Information

This year (2009) COFA will be having both hunt/fish retreats (archery and rifle) near Ridgway, CO on the Western Slope. Ridgway is a small town about 30 minutes south of Montrose and about 30 minutes north of Ouray.

The 2009 Archery Hunt & Fishing Retreat will be Thursday, August 27th through Wednesday, September 5th, 2009.
10 people limit

The 2009 Rifle Hunt & Fishing Retreat will be Thursday, October 15th through Wednesday, October 21st, 2009.
15 people limit

Membership Donation

We ask that each person attending COFA's Hunt/Fish Retreat donate \$40 for it's national ministry.

Non-Refundable Deposits

A non-refundable confirmation fee of \$500 is to be received by COFA no later than 4 weeks prior to the day we leave for the Hunt/fish Retreat.

Basic Itinerary

Thursday - We'll be assembling everyone in the Montrose area to finalize gassing up any ATV's and trucks, buying food for the camp, filling propane bottles, etc. Then we'll head for the base camp. Everyone pitches in with the setting up of camp which includes military tents, a wall tent for the kitchen, and a few latrines. After dinner, we'll spend a short time around the

campfire.

- Friday – For the hunters, it’s a day of scouting and determining blind and/or tree stand locations. For the fishermen, they can start fishing at one of the near reservoirs, streams, rivers, or ponds. Campfire after dinner.
- Saturday - Hunting begins and fishing continues. Campfire after dinner.
- Sunday - Hunting and fishing continue. We will also be going into town to enjoy dinner at the True Grit Café in Ridgway, Colorado. No campfire.
- Monday - Hunting and fishing continue. Campfire after dinner.
- Tuesday - Hunting and fishing continue. Campfire after dinner.
- Wednesday - Hunting and fishing only in the morning. Everyone pitches in at about 10:30 AM to breakdown the camp and reload the trailers and vehicles. We’ll try to be on the road by 1:00 PM.

We are NOT hunting or fishing guides

COFA staff and volunteers are NOT guides. We do not promote that we are guides in anyway shape or form.

Hunting and Fishing in the Rocky Mountains

If you aren't in good physical condition at this time, we can help you set up a training program to make sure you’ll be up to the task of hunting and fishing the high country. The altitude and the demanding country will run you down fast. Nothing ruins a hunt faster than being out of shape. The country we will be hunting is rugged with deep canyons and drainages. The better shape you’re in, the further you will be able to get “back in there” for the “big ones”. In the mean time, walk up and down stairs; take long walks (up steep hills, or mountains if possible) with a day pack and hunting boots on. This will begin to prepare your feet, back, and shoulders for exertions that you may not experience on a day to day basis.

Drinking, Drugs, and Smoking

Under no circumstances does COFA allow the drinking of alcohol or the taking of any drugs on any of our outings. Smoking is allowed away from the COFA tents. Please be aware that animals WILL pick up the scent of cigarette and cigar smoke. Also, be sensitive to others who may be allergic to tobacco smoke.

COFA does not guarantee the taking animal or catching of fish

At our Hunt/Fish Retreat you'll most likely be able to see animals, everyone in past years have all had the opportunity to take an animal. How good your aim is remains up to you. The men who have enjoyed their time fishing with us have always caught fish; again, your skill will determine the rest.

Weather

You should plan for all kinds of weather. During the archery season in the Colorado high country and Western Slope (September), temperatures range from the 70's for the highs down into the 30's for the lows. With a 30 to 40 degree swing in temperatures during the day, one hour it can be very warm and the next hour, very cold and rainy. Also, since Colorado has a dry climate, the temperatures will feel warmer due to the lack of humidity. Mornings and evenings will generally be cool, so dressing in layers is important. It's vital that you wear layers (especially base layers) that have moisture wicking capabilities. September weather in the high country is very unsettled with rain, sleet/hail, and snow being common at higher elevations. Your day pack should include at least the items we'll mention later in case you are forced to spend the night away from camp. Be prepared for extremes, both hot and cold.

If you would like to reserve your place at either the archery/fishing or rifle/fishing camps, please send your deposit made out to COFA at either:

COFA
PO Box 1540
Arvada, CO 80001

or

George Reinbold
15750 W. 13th Ave.
Golden, CO 80401

If there are any questions we may not have addressed, please call Mike at 303-456-0555 or George at 303-880-3800.

Blessings to you and your family,

Christian Outdoor Fellowship of America