

Guide of the Year!

Dennis R. Cease



East coast born in our Nations capitol of Washington, D. C., in November of 1959, Dennis Cease dreamed of a life in the outdoors from a very early age. He grew up exploring and stalking the hills of Southern Maryland where he graduated from high school. After furthering his education at Charles County Community College, Dennis began his dream career with the Maryland Game and Fish Department in 1979. Working his way up through the ranks of the Game Department, Dennis was a real asset to the State of Maryland, throughout his career until his early retirement in January of 2007, all the while planning to re-locate to his "favorite place", Wyoming. For many years, Dennis would devote as much of his personal vacation time as possible, traveling to Wyoming, pursuing his passion and honing his skills of Western big game hunting!

In February of 1993, while attending the Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show in Harrisburg Pennsylvania, Dennis first met Jim and Deb Schell, owner/operators of Rough Country Outfitters and Guides, out of Glenrock, Wyoming. And after a couple years of planning and talking back and forth with each other, Dennis started his part-time career and full time passion of guiding hunters for Rough Country Outfitters in 1995! As a full-time employee of the State of Maryland, in addition to his regular vacation days, Dennis was able to gather additional days off or "comp time", allowing him to guide and average of six weeks a year for RCO!

Since the very beginning, Dennis has shown the utmost in integrity and

professionalism, as he has successfully guided everything from Girl Scouts on horseback pack-trips through the Bighorn Mountains, to antelope, deer, and elk hunts throughout the State of Wyoming. Dennis is skilled in rifle as well as archery hunting strategies, but he admits that archery elk hunting for bugling bulls in September, and big turkey gobblers in the Spring are his favorite hunts! If the critter can be called, he loves it, and is darn good at it! And as a true testament to his attitude and abilities as a guide, many return hunters continually request "Denny" as their guide, again and again! It is dedicated guides like Dennis that make the outfitters business a success, without them it would not be possible! In 2010, Denny will continue to "ride for the brand", guiding his 16th season for RCO!

True to his words, Dennis has continued to follow his dreams and in 2007, bought some rural property outside of Wheatland. Not letting any grass grow under his feet, he loaded up lock, stock and barrel and headed for his new home in Wyoming! Like Denny fondly says, "I wasn't born in Wyoming, but I got here as soon as I could". After moving "out west", Dennis has started his 2nd full time career, this time with the State of Wyoming, and is currently serving as the Law Enforcement Supervisor for Curt Gowdy State Park, in the Medicine Bow Mountains between Cheyenne and Laramie. We can only assume that Dennis will serve the people and State Parks of Wyoming as graciously and successfully as he has served Rough Country Outfitters and Guides over the past 15 years!