

EAGLE LAKES “2020” SUMMER NEWSLETTER

“80 DAYS UNTIL THE DUCK OPENER”

Eagle Lakers:

I hope all are doing well as can be expected under these unfortunate circumstances that is our life today. We have been very blessed here with nobody sick to date. We also welcomed two new granddaughters a week apart in March. Jake and Ryan were both blessed with new daughters. All babies & mommies are doing fabulous. Another tid bit of good news, our lodge manager Kaci got married this summer to a wonderful family man, Ryan Powell. Ryan has two great kids to add to the family. We wish them and their new blended family the best moving forward.

RANCH PROPERTIES:

My crew has been extremely busy building new ponds. We will have several new areas to hunt this year in circle #2. The boys built some killer isolated corn ponds in the middle of our farm ground. These ponds are right in the flyway of the two refuges that hold hundreds of thousands of quackers that call Eagle Lakes Home. We also built a new pump station and made some of our existing ponds a little deeper. We will be able to control the water so much easier and have a lot more open water to choose from during the really cold cycles. All of these areas will have aerators and some moving water. The new jackhammer pond has a beautiful new luxury pit blind concealed in a rock island in the middle of hundreds of acres of corn. Yes, you guessed it, the guys spent weeks jackhammering through rock to be able to get the new blind right where it needed to be. We also built some new blinds in existing areas. The feedback on the new blinds was overwhelmingly positive.

GOOSE PROPERTIES:

We will again have a major presence in the zone. We now have goose operations in six counties. We have kept pretty much the same leases for years and always pick up a few new ones every year to keep us in birds throughout the entire season. Not to mention, some of the best Honker

hunting around is right below the lodge on Eagle Lakes Ranch. The snow goose shooting was very strong for us when we targeted them. Most of the time we were going after the dark geese and just harvesting as many snows as possible. The state will have an extended season on the snows again this year.

DOVES:

Sept 1st is right around the corner. We just have a few slots to fill for the first couple of days. The rest of the month is wide open for reservations as of now. After opening day, kids are ½ price (17 years & younger) for the rest of the season. We will also be running our combo trips for bass, walleye, salmon & doves.

KID SPECIALS:

We will be running specials for kids 17 years and younger throughout the season. Follow our newsletters and like us on Facebook for details.

COVID-19 PROTOCOL:

We plan on being fully operational this fall! The lodge is deemed essential for our overnight guests so that won't be a problem. We may have to tweak how we feed our guests and serve them alcohol. We will arrange our dining room to allow for as much social distancing as possible. We will also have limited outdoor seating available early in the season before weather dictates us having to move inside. Worst case scenario we could deliver food and alcohol to individual rooms if necessary. Nothing will change with the quality of our product. We will have both extra servers and housekeepers on board this season for everyone's safety. We will have exact rules and expectations in place before the Dove opener in September. All rooms will be completely sanitized even more than normal between each new guest's arrival. **That being said it will be critical for all guests to pack up their belongings and move it to a safe storage area on the last day of your trip before you leave on your morning hunt. This will be extremely crucial with no exceptions so we can stay in compliance.** ELR will have updates as we get closer to the season on our plans for handling the current pandemic. ELR is going to do everything in our power to promote the health and safety of our guests and employees.

We want to make sure our Tool of a Governor doesn't get his panties in a bunch.



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(AS YOU CAN SEE, INSLEE LOOKS TERRIFIED)

We are going to purchase a bunch of portable blinds as well just in case the state requires only so many people per blind. I doubt this will be an issue but we will be prepared if necessary. If a guest has a special need in this area please let the office know ASAP so we can plan accordingly. I would highly recommend each guest have a dark colored mask on their person. You can use your mask for both safety and concealment in the hunting blind if you wish. Our governor is requesting that you wear a mask while entering the lodge but you will not be required to wear it once you're inside unless you wish to do so. There will be hand sanitizer in all areas of the lodge. We are recommending you use it frequently. Please respect other guest wants and wishes as it relates to their personal space. Some guests are going to be more cautious than others and we will all respect that.

COVID CANCELATION POLICY:

If someone tests positive we will give them a full refund of their deposit with a doctors note. Before coming to the lodge, if you choose not to travel because of this we will carry forward your deposit to another mutually acceptable date. If we have to cancel your trip for Covid-19 related issues we will carry forward all deposits to the 2021 season. All other stipulations in our normal cancellation policy remain in full effect.

DATES/DEPOSITS:

There are a lot of you who have dates blocked out but haven't confirmed with your deposit yet. I have been very patient this year because of all the uncertainties we're going through, but we either need to get your deposits in or let the dates go. We are starting to see a few more folks trying to book their trip in the last week or two. If anyone has trouble with the 50% deposit we will work with you on a lesser amount or payment plan if necessary. I realize how tough it is out there and we will do whatever it takes to make your trip a fabulous experience

LODGING AVAILABILITY:

We have some rooms still unoccupied on:

Oct 10-18, 10-19, 10-20, 10-21, 10-22, 10-23, 10-24, 10-27, 10-28, 10-29

Nov 11-5, 11-8, 11-9, 11-10, 11-11, 11-12, 11-17, 11-18, 11-19, 11-20, 11-21, 11-22, 11-23

Dec 12-1, 12-2, 12-3, 12-6, 12-13, 12-14, 12-15, 12-16, 12-17, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30

Jan 1-10, 1-11, 1-12, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15, 1-16, 1-17, 1-24, 1-25, 1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29

Some of these dates we just have a couple rooms to fill and others we need to fill quite a few rooms.

DRIVE DIRECT HUNTS:

The calendar is pretty wide open for now with just a few cycles being completely booked. We will have some good specials going on through the season. If you would like to be on a short notice list when we have more ducks and geese than clients please let the office know soon. This worked out great for lots of you last season and we appreciate you putting your groups together at the last minute. Those of you who did were rewarded with some epic hunts.

MULE DEER HUNTS:

Contact Ryan Bernsen, 509-528-8754, for archery mule deer hunts that are available.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE EAGLE LAKES TEAM!

BEST WISHES, BE SAFE

HAPPY HUNTING

Mike B

***If anyone has specific questions or needs help regarding payment options, PLEASE don't hesitate to call me about anything. 509-750-6922 Cell**

***All of our staff will be returning for the 20/21 season in some capacity!**

