

“Goofy”

ROBERT RAMSEY

Getting drawn for one of the best tags in the country is a great feeling, knowing that you don't have the money for a guide is another thing. The famous Arizona Strip is big, vast, intimidating, and flat-out tough to hunt. I recruited a few guys to help my dad and I on our hunt—Malcolm Smith of Flagstaff and Dan Pottinger of Phoenix. I also

hunt turning up the same results we were reeling to figure out what to do next. We brainstormed for a bit going through different plans and areas, but when David finally asked what I thought, all I could say was, “Let's go get Goofy”!

We traveled a few miles with David telling me to turn here and turn there before finally pulling out on top of a small hill. We parked and started to glass, the time was 1:30pm and within less than 30 seconds, (no joke 30 seconds), of glassing David said, “I got a deer...it's a buck and I think it's Goofy.”

With 1,400 yards to go we were off! Closing the distance to 550 yards we relocated the buck to find that he had bedded. Looking to get closer, I bailed off the next draw as David held back. I got into position and set up at 319 yards, but did not have a shot. I could not get an angle on the old buck in his bed so I inched closer and closer setting up four more times before I finally crawled to a point with a

shot. I re-ranged the buck at 278 yards, placed the crosshairs, and squeezed off a round to a big bang followed by a loud thud. I knew I had hit him and hit him hard. I loaded another round, shot but missed, and then the third shot piled him up for good.

I was so pumped and I could hear David yelling from the ridge behind me. I waited for him to get to me so we could claim the buck together. As we got to him, it was a great buck, a 34-inch wide 6x4 with good mass scoring right at 185 inches. I was in shock, we had killed the buck I wanted, not the highest scoring deer, but one with loads of character and lots of width! I could not have done this without the help of my dad and friends! Thanks to Dan, Malcolm, my Dad (Tom) and David for all their help and a special thank you to my wife for letting me go as she understands how, “MULEY CRAZY” I am.



GROSS SCORE: 185 | POINTS: 4X6 | SPREAD: 34 | LOCATION: ARIZONA

had a friend that had a few clients in the area, his name is David Pereda. David went over some areas to check and showed me some trail camera pictures; one that stuck out was a crazy looking wide non-typical deer. I told David that I would not hesitate to hammer that buck as he was so different and impressive. In fact, at first glance I said, “That buck is just plain goofy.”

The first few days of the hunt turned up little success...not from the lack of does, but from the lack of bucks. Scratching my head for what to do next I went back to David's camp to check in. To my surprise they had tagged out with their clients and David told me that if I had room, he would join our camp to help out. With David in camp our team grew a ton stronger, but after the morning

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