## Andrew Lake Lodge & Camps

**FALL 2015** 

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### Fly in Adventure

Operating remote wilderness fly in camps always provides some interesting challenges. Logistics, weather and mechanical breakdowns can all make things difficult. Throw in forest fires, low visibility with heavy smoke and things can stay far from dull.

The past season saw all of the above and despite all the challenges we had another incredible season! Luckily the fires stayed away from the camps, although there was a close one to Andrew Lake that started about 25 miles away and burned for over 2 months. Good work from Alberta wildfire teams and some August rain stopped the fire approximately 2 miles south of the lake.

#### **Fishing**

An early ice out made things easier this year. It broke up off our floatplane base lake in Fort Smith on May 1. Last year May 23.



As usual top walleye catches exceeded 100 per boat.

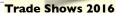
Many solid fish in the 4-6 pound range and some 8-10 pound! It was fantastic to have so many

Advance Booking Fishing

5 Day Special \$1495+GST

Andrew, Leland & Bocquene Lakes from Fort McMurray per person/ minimum 6 people

> returning groups rebook for next season, including Darryl Kindred and Shane Ramstead's super crew that will both be back for their exclusive weeks in 2016!



Las Vegas, Nevada CES – Consumer Electronics Show: January 6 – 8 Las Vegas, Nevada SCI – Safari Club International: February 4 – 7 Red Deer, Alberta Sportsman & Outdoor Adventure Show: February 26 - 28 Edmonton, Alberta Boat & Outdoor Show: March 10 – 13



#### **South Leland Lake**

Early ice out did provide different water temperatures and the action was found in new spots. Some huge Pike in the early season on both Lakes as well as lake trout on the surface. Darren Kullman's group was back again and reeled in terrific catches of all species. They have rebooked for 2016 opening week! Walleye were early on the spawn and good catches reported through the spring and summer. Having all 3 species in one system definitely offers exciting variety.

#### North Leland Lake

Kevin & Crystal were busy this season with many anglers through the spring and summer. New "Camp Manager," their infant son Wendel enjoyed his first summer at the lake. Many camp upgrades were made and the new cabin is nearly finished. It should be

officially open next spring! This will allow for groups of 2-4 to book the small cabin and groups of 6 or more in the large cabins

#### **Andrew Lake**

With low water levels and early ice out many new spots were fished. Lake trout staved active through the summer and the fall spawn was intense. The Pike fishing was stellar with some of the best trophies through the mid summer. Some quests did a combination trip and fished a couple days at Bocquene for Walleve to compliment the species mix. It was excellent hosting our full service groups. LeVerne & Carole Ellsworth did an outstanding job hosting our groups in the early season and provided the full service meal trips. Good to have L & H Industrial crew back. As always, Jim Kirkman and Dave Hill were always busy checking off projects from the Job List! New terminal building "T-6" is at the runway!



#### Royal Alberta Museum Geological Study

We were proud to host the Museum as they collected the unique samples from Andrew Lake and will have them on display in the new museum geological exhibit. The province's sole claim to the Canadian shield is our corner of the province and some of those outcroppings contain rocks 2-4 billion years old!



#### **Arctic Adventure - Lynx Tundra Lodge**

Ice out was normal with initial break up around June 25 and our first guests on June 27 navigated through the 50% ice covered lake. The fish didn't care. Jesse Reimer's crew was back again to kick off the season and now with a little more experience on the lake, they scored on more and bigger fish. Our great longtime guests Tim & Joyce Gillese made their first trip to the Tundra and enjoyed the adventure. They had already come to Andrew Lake and Bocquene lake earlier in the year, making it a triple crown fishing season with us in 2015!

12 year returning guest and first time Tundra guests Larry Normandeau and his brother Greg, can't get enough of the angling action! They kept a fishing log. See on last page.





Early season action didn't disappoint. Jesse Reimer with a couple of beauties.

# Hunting 2015

In the north, the change to fall season brings many changes. The hot days of summer disappear and the nights cool off. Frost can greet you in the morning and the colours of the autumn leaves can be spectacular.

These are changes we are use to, this year we experienced a new surprise as the reservations for tags for our Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 532 were sold out. Some of our booked hunters



were not able to get tags and consequently could not take their trips. We strongly recommend to our hunters to put in for the draw to ensure you can get a tag for your hunt.

For the hunters that did get tags, the hunting and fishing was exciting and we had some excellent results. Once again early hunts had better luck calling and conditions varied greatly over the season. It was tremendous to have many returning hunters some coming for their 4th, 5th and 15th year.

Success was 75% for our self guided camps and 100% on guided.

Reserve now for 2016 as we are already nearly booked up!

#### Highlights from the season



September 13 - 20 Gene Holman and Harold Nikolaj were on their first trip with us and were at our South Leland Outpost Camp. They had planned this trip for a couple years and were delighted to score on a bull and enjoyed the fly in camp.



September 12 - 26 - Trip #15 in 15 years for Pierre Frigon, Gord Trenholm and Reg Cook were back and this year they brought a new guest, Perry Ambrose.

First morning out they called in a bull and connected. Another bull came in close to the camp location and was in thick cover not offering a good shot. The annual "KFC Pike" lunch was enjoyed. The secret 11 herbs and spices never tasted so good! The boys have rebooked trip #16 for 2016!

**September 13-19** - Returning hunter Joe York made the long

drive from Wyoming to Fort Smith with his grandson Connor.



They hunted Andrew Lake with guide Ryan Martin. Working the main drainage of Andrew Lake, the famous "Jackfish Alley" a large bull came out from the shore and they made the opportunity count. With a spread over 51" and incredible mass, this was a true trophy and experience that will be remembered by both generations.

September 22 - 29 - John Williamson, Eoin Clancy & Lavne Mason on their first hunt with us hunted Tulip lake. We usually hunt from our island camp, but this year we tried a new beach location. It looked very promising from the air over the summer. There were fresh tracks on the beach when they set up camp. More tracks throughout the week on the beach, but there were no answers to the call. They still enjoyed the exclusive camp and great fishing!



September 25 - October 1 -Lee & Greg were back for trip #5 on Chinook Lake again. The lake trout were in the regular spots and so were the moose! They shot a good bull and luckily it was close to shore. They have rebooked the same dates for 2016!

#### **Great Guests!**





Stay connected with us!







## First trip to Lynx Lake, NWT Fishing log for Greg & Larry Normandeau

Lake ice out June 30th , Trip dates July 4-10 Water temps 52F in Whitefish River, 44-46F in main lake, 47-49F in backwater channels and bays

Lake trout: 149 total Grayling: 73 total Pike: 0

Sat July 4<sup>th</sup> 4-11pm nice weather lake narrows area Lakers 10 total 15.4 lb largest

Sun July 5<sup>th</sup> 10-7pm lost PM to rain storm Whitefish River Grayling 31 2.5lb largest Lakers 22 nothing large

Mon July 6<sup>th</sup> 10-9pm wind & rain all day Lake camp area Lakers 16 total 20lb 14.5 lb, 12lb largest

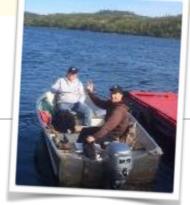
Tues July 7<sup>th</sup> 10-9pm bad 40k wind w/squalls all day lake islands rescue time lost Lakers 9 total 14lb & 12lb largest

Wed July 8<sup>th</sup> 10-10pm whitefish river & narrows calm weather overcast Grayling 42 total Lakers 24 total 2x 19.5lb in river

Thur July 9<sup>th</sup> 10-11pm lake islands & falcon bay 40k west wind all day minimal rain Lakers 32 total 28lb, 16lb, 14lb & 12l b largest

Fri July 10<sup>th</sup> 9-7pm lake falcon bay area windy minimal rain Lakers 35 total 12.5lb largest





After 32 years of our family operating adventure tourism, one might think that we have seen it all. However, every season has the possibility to surprise and keep it interesting. Thank you to all of our pilots, staff and great guests that make it all possible.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year for another exciting adventure.



Andrew Lake Lodge &Camps Owner, Outfitter, Pilot

Dan Wettlaufer