

Quicksilver Air INC

Wildlife Capture Specialists



Our winter capture season in the lower 48 states has now drawn to a close after capturing approximately 2,000 animals this season throughout various states in the west. During February & March our crews have kept busy with post-winter body conditioning on mule deer in Colorado and elk in Wyoming. Other captures during this time have included monitoring projects for pronghorn in Wyoming, Montana and Saskatchewan, bighorn sheep in North Dakota, Nebraska, California and Colorado, whitetail deer in South Dakota and Wyoming as well as elk in Colorado. Our crews are now up in Alaska where our spring wildlife and utility work has started again for the season.



David & Jon Beckman letting go pronghorn, Pinedale WY, February 2009

...As always, it was a pleasure to work with Rick and Dave and the entire Quicksilver team. I have had the pleasure of working with Quicksilver Air, Inc. for each of the past 5 years, including several days in February 2009, when they captured and collared 70 pronghorn antelope for WCS' Pronghorn and Energy Project in the Upper Green River Basin of western Wyoming. Rick and David were extremely accommodating with respect to capturing pronghorn at the desired control and experimental locations. Rick is an extremely talented and experienced pilot, and Dave is a skillful gunner, and both of their skills were demonstrated once again this year as they handled and collared 70 pronghorn with absolutely no injuries or mortalities. This is a huge testament to their abilities given both the nature of pronghorn and the difficult obstacles faced capturing animals inside the gas fields near Pinedale, Wyoming....As always, the entire Quicksilver crew had both human safety and the best interest of the animals in mind. Despite the cold weather that is typical of western Wyoming in winter, Rick and Dave are always excited about the work. I strongly recommend the services of Quicksilver Air and look forward to working with them in the future on this project and other projects down the road.

Jon Beckmann, Wildlife Ecologist, Wildlife Conservation Society, Greater Yellowstone Program



Rick letting go bighorn ram near Georgetown CO, 12,500ft, February 2009



Mule deer buck getting transported to staging area, Saskatchewan, February 2009



Bighorn Sheep capture near Gunnison CO, March 2009 (Photo courtesy of Steve Waters)



Jonathon, David & Mark during deer capture in Colorado, March 2009



**Dall sheep capture,
Chugach Mountains
Alaska, March 2009**
(Photo courtesy of
Tom Lohuis)



**R44 transporting buck during CWD
study in Saskatchewan, February
2009**



**Mark with mule deer buck,
Saskatchewan, February 2009**

"I have contracted Quicksilver Air for helicopter net gunning captures of mule deer does (75) and fawns (250) on Pinion-Juniper winter ranges of northwest Colorado to attach GPS and VHF collars for addressing mule deer habitat use and survival relative to natural gas development. Captures were efficiently and professionally conducted with minimal capture related mortalities (0 does and 1% fawn loss). In addition, helicopter pilot Rick Swisher understands the importance of obtaining representative samples and worked well with me in distributing the samples over the areas requested to address stated research objectives. I highly recommend Quicksilver Air for animal capture efforts requiring efficient techniques with minimal stress to the animals and attention to the objectives required from the captured sample".

Chuck Anderson, Ph.D., Mammals Research Section, Colorado Division of Wildlife

We would like to thank everyone who has been involved in our winter wildlife work and we look forward to beginning work with you all again next fall!

Rick & Sharon Swisher

And all the Quicksilver Air team



**MD500 on bighorn sheep capture
Colorado, 11,000ft, February 2009**

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