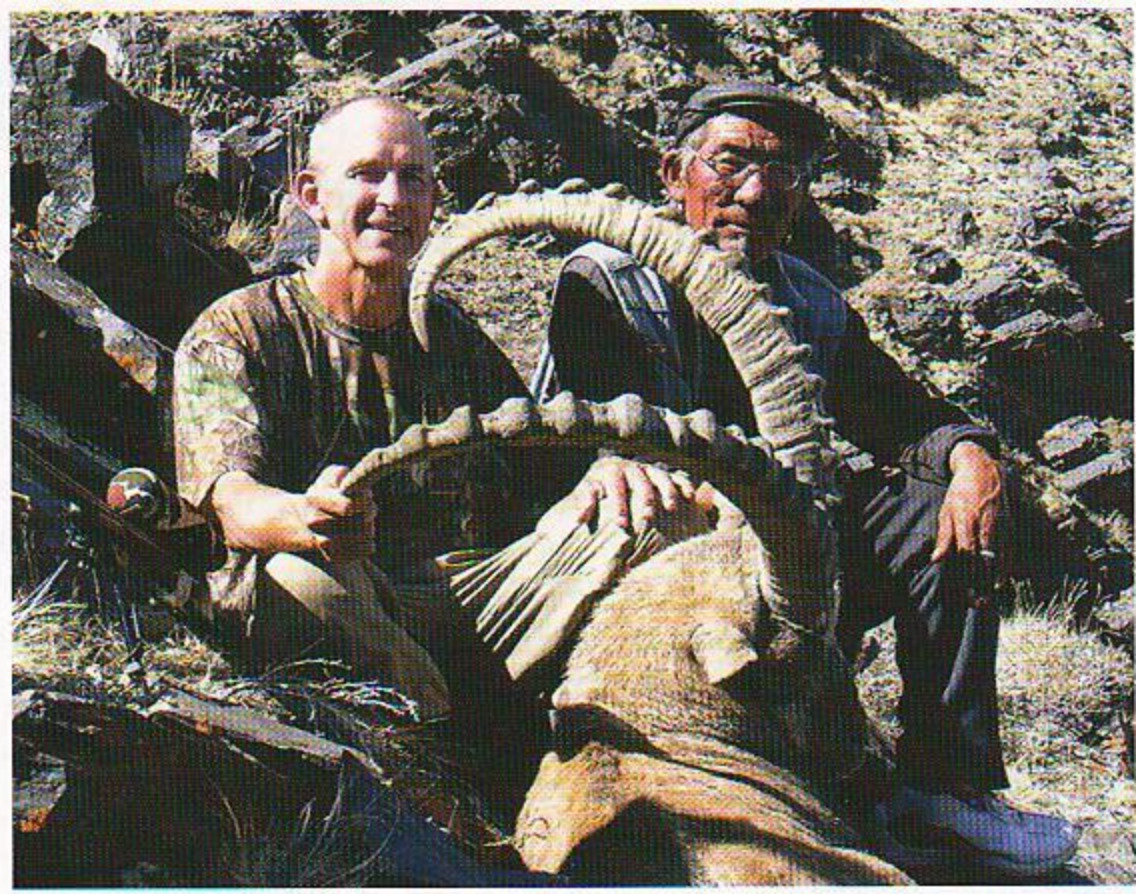


Dean Heintzelman (PA) has been doing quite a lot of mountain hunting lately, and his most recent hunt was in Mongolia for Altay and Gobi ibex. I plan on using the Altay ibex here and you will see the Gobi ibex report a little later. Dean always writes a good hunt report, so I will let him tell his own story here:

*After many hours in an airplane, I arrived in Ulaanbaatar and was met in the airport by my interpreter/guide **Enchbaatar**. Early the next morning we flew to Khovd. We transferred our gear into 4 x 4 Toyota Land Cruiser and began the 9-hour ride over rough and dusty two-track roads to the base camp.*

*We departed camp at 10 a.m. with no local guide; however, another local guide suggested to **Baasandorj** (the driver) where we could hunt. We climbed a mountain and glassed, and at 2 p.m. Baasandorj spotted two male ibex and we made a stalk on them. We held a discussion regarding how big the one ibex was and finally decided to try the difficult shot at 310 yards. I missed! We looked for them but could not find them. The next day the guide **Batochir** and his son **Altaibaatar** were along and they knew the country very well. We drove and glassed and saw some females and young along with a young male which I declined to shoot. At 5:30 p.m. we spotted three mature males and we put a stalk on them and got to within 260 yards. I was anxious to take a shot at the biggest one, which we estimated to be 42". The local guide wanted to wait until the sun had set so we would not be in the sunlight when we moved out over the rocks to take the shot. After 30 minutes of watching, the ibex saw the local guide and they were up and running very quickly. No shot was available. I was frustrated.*



Dean Heintzelman (PA, left) along with his guide Batochir (right) and Dean's Altay ibex taken in Mongolia, September 2006.

We were up early the third day and glassed trying to find the three male ibex we had seen on the second day; however, we could not locate them. We drove to another area and Enchbaatar spotted two ibex high above us at 800 yards. We got out of sight and began to climb and get closer to them. The closest we could get was 400 yards. From here I was going to take the shot; however, the big ibex was lying behind a rock with only its horns showing. There were only two likely directions the ibex could go to escape, so the driver was sent around the mountain to the east to make some noise to have the ibex stand and then I was to take the shot. When he made some noise and threw some rocks, the two ibex were on their feet and running very fast. The ibex ran broadside to us at 360 yards, and I began shooting. The first two shots were misses.

The big one paused before going out of sight into the rocks and the third

nearly certain that this is the same Ibex which I missed on the first day.