

# My Hunting Buddy

The photo was taken by Paul Cailleaux, November 4, 2010. It was one of those days where the birds all came at once and they were on my side of the blind.

Charlie, the Yellow Lab, had his first real year hunting the fall of 2010. He did everything from flush and retrieve grouse to bring back the two very large geese on blind retrieves.

Blind retrieve has a double meaning he was in his blind,(to the right in the photo)so he didn't see where the birds dropped. It has been amazing to watch this four legged friend of mine work.

He has terrific instinct. He saw which direction I was shooting in so when he came out of the blind he made a large arcing circle until he smelled the downed geese and then he when straight to them.

These are big birds too, look at the neck on the one on the right it is bigger than Charlie's leg! It is as much fun to work with him as it is to shoot the birds for sure, maybe more.

Earlier in the season at this same spot he did six blind retrieves and one live retrieve, after I went to get him from the truck 300 yards away. Hence the cammo'd kennel.

2010 was a good year for Charlie, he retrieved more grouse than I care to count, even Sharp tails, and a bunch of geese. We didn't manage to get any ducks but there is always next year.

Tony Manuge  
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