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Outdoor Canada



Best New

GEAR

52 must-have guns, bows, optics & more for hunters

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salmon doomed?
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Best Hunting Vest

DUTCH OVEN VEST The Dutch Oven Vest combines today's latest outdoor-clothing technology with a rechargeable, lithium battery-powered system that keeps your body core warm for up to eight hours on a single charge. The battery can also provide juice to your cellphone, iPod, GPS or satellite phone—any device that accepts the included USB cable. The Dutch Oven comes in a wide array of sizes and colours, including camo. *Sitka*, 1-877-748-5264; www.sitkagear.com



Best Waterfowling Parka

SUPER WADER WIGEON PARKA Duck hunting on the water demands the best gear, and the Super Wader Wigeon Parka is up to the task. It has features aplenty, including radial sleeves, venting, integral quick-load shell tubes and self-draining pockets. Complete with a removable hood and liner, the parka is totally waterproof, while the 700-gram down insulation will keep you warm in the nastiest fall gales. *Columbia Sportswear*, 1-800-265-7067; www.columbia.com



Best New Camo Pattern

OPTIFADE While most camo patterns are based on human perceptions of visibility, Optifade was designed using a combination of current research in animal vision, camouflage sciences and computer technology. The result blends both micro and macro patterns into one design that serves to break up the human form at short and long distances. For 2009, Optifade will be available exclusively in Sitka's high-performance hunting clothing. *W.L. Gore & Associates*, 1-800-467-3839; www.optifade.com



Best Hunting Cushion

FATBOY LITE A happy butt means a happy hunter, and Hunt Comfort's FatBoy Lite cushion promises to provide the best seat in the woods. Unlike regular foam pads, this cushion is designed to equally distribute pressure, meaning no more numbness or lost circulation. At 14x16x3 inches, and with an integrated carrying strap, the FatBoy Lite is a breeze to tote along wherever you hunt. *Hunt Comfort*, (251) 578-3522; www.huntcomfort.com

Best Mobile Shooting Bench

PORT-A-SHOT No more sighting-in over the hood of your vehicle thanks to the Port-A-Shot, a shooting bench that mounts onto a standard, two-inch hitch receiver. Suitable for left- or right-handed shooters, this simple, well-designed rest provides outstanding stability. The Port-A-Shot boasts two trays—one for ammunition and one for spent brass—along with a ballistics chart listing bullet drop-data for 47 common cartridges. *Commando Hunting Products*, (417) 988-0727; www.commandthewild.com



Best Headlamp

SAINT SureFire has adopted its leading-edge light technology to headlamps with the introduction of the Saint. Powered by two AA alkaline or lithium batteries, the light can be adjusted from 0 to 100 lumens using just one hand, even when wearing gloves. The run time is an impressive six to 144 hours, depending on the light's intensity. *SureFire*, 1-800-828-8809; www.surefire.com



Best Scent Elimination System

PRO SIGNATURE SERIES Big-game hunters know the importance of personal scent management, and Silver Scent's new line of bacteria-killing products promises the highest level of odour suppression. The patented technology includes laundry detergent, a three-in-one shower, shave and shampoo application, a breath spray and a general spray for broad-based, in-the-field needs. *Silver Scent*, (641) 844-3444; www.silverscentproducts.com