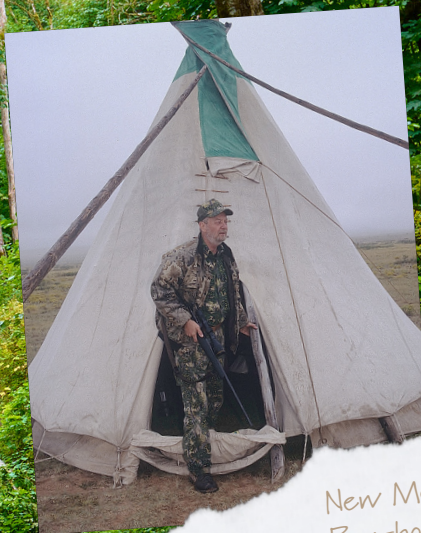
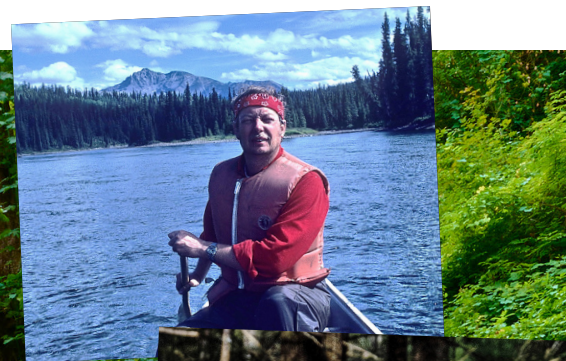


Stikine River 1978



New Mexico
Pronghorn Camp



J. Wayne Fears

live outdoor adventures vicariously through your stories. Besides, if successful, you could experience all the wild places you have dreamed."

That conversation opened a new opportunity I never thought possible. My drive to answer the call to the wild was now stronger than ever. As I worked on wildlife habitat management projects, I studied everything I could find to learn the skills of an outdoor writer and photographer. Since I entertained some of the best journalists in the outdoor business, I had great mentors and teachers who encouraged me.

Soon my works were being published, and I got assignments to remote lands I had read about as a child. Editors liked my work. Many told me, "You really live the life you write about, and it shows."

Now, more than eight decades have slipped by and I still live my dreams. I have survived the fierce lightning storms on 12,000-foot mountain tops, hunted with the Inuits in 40 below zero weather and experienced the terror of an enraged grizzly. I have heard the howl of wolves on the hunt, the bugle of a bull elk on a frigid morning and the roar of a lion near camp. Each brings back the memories of a little kid who had a dream. I answered the call to the wild.

■ J. Wayne Fears '64