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#### 375 H&H Vs 375 Ruger Part II of II Good Grief! Anyone Have an Aspirin?

By Joseph D'Alessandro Editor | RealGuns.Com



As you can see, I've been busy; lots of noise and chronograph tipping muzzle blast, the acrid odor of smokeless powder constantly in the air, big rounds and hard kicking rifles. The 375 H&H produced some very respectable numbers, clearly a cartridge that can always live up to its reputation. The 375 Ruger out shot calculated performance by a wide margin in anything 300 grains or less, suggesting a higher than typical case efficiency. Two very different guns representing two different points in time.

#### Some useful equipment....

The boom box is alive and well and took lots of shots from the 375 Ruger and H&H project rifles while suppressing muzzle blast, pressure waves and maintaining neighborhood friendships. The interior of the box held up fine, as did the exterior, however, duct tape was called in to secure the rear foam panel when it blew out from pressure. The rear panel alone is responsible for almost 10dB in noise reduction.

Because of the comparatively heavy recoil and large quantity of rounds tested, both rifles were fired from a HySkore "Dangerous Game" machine rest with a remote trigger. I had tried a sled product, but it had to be loaded up with lots of weight, it wasn't very precise or flexible in adjustment and remote fire feature wasn't available. The HySkore equipment is engineered to be light at 22 lbs and fully adjustable; cant, windage,

elevation front-rear, and degree of recoil absorption. Dead weight is not added, it relies on a compact fluid shock absorber to damped recoil and return the gun to battery. The product is packaged with a selection of three shock absorbers that cover recoil ranges 3 - 20 ft/lbs, 20-50 ft/lbs and 50-85 ft/lbs; anything from the 223 Remington to the 416 Rigby. I used the mid range during this project which seemed to work well. A firearm can be discharged manually, however, the remote fire hydraulic system kept me 10 feet from the gun and out of harm's way, which is appropriate while developing loads for a cartridge that lacks a lot of history. The rest's instructions suggest it can produce 3 MOA repeatability in shot placement with remote fire, I think it is closer to 2 MOA or better, in some cases. I did not use the rest for accuracy testing, however, I used it only for chronograph work and ops checking each firearm. The cost is about \$200 at retailers, only \$10 more than a Caldwell Lead Sled DFT, and it is a useful equipment addition. I will do a detailed write up when I get a little more time.

#### The Rifles...

The rifles were both on their best behavior. The CZ 550 barely showed a temperature rise in relatively quickly fired strings. 6 heavily charged rounds, fired inside of two minutes, resulted in less than 105°F peak reading on the Fluke thermometer. The hottest point along the barrel was just aft of the rear sight, about the location of the chamber throat. Ambient at the time was 84°F and relative humidity 58%. The Ruger was pretty much the same, which was more of a surprise because the gun isn't as beefy with as much surface area to radiate off heat. If this had been one of my short belted magnum rifles, I would have been able to use the barrel to make toast. If it had been one of my 378 based











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