

## About the same number of bucks as last year

*This year's archery deer hunt begins on August 16.*

With the exception of parts of northern and northeastern Utah, the number of buck deer in Utah is about the same as it was last fall. That means plenty of bucks should await you when Utah's 2008 general archery deer hunt kicks off Aug. 16.

The state's general archery elk hunt also begins Aug. 16. They're Utah's first hunts of the year.

"Heavy snowfall last winter took some fawns in parts of northern and northeastern Utah," says Anis Aoude, big game coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Resources.

Even though herds in parts of northern and northeastern Utah lost some deer, most of Utah's deer herds are doing well.



"We manage the state's general-season units so there's between 15 to 20 bucks per 100 does in the herds," Aoude says. "Almost all of the state's units are meeting that goal."

"After last fall's hunts, two of the state's public land units were above 20 bucks per 100 does, and three of the units were below 15 bucks per 100 does. All of the remaining public land units had 15 to 20 bucks per 100 does in their herds."

As far as advice, Aoude says if you've already scouted your hunting area, you've done the most important thing you can do to find success.

"The guys that are successful year in and year out do their homework," he says. "They get out and find the places where the bucks are."

"During the archery hunt, the deer are usually still in their summer patterns. Doing some preseason scouting is the best thing you can do to increase your chance at harvesting an animal."

The following is a look at deer hunting prospects in each of the DWR's five regions:

### **Northern Region**

Biologists say mule deer herds in the Northern Region probably have more adults in them than yearlings this year.

"The winter was hard on the fawns," says Randy Wood, assistant wildlife manager in northern Utah.

Wood says most of the bucks hunters take each year are yearlings. Because of the number of yearling bucks that died this past winter, hunting in the region could be challenging.

"Moving from north to south in the region, our surveys suggest a general downward trend in fawn survival," says Phil Douglass, Northern Region conservation outreach manager. "That probably reflects how severe the winter was last year."

Because of heavy precipitation in northern Utah this past winter and spring, summer range conditions are very good in high elevations. "Food and water is very abundant this year," Douglass says. "Because of that, the deer will probably be widely scattered. Hunters will have to do a lot of scouting and stalking."

Douglass says good optics, including range finders, can be useful tools to help you locate the deer and determine their distance so you can make a clean and effective shot. "Because the deer will be scattered, hunters need to hone their skills so they can make the most of the opportunities they get," he says.

The good news is the buck-to-doe ratio on most of the units in the Northern Region was above the minimum of 15 bucks per 100 does after last fall's hunts:

Unit	Bucks per 100 does
Box Elder	21
Cache	20
Crawford	13
Ogden	20
Morgan-South Rich	54
East Canyon	32
Chalk Creek	26
Kamas	16

"The lower elevation and transition habitats have been affected by the hot, dry summer. In these areas, you'll likely see deer concentrated in places that have food and water," says Justin Dolling, Northern Region wildlife manager.

Wood encourages you to pay close attention to the large tracts of private land in the Northern Region. Some units have a large number of Cooperative Wildlife Management Units on them. For example, the Box Elder unit has 21 CWMUs. If you plan on hunting in the Box Elder unit, you can pick up a land ownership map from the Box Elder County Surveyor's Office.

Because of the hot weather, Sgt. Mitch Lane encourages you to cool your harvested deer meat quickly so it doesn't spoil. "Wasting wildlife is a violation of the law," Lane says. "Please be aware of that, and take the steps needed to avoid letting any of the meat spoil."

Central Region

Initial observations by DWR biologists in the Central Region indicate decent numbers of bucks for archers to pursue.

The number of younger bucks that died this past winter won't be known for sure until data is collected from the rifle deer hunt check stations and through hunter surveys, but biologists anticipate a good hunt.

"Mountain vegetation is very green, lush and abundant this year along the eastern half of the region," says Scott Root, Central Region conservation outreach manager. "Despite the extra heat over the last while, there are many places in the mountains that look more like it's June than late July. If archers are patient and concentrate on well-used game trails or water sources, they should have an excellent chance at seeing deer."

If you don't take a deer in August or September, Root encourages you to hold onto your tag. "The region has several extended archery hunt units that you can hunt through much of December," he says. "These units provide great archery hunting opportunities."

This year, both the archery buck deer hunt and the archery elk hunt start on Aug. 16. "Several of my friends didn't get an archery deer tag because the archery deer permits sold out so early this year," Root says. "But because the archery elk and deer opener begins on the same day this year, I'll still be able to hunt with these friends!"

"Archery elk tags are unlimited in number, so I plan on hunting with my friends in our favorite elk areas. If a nice buck deer comes along, I'll have the added option of taking a deer because I also have an archery deer tag."



## **Northeastern Region**

Lots of moisture this past winter and spring brought an end to dry conditions in northeastern Utah. But the moisture also reduced the number of deer on the South Slope of the Uinta Mountains near Vernal.

"About 10 to 15 percent of the fawns that were born in that area in spring 2007 died this past winter," says Ron Stewart, Northeastern Region conservation outreach manager.

"Overall, though, deer herds in northeastern Utah are in good shape," Stewart says. "Depending on where you hunt, you can expect to see fair to good numbers of young bucks. And those young bucks will be mixed in with a good number of older bucks."

In addition to improving the habitat, the moisture in the region this year is providing the deer with a lot of water sources. "The deer will be scattered during the archery hunt," Stewart says.

Barring a tough winter this year, Stewart says the moisture received during the past few months should increase the number of deer you see in the region 2009. "The moisture has really improved

the deer habitat," Stewart says. "Our biologists saw good numbers of fawns this spring. Several of the does even had twins."

### **Southeastern Region**

Deer were lost in some parts of southeastern Utah after a severe winter last year.

Most of the deer that died were fawns, so hunters will probably see fewer young bucks in the region this fall.

"The losses were most pronounced in the northern part of the region. We expect the harvest to be down a little this year from last year because there will be fewer yearling bucks," says Bill Bates, Southeastern Region supervisor. "Fawn survival was better on the LaSal and Abajo mountains. We expect deer harvest in those areas to be about the same as last year."

Overall, though, Bates says hunting should be good region-wide. "Buck-to-doe ratios are at all-time highs," he says. "Hunter success has been excellent during the past few years, and it should not drop much this year. Even though some fawns were lost, the number of older bucks that made it through the winter was about average this year."

Bates says hunters who get out and scout should be able to find the deer. "With the dry summer, it will be important to hunt near water," he says. "Get to know the area you plan to hunt. Identify springs, seeps and creeks. Familiarize yourself with game trails, bedding areas and escape routes."

Bates reminds you that the presence of hunters, the phase of the moon and a change in the weather are all factors that can cause the behavior of deer to change.

### **Southern Region**

Lynn Chamberlain says archery hunters should look forward to a fair hunt in the Southern Region. "The deer are holding at high altitudes, and I expect they'll stay there into the fall," says Chamberlain, Southern Region conservation outreach manager.

"Recent rains have encouraged growth in the forage plants, so the deer are in good condition," Chamberlain says. "Biologists are reporting good winter survival, which translates into a good crop of young bucks."



"We're also noticing a few mature bucks in most areas."



Chamberlain says you should be prepared to hunt hard. "The deer have plenty of water, so they probably won't be concentrated at watering holes."

## **Tips for a safe archery hunt**

*Stay safe this year by following a few, simple rules.*

Utah's general archery buck deer hunt and the state's general archery elk hunt kick off Aug. 16.

"Every year we receive reports of archery hunters injuring themselves," says Gary Cook, hunter education coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Resources.

Two practices lead to most of the accidents: being unsafe in tree stands or having arrows out of your quiver when you shouldn't.

Cook provides the following advice to help you avoid these accidents:

**Tree stands:** Before you climb a tree, make sure it's large enough to hold your weight. To lessen the chance that you'll fall while climbing the tree, attach a hauling line to your bow, arrows and other equipment, and leave them on the ground. After you've climbed into your tree stand, attach your safety harness. Then use your hauling line to lift your gear to you. Cook also recommends using a portable tree stand, rather than building a "permanent" one. "Permanent tree stands can deteriorate and become unsafe," he says. "They're unsightly, too. And you can damage the tree by putting nails in it."

"Until you're ready to shoot, keep your arrows in a hooded quiver that covers the broadheads," Cook says. "One of the most common accidents we see is archers jabbing themselves or other hunters while carrying arrows in their hand that should be in their quiver." State law requires that arrows be in a case while the arrows are in or on a vehicle. When you're outside your vehicle, it's up to you to protect yourself.

## **More tips**

In addition to the safety tips, Cook provides tips on getting prepared for the season, safety items to remember while you're in the field and tips on tracking animals and preserving their meat.

### **Preparation**



Equipment checks: Make sure the laminations on your bow are not flaking or separating and that the strings on your bow are not fraying. And if you have a compound bow, make sure the pulleys and cables are in good working order. Also, make sure that your equipment is matched, that your arrow's spine (the stiffness of the arrow's shaft) matches your bow's draw weight. If your bow's draw weight produces more force than your arrow can handle, your arrow will probably fly off target when you shoot.

Broadhead sharpening: Sharpen your broadheads carefully. Your broadheads should be razor sharp, but don't cut yourself while sharpening them.

Practice your shooting as much as possible.

Obtain written permission from private landowners before hunting on their property or using their property to access public land.

Know the boundaries of limited-entry units and other restricted areas in the area you'll be hunting.



Never take a shot at a deer or elk that is beyond the maximum, effective range you're comfortable shooting at. Also, before releasing your arrow, make sure of your target and what's beyond it.

After the shot

Watch the animal and determine the direction it took. Then go to the spot where you last saw the animal and find your arrow. If there's blood on it, and if you have a compass, take a reading of the direction the animal went. Then wait 30 minutes before tracking it. If you track the animal too soon, you can spook it into running. If you wait 30 minutes before tracking it, you'll find most of the deer and elk you shoot dead within a

reasonable distance of your starting point.

When you track an animal, look for blood not only on the ground but on the brush too. If you begin to lose the animal's trail, tie a piece of biodegradable paper near the last blood spot. Then search for the animal's trail by walking a circular pattern out from the paper. The paper will serve as a marker and will let you know where you started. Also, tying paper at the locations of the last three or four spots you see, and then stand away from the paper and looking at the paper trail, can help you visualize the direction the animal took.



Once you've found the animal, check to see if its eyes are open. If they're not, the animal probably isn't dead. If its eyes are open, touch one of the eyes with a long stick. That will keep you out of harm's way if the animal is still alive. Once the animal is dead, field dress and cool its meat immediately. It's usually warm during the archery hunt, and the warm temperatures can cause the meat to spoil quickly.

Cook also provides tips for reducing conflicts with homeowners and those who don't hunt:

Find access points to your hunting area well in advance of the season.

If access requires crossing private land, you must obtain written permission from the landowner. If you can't obtain written permission, find another access point.

Before you start hunting, make sure you're well beyond the minimum distances you must maintain from roads and dwellings. If you're going to hunt in Salt Lake County, please remember that the county's hunting restrictions are more restrictive than the rest of Utah. Read the [2008 Big Game Guidebook](#) closely for more information.

Avoid hunting in areas that a lot of people use. Also, whenever possible, avoid hunting near heavily used trails.

"Most of the people in Utah choose not to hunt. But they support hunting as long as hunters are safe, legal and ethical," Cook says. "When hunters don't behave that way, the way people feel about hunting can take a turn for the worse."

### **Extended archery areas**

If you want to hunt the Wasatch Front, Ogden, Uintah Basin or Sanpete Valley extended archery areas, please remember the following:

Before hunting any of these areas, you must complete the DWR's Extended Archery Ethics Course. The free course is available online at [wildlife.utah.gov/huntereducation](http://wildlife.utah.gov/huntereducation).

While hunting in an extended archery area, you must carry two items with you: your 2008 statewide general archery buck deer permit and your Extended Archery Ethics Course certificate. If you're a member of the Dedicated Hunter program, you must also carry your Dedicated Hunter certificate of registration.

For more information, call the nearest Division of Wildlife Resources office or the DWR's Salt Lake City office at (801) 538-4700.



## **DWR proposes spring light goose hunt**

*DWR proposal would let you hunt light geese this spring.*

Get ready, Utah goose hunters. Utah's first-ever spring light goose hunt would provide hunters with a unique opportunity. It would also help light goose populations (snow, blue and Ross' geese) and reduce damage to grain and alfalfa crops in Utah.

The DWR and Utah's Regional Advisory Councils would like to know your thoughts about the proposal.

Learn more, share your ideas

All of the DWR's waterfowl hunting proposals are available at [www.wildlife.utah.gov/public\\_meetings](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings) . Once you've read the proposals, you can share your thoughts and ideas one of two ways:



RAC meetings

Five Regional Advisory Council meetings will be held across Utah. Citizens representing the RACs will take the input received at the meetings to the Utah Wildlife Board. Board members will use the input to set rules for Utah's 2008 - 2009 waterfowl hunting season.



You can participate and provide your input at any of the following meetings:



Southern Region

Aug. 12, 7 p.m.

Millard High School

200 W. Eagle Ave., Fillmore

Southeastern Region

Aug. 13, 6:30 p.m.

John Wesley Powell Museum

1765 E. Main St., Green River

Northeastern Region

Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m.

Uintah Interagency Fire Center

355 N. Vernal Ave., Vernal

Central Region

Aug. 19, 6:30 p.m.

Springville Junior High Schoolbr> 165 S. 700 E., Springville

Northern Region

Aug. 20, 6 p.m.

Brigham City Community Center

24 N. 300 W., Brigham City

## **E-mail**

You can also provide your comments to your RAC via e-mail. E-mail addresses for your RAC members are available at [wildlife.utah.gov/public\\_meetings](http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings).

The group each RAC member represents (sportsman, non-consumptive, etc.) is listed under each person's e-mail address. You should direct your e-mail to the people on the RAC who represent your interest.

## **Season dates**

If approved by the Utah Wildlife Board and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the light goose hunt would run from Oct. 16 to Jan. 17, and from March 2 to March 10, across most of Utah.

One exception would be the North Goose Zone. In the zone, the hunt would run from Oct. 25 to Jan. 17, and Feb. 18 to March 10.

## **50,000 geese**

"We don't see many light geese in the fall, but in the spring, more than 50,000 light geese — most of them snow and Ross' geese — stop over in Utah," says Tom Aldrich, migratory game bird coordinator for the DWR.

"In addition to providing hunters with a unique opportunity, hunting light geese in the spring would reduce the agricultural damage the geese are doing," he says. "Most of the damage is happening in Box Elder and Millard counties, where the geese are eating grain and alfalfa that's just starting to grow."

In addition to allowing light goose hunting in the early spring, the DWR is proposing an increase in the light goose bag and possession limits. Hunters could take up to 10 light geese a day. The number of light geese you could have in your possession at home would be limited to 20.

Currently, you can't take more than four light geese a day. And you can't have more than eight light geese in your possession.



## **Mostly private land**

Very few light geese use state waterfowl management areas or federal refuges in Utah. Some light geese do visit the Salt Creek, Public Shooting Grounds and Clear Lake waterfowl management areas in the spring, and those areas would be open to light goose hunting in February and March.



The remaining waterfowl management areas in Utah — Brown's Park, Desert Lake, Farmington Bay, Harold Crane, Howard Slough, Locomotive Springs and Ogden Bay — would be closed to light goose hunting in February and March.

It's likely that the three federal refuges in Utah — Bear River, Fish Springs and Ouray — would also be closed to light goose hunting in February and March.

"Most of the light geese are on the private land where the agricultural damage is occurring," Aldrich says. "That's where they feed and rest.

"We have a Walk-In Access program in northern Utah that provides hunters access to private land. We'll continue to work with landowners in Box Elder County to see if we can get more of them enrolled in the program. If we can, that will allow hunters access to their lands," Aldrich says.

### **Helping the geese**



In addition to helping Utah's farmers, the light goose hunt would also help the geese.

In the central part of North America, light goose populations have gotten so large that they're damaging the areas in Canada where they nest and raise their young.

"The population in the western part of North America hasn't become overabundant yet, but it's growing," Aldrich says. "In December 2007, for example, the population exceeded 1 million birds.

"We want to help stabilize the population before it becomes overabundant. Once the geese become overabundant, it's hard to bring them back."

Wouldn't affect Canada goose season

Aldrich says the dark goose season in Utah would not be affected by the light goose season extensions. "The dark goose season dates would remain the same," he says.

For more information about the meetings, call the nearest Division of Wildlife Resources office or the DWR's Salt Lake City office at (801) 538-4700.

### **More turkey permits coming up?**

*DWR to proposes big increase for 2009 at upcoming RAC meetings*

You might have a good chance at drawing a wild turkey hunting permit for this spring's hunts.



The Division of Wildlife Resources is proposing 13,761 public hunting permits for Utah's 2009

hunts. That's an 81 percent increase over the 7,706 public permits that were available in 2008.

"Sportsmen have told us that they'd like more opportunities to hunt wild turkeys," says Dave Olsen, upland game coordinator for the DWR. "Because of the way we manage turkeys in Utah, we believe we can allow more

hunters into the field without affecting the turkey populations in a negative way."

### **Learn more, share your ideas**

All of the DWR's turkey hunting proposals are available at [www.wildlife.utah.gov/public\\_meeting](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/public_meeting) s. Once you've read the proposals, you can share your thoughts and ideas one of two ways:



## RAC meetings

Five Regional Advisory Council meetings will be held across Utah. Citizens representing the RACs will take the input received at the meetings to the Utah Wildlife Board. Board members will use the input to set rules for Utah's 2009 wild turkey hunts.

You can participate and provide your input at any of the following meetings:

### Southern Region

Aug. 12, 7 p.m.

Millard High School

200 W. Eagle Ave., Fillmore

### Southeastern Region

Aug. 13, 6:30 p.m.

John Wesley Powell Museum

1765 E. Main St., Green River

### Northeastern Region

Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m.

Uintah Interagency Fire Center

355 N. Vernal Ave., Vernal

### Central Region

Aug. 19, 6:30 p.m.

Springville Junior High School > 165 S. 700 E., Springville

### Northern Region

Aug. 20, 6 p.m.

Brigham City Community Center

24 N. 300 W., Brigham City



## E-mail

You can also provide your comments to your RAC via e-mail. E-mail addresses for your RAC members are available at [wildlife.utah.gov/public\\_meetings](http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings).

The group each RAC member represents (sportsman, non-consumptive, etc.) is listed under each person's e-mail address. You should direct your e-mail to the people on the RAC who represent your interest.

## Turkey hunter survey

After last spring's hunts, the DWR surveyed 2,330 of the 7,856 public and private hunters who hunted turkeys in Utah in 2008.

"There were more turkey hunters in the field this past spring than there's ever been. But most of hunters we surveyed said they were satisfied with their experience," Olsen says. "Raising the number of permits will allow even more sportsmen to enjoy hunting turkeys this spring."

Turkey hunters in Utah can take only male turkeys. That rule, and the fact that female turkeys are very productive, means putting additional hunters in the field shouldn't have a negative effect on Utah's turkey populations.

"Turkeys and other upland game reproduce at a high rate," Olsen says. "It's not unusual for a single male turkey to breed as many as 10 females. And female turkeys are very productive. They usually lay a clutch of between 10 to 12 eggs.

"Because one male will breed several females, and because female turkeys are so productive, taking some extra males out of the population shouldn't affect the overall number of turkeys in Utah."

For more information about the meetings, call the nearest Division of Wildlife Resources office or the DWR's Salt Lake City office at (801) 538-4700.

### **Orienteering Event Scheduled August 16**

Upcoming - Saturday, August 16, start times between 10 am and 1 pm

Last year Ed White created a map for the lower slopes near Brighton, in Big Cottonwood Canyon. This area is at about 7000 feet in elevation and promises to be at least 10 degrees cooler than the Salt Lake Valley.

There will be 3 courses, Easy, Intermediate and Advanced. Details to be delivered next week.

Save the day for some Orienteering!

### **Statewide Fishing Reports**

**GENERAL:** The Division of Wildlife Resources will host a kids' fishing pond at the Carbon County Fairgrounds. The pond will be open on Fri., Aug. 8 from noon until 4 p.m. and on Sat., Aug. 9 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Fishing is catch and release only. Rods and bait will be provided. The event is part of Kids' Day at the fair. There is no charge for this event.

**ABAJO MOUNTAINS:** Sergeant J. Shirley reports improving fishing success, especially at Monticello Lake. The lake was recently stocked and provides excellent fishing with almost any bait. Conservation Officer Paul Washburn warns anglers against yielding to the temptation to take home more fish than the law allows. Please read the [2008 Fishing Guidebook](#) to avoid a visit with the judge. Anglers are also reminded to take their litter home; it's awful to see shorelines strewn with garbage in late summer. To improve your





harvest, fish early or late in the day. Veteran angler Tommi Budd fished from an inflatable boat at Blanding #4 last weekend. He caught four rainbow trout while trolling with a small Jakes or Super Duper. After seeing trout rise to take flies from the surface, Tommi switched to fly tackle and promptly hooked seven more fish!

**BENCHES & BOULGERS RESERVOIR:** Fish early or late with a floating nightcrawler or PowerBait.

**DUCK FORK RESERVOIR:** Good fishing continues with a dry fly—such as a renegade—or with a nymph such as a leech or woolly bugger. A gold Jake's Spin-a-Lure is a good default lure for this water, where bait is prohibited.

**ELECTRIC LAKE:** There haven't been any reports this week. In the recent past, fishing has ranged from slow to fair for mostly 6- to 16-inch cutthroat trout.

**FERRON RESERVOIR:** Fishing success was sporadic. Try fishing in the early morning or late evening for the best results. You can catch and keep an extra four fish, as long as they are brook trout.

**GOOSEBERRY RESERVOIR:** Tom Ogden fished from a tube the morning of July 31 and caught 16 fish in four hours. He used slow-sinking line and an olive-colored leech on a size 10 hook. Tom's most productive method was to cast the line, let it sink for five seconds, and strip it in. The surface is covered with damselflies, mayflies and small midges. A week ago, baitcasters had luck with a combination of nightcrawlers and chartreuse PowerBait.



**GREEN RIVER:** Try shrimp on a slip rig in the evening for one- to two-pound channel cats. Sometimes, you can hook endangered fish with this particular rig. Try to avoid harming these fish and return them to the water immediately. Refer to pages 54–72 in the [2008 Fishing Guidebook](#) for a refresher on the appearance of endangered fish.

**HUNTINGTON CREEK:** Fishing in the fly-only zone was generally good for smaller 11- to 14-inch brown trout.

**HUNTINGTON RESERVOIR (MAMMOTH RESERVOIR):** On July 31, Tom Ogden caught seven tiger trout in 2.5 hours. He fished from a tube, using fast-sinking line that was tipped with red-and-black leech patterns on size 10 hooks. Tom fished in the afternoon, focusing on the upper end of the reservoir in 10–20 feet of water. Trout are mostly near the bottom. Tom caught some fish while he was trolling and others while he was stripping in the line. Tom observed lots of damselflies on the water and biting deer flies near the shoreline. Four days earlier, Walt Maldonado fished with floating nightcrawlers. He and his party caught 10 nice tiger trout among

the three of them. Huntington Reservoir is closed to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.

**HUNTINGTON NORTH STATE PARK:** Trout and bass fishing have been slow. Try angling in the early morning from a boat for the best success. Bass will be found at breaks, where shallow water plunges into deep water. Bluegills can be caught on a worm and bobber or on a small lure.

**JOES VALLEY RESERVOIR:** Slow fishing continues. For the best success, fish in deep water from a boat. Chubs are the best year-round bait. At Joes Valley, all trout from 15–22 inches must be immediately released. The trout limit is two fish, and only one can be over 22 inches.

**LAKE POWELL:** Visit [www.wayneswords.com](http://www.wayneswords.com) for the latest fishing report from Wayne Gustaveson, DWR project leader.



**LA SAL MOUNTAINS:** On Aug. 4, Conservation Officer TJ Robertson sent in the following:

**Colorado River:** Anglers have had good fishing near the portal with all kinds of catfish bait. Last Sunday, TJ checked a couple of anglers who had caught two 25- to 30-inch catfish in a very short time. Fishing was especially good near Negro Bill Campground and just upriver from the take-out beach.

**Dark Canyon:** Fishing was good with a variety of baits. Success seems to be a matter of location rather than bait or presentation. If

one spot seems unproductive, try somewhere else. If the bite stops, move to another spot. A combination of salmon egg and PowerBait was effective last weekend.

**Dons Lake:** Fishing success was spotty due to heavy moss growth. Small brook trout continue to be caught with small spinners or flies.

**Hidden Lake:** Fishing has ranged from good to excellent. The best baits have been PowerBait, or a combination of salmon eggs and marshmallows. Most types of spinners have been effective. The best angling occurs in the morning and evening. The bite stops during the heat of the day.

**Kens Lake:** Bass fishermen have had the best luck by boat, angling in the channel near the inlet. Sunfish are being caught with small pink-and-white crappie jigs cast into the weeds.

**Medicine Lake:** Angler success was good with small flies or bait. Green PowerBait, shaped like a worm, was especially good.

**Oowah Lake:** Fishing was good over the weekend with orange, rainbow or green PowerBait. The best fishing occurs on the east side in the morning and west side in the evening. A fly and bubble have been especially effective in the evening.

**LOWER FISH CREEK:** Fishing was best in the early morning or evening with a caddis fly or a blue-winged olive.



**MILLSITE STATE PARK:** DWR Fisheries Technician Ryan Leonard talked with two boaters who had good success trolling with flies. Good patterns included woolly bugger and grasshopper. In general, summer watersports have taken over the reservoir. The best fishing occurs in the early morning.

**PETES HOLE:** Last week, the pond was restocked with 600 catchable-sized rainbow trout. Good fishing is expected.

**POTTERS PONDS:** Chet Andersen reported that he spent six days at Potters Ponds and found good fishing with almost any bait. Chet said the trout ranged from 6–7 inches, but the kids had fun anyway.

**SCOFIELD RESERVOIR:** Fisheries Technician Bob Olson reported that fishing success has picked up for boaters who are still-fishing or trolling. He recommends angling between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. for the best results. After 9 a.m., the bite stops. Try worms and PowerBait or worms and marshmallows, suspended from the bottom. Tom Ogden has had good luck with sinking line in 10–25 feet of water, using a size 10 olive-colored or Canada blood leech. There are a lot of insects on the water, reducing angler success.

**WILLOW LAKE:** On July 24, K.J. Erickson of Price reported catching a four-pound tiger trout with a renegade pattern and fly outfit.

## **UTAH STATE PARKS BOATING TIP OF THE WEEK**

Salt Lake - Play safe, play sober. If you are arrested and convicted for boating under the influence of alcohol (BUI) in Utah, it can mean jail time, large fines, cancellation of auto insurance and loss of driver's license.

Alcohol impairs your balance, coordination, reaction time, vision, depth perception and ability to process colors, especially red and green.

Utah law prohibits motorboat operators to have open containers of alcoholic beverages when boats are in operation. Also, boat operators are considered to have given consent to take chemical tests as requested by a peace officer if they appear to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Play safe, play sober!

For more information, please contact [www.stateparks.utah.gov](http://www.stateparks.utah.gov) or (801) 538-BOAT. Remember, Utah boaters...WEAR IT!

## **UTAH STATE PARK MUSEUMS ARE COOL**

Salt Lake City - As temperatures rise, get inside and cool off with a visit to a nearby Utah state park. Uncover Utah's history at one of the following museums:

Discover dinosaurs at Utah Field House in Vernal. Tour the museum and journey back 145 million years to view dinosaurs and dig for fossils. Investigate the children's lab filled with books,

models and puzzles, and surrounded by dinosaur models in their landscape.

Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum in Fillmore was Utah's first capitol building. Today, the Statehouse reveals Utah pioneer culture and history through artifacts and paintings. Two restored pioneer cabins and an 1867 stone schoolhouse are also located on the grounds.

Iron Mission State Park Museum displays include horse-drawn vehicles used from 1850 to 1920 and a collection of pioneer artifacts. An iron industry exhibit features the only known remaining artifact from the original foundry - the town bell. Enjoy hands-on activities, tour historic cabins and explore pioneer history.

Discover artifacts, petroglyphs and pictographs left by the Fremont Indians. During construction of Interstate 70, the largest known Fremont Indian village was uncovered. Fremont Indian State Park and Museum preserves treasures from the site, including pottery, baskets and arrowheads.

Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum is home to the largest collection of Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) pottery on display in the Four Corners Region. In addition to permanent collections, the museum offers special exhibits, festivals and events throughout the year. Dynamic exhibits feature outstanding photography, fine art, current topics in archeology and contemporary Native American crafts.

Relive history at Camp Floyd/Stagecoach Inn State Park and Museum. Walk through a Civil War encampment and imagine 3,500 U.S. troops housed there in 1857 to suppress a supposed Mormon rebellion. Tour the Stagecoach Inn where Pony Express riders exchanged horses and rested trail-weary bones. View artifacts left behind by soldiers.



Explore an Ancestral Puebloan village that was likely occupied from A.D. 1050 to 1200 at Anasazi State Park Museum. Views artifacts excavated from this site including decorated pots, bowls, and other elaborate ceramic objects.



For more information on Utah's state parks and a list of upcoming events, visit [www.stateparks.utah.gov](http://www.stateparks.utah.gov) or call (801) 538-7220 or 877-UT-PARKS.

## **UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS**

**August 15 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway**

**Walk in the Park - Full Moon Hike:** Join the naturalist at 8:30 p.m. at the Dutch Canyon Trailhead for a two-mile, roundtrip hike under the light of the full moon. We'll talk about moon lore and other night stories. Participants should wear sturdy shoes, bring plenty of water, and dress for the weather. (435) 654-1791

**August 16 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway**

**Birds of Prey Up Close:** Have you ever seen a hawk, eagle, or falcon up close? If not, here's your chance. Join the park naturalist for a program about birds of prey and view a live bird of prey. Program begins at 7 p.m. at the campground amphitheater. (435) 654-1791

**August 16 Rockport State Park - Peoa**

**Mining in Summit County:** View authentic historical photos and learn about the gold and silver mining history of Summit County. (435) 336-2241

**August 16 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway**

**Junior Ranger Program - Discovering Birds:** Children between six and 12 can become a Junior Ranger by joining the naturalist in this one-hour program designed to get kids excited about nature! Program begins at 1 p.m. at the campground office. (435) 654-1791

**August 16 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway**

**Walk in Utah - Hike with Friends:** Join Friends of Wasatch Mountain State Park on a 2.5- hour moderate to difficult hike along Daniels Summit Loop Trail. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Wasatch County Courthouse on Highway 40. (435) 654-1791

**August 16 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse**

**Junior Ranger Program - Monkeys in Utah's Inland Sea:** Join the park naturalist for a closer look at life in Great Salt Lake. Participants should bring swimsuit, sunscreen, water and meet at the north Bridger Bay Beach parking area at 3 p.m. This activity is intended for children age six to 12, however everyone is welcome. (801) 721-9569

**August 16 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse**

**Living History Day:** Join park staff in celebrating Antelope Island's living history at historic



Fielding Garr Ranch. Learn to make pioneer handkerchief dolls, pick up a needle and quilt, and play pioneer games. Activities are available all day. Join park staff at 2 p.m. for a lecture on the history of cattle ranching on Antelope Island. (801) 649-5742

August 17 Red Fleet State Park - Vernal

Kenneth's Catfishin' Bait and Tackle Tournament: Tournament is held from 6 a.m. until 2 p.m. Event is open to everyone. Utah fishing laws and rules apply. (435) 781-2287

August 17 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Hike with Naturalist: Join the park naturalist on a four-mile hike to the top of Buffalo Point and beyond. Learn about one of the oldest and largest publicly-owned bison herds in the United States. Participants should bring sunscreen, water, snack, sturdy shoes and meet at Buffalo Point Trailhead at 9 a.m. (801) 721-9569

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ready Your Business Conference**

**Thursday • August 14, 2008**

**8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Hilton City Center • 255 South West Temple • Salt Lake City

Business Owners • Administrators • IT Managers • Security Directors • Human Resource Directors • Public Health • Hospital • Non-Profit Organizations • Risk & Continuity Planners

Cost                \$45.00 includes lunch  
                         (\$10 conference discount to award recipients)

#### **Registration and Session Details:**

[www.BeReadyUtah.gov](http://www.BeReadyUtah.gov)

<http://www.saltlakechamber.org/calendar/events/detail/?EventID=2171>

538-3400 Division of Homeland Security  
328-5053 Salt Lake Chamber

#### **Plenary Sessions**

***When the Shaking Stops – Wells, Nevada Earthquake***

Bob King, Director of Retail Sales  
Associated Food Stores



Following the Earthquake in Wells, Nevada, residents turned to their local grocer to provide them with necessary emergency supplies. Shelves emptied quickly. Associated Foods activated an emergency plan that proved to be valuable in efficiently responding to the needs of employees, business owners and the community.

#### ***Response Lessons from the Oklahoma City Bombing***

Kerry Pettingill, Director, State of Oklahoma  
Office of Homeland Security

On April 19, 1995, around 9:03 a.m., just after parents dropped their children off at day care at the Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City, the unthinkable happened.

The massive bomb inside a rental truck exploded, blowing half of the nine-story building into oblivion. A stunned nation watched as the bodies of men, women, and children were pulled from the rubble for nearly two weeks. When the smoke cleared and the exhausted rescue workers packed up and left, 168 people were dead in the worst domestic terrorist attack on U.S. soil. Considered part of the crime scene, surrounding businesses were forced to close or relocate while the investigation continued....

### **Breakout Sessions, Awards, Exhibitors....**

#### **Facts about Financial Recovery**

Zions Bank / SBA, Russ Taft, South Salt Lake Business Banking

FEMA, Jon Wallace

Presidio Group, Emily Edmunds, Risk Manager

Matthew Hill, Risk Manager

#### **Making Security a Part of Your Business Model**

Shawn Peppers, CIP Coordinator, Division of Homeland Security

#### **Building Resilient Communities**

Ana-Marie Jones, CARD Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters

#### **Options for Maintaining Emergency Communications**

Creg Fielding, President, txtWire Communications

Tim Ruff, President, Telecom Recovery

Brian Coady, Government Accounts, Sprint/Nextel

#### **Protect Yourself by Knowing the Eight Signs of Terrorism**

Scott Hansen, Special Agent, Division of Homeland Security

#### **Workplace Planning for Individuals with Special Needs**

Cindy Lou Daniel, Disability Coordinator. FEMA

Congratulations to the **2008 Partners in Preparedness Award** Recipients:

#### **Wasatch Front**

- ☐ E-Center
- ☐ Emergency Essentials
- ☐ KeyBank
- ☐ Telecom Recovery
- ☐ Utah Disaster Kleenup
- ☐ Utah Small Business Development Center
- ☐ Utah Trucking Association
- ☐ Zions Bank

#### **Northern Utah**

**Presented April 8, 2008**

- ☐ KUTA TV Channel 8 / Logan

- Utah State University, Judy Crockett

### **Southern Utah Presentation Fall of 2008**

- State Bank of Southern Utah

### **New Website—“National Parks: Accessible to Everyone”**

(Nationwide) -- The National Park Service has developed and made available the website “National Parks: Accessible to Everyone,” which showcases trails, activities, and other features that are accessible at units of the National Park System nationwide. The information presented on this website, a work in progress found at [http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/access/](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/access/), is a sampling of the accessible facilities and programs available to visitors throughout the National Park System. A location’s not being highlighted on the website does not mean it does not have accessible features.

To obtain information about places not included in this website, please call them or visit their websites, which can be reached via [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) and “Find A Park.” A unit may have a section on its website about accessibility. Try looking under “Plan Your Visit;” “Things To Know Before You Come” or checking a website’s index.

### **Southern Region Fishing Report**

**BARKER RESERVOIRS, NORTH CREEK LAKES:** Catchable-sized rainbow trout have been stocked in the Barker reservoirs, and fishing is fair to good. Fair to good success for tigers and a few cutthroat in Round and Long Willow Bottom. Nice brook trout are found in Flat, Yellow, and Joe Lay. Try dark-colored marabou jigs and wooly buggers, fished near any structure like floating logs, submerged grass, large boulders, and undercut banks. Special regulations on many of the Boulder Mountain waters include a trout limit of four of which only two may be over 14 inches.





**BEAVER MOUNTAIN LAKES:** Heavy pressure, especially on weekends. Fishing is most consistent at Anderson Meadow; the biggest fish are being caught at Kents Lake. Three Creeks Reservoir is empty and Kents Lake should drop to the conservation pool level in a week. Public access at Puffer Lake is restricted to 100 yards of shoreline on the southwest end. Look for the small area that is *not* posted.

**BEAVER RIVER, LOWER:** Irrigation flows are high but still fishable, though turbidity can be a problem. Much of the river is on private property, so please treat the area with respect. Much of the private land is open to walk-in access, but some is closed to trespass, so watch for signs.

**BEAVER RIVER, UPPER:** Flows are mostly clear. Small rainbows and browns are abundant and will take most lures and flies. Try flashy spinners or a hopper-dropper rig. Not much pressure. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease* by cleaning mud from waders and equipment. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**BOULDER MTN LAKES:** Reports have come in of fair to good fishing in many areas. If fishing is slow at one lake, move on to another. A few lakes have experienced some winterkill, but this is normal. Even when you see some dead fish, don't assume that all the fish in the lake died. For brook trout, try dark-colored marabou jigs and wooly buggers, fished near any structure like floating logs, submerged grass, large boulders, and undercut banks. Special regulations on many of the Boulder Mountain waters include a trout limit of four of which only two may be over 14 inches.

**CHALK CREEK:** Wild rainbows are abundant and can be caught with spinners and flies. Best fishing is away from the campground and more heavily fished spots. Some catchable-sized rainbows are stocked in the campground. The North Fork provides a good spot for those willing

to hike. Meadow Creek and Pioneer Creek are other small streams in the area that contain populations of small, wild trout.



**CLEAR CREEK:** Reports of fair to good fishing for small rainbows and browns with dries and nymphs.

**CORN CREEK:** Wild brown trout are abundant and can be caught with spinners and flies. Some catchable-sized rainbows are stocked in the campground.

**DUCK CREEK SPRINGS/ASPEN MIRROR LAKE:** Catchable-sized rainbows have been stocked and fishing is fair to good with popular baits. Also try lures or flies for more of a challenge.

**EAST FORK SEVIER RIVER KINGSTON CANYON:** Flows and turbidity are high due to irrigation releases, but the river is still fishable. Fishing was slow to fair. Sampling this spring found that trout numbers are down from recent years. There is public access on a section of Kingston Canyon midway through the canyon that was purchased through the Blue Ribbon Program. Look for the signs. Most of the remainder of the canyon is private and posted, so ask permission first.

**EAST FORK SEVIER RIVER BLACK CANYON:** Flows are good and generally clear. Fair to good fishing for browns and some cutthroat. For the section of river from the BLM property boundary (about four miles south of Antimony) upstream to the confluence with Deer Creek, special regulations include the use of artificial flies and lures only and a limit of two trout. Some private land is closed to trespass, so watch for the signs.

**EAST FORK SEVIER RIVER ABOVE TROPIC RES:** No recent reports. Small trout are abundant from Kanab Creek upstream.

**ENTERPRISE RESERVOIR:** (Upper and Lower): Catchable rainbows have been stocked in the lower reservoir. The upper reservoir will not be stocked this year due to continued repair work on the dam. Extra fish have been stocked in the lower reservoir to help compensate for the loss of the upper reservoir this year. A fish consumption advisory was issued for rainbow trout in Upper Enterprise Reservoir due to elevated levels of mercury. It is recommended that adults limit their consumption to one eight-ounce portion per month.



Women who may become pregnant, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and children should limit their consumption to one two-ounce portion per month. For further details, visit [www.fishadvisories.utah.gov](http://www.fishadvisories.utah.gov).

**FISH LAKE:** Trolling for rainbows using popgear or small lures is good to excellent. Bait

fishing can also produce. The average size of rainbows seems to be a little higher this year. A few splake are caught trolling or jigging at 60-70 feet. Fast action for perch in and just outside the weeds. Try jigs tipped with worms or perch meat. Trolling for lake trout is generally slow, with a few fish caught by patient anglers. Make sure your lures imitate the lakers' forage: rainbows, chubs, and perch. A few tiger muskies have moved up from Johnson Reservoir. The general statewide limit on tiger musky applies here: one fish, which must be over 40 inches.

**FORSYTH RESERVOIR:** The water level is very low and boat launching is not recommended. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**FREMONT RIVER:** Flows are a little high and turbid above Mill Meadow Res., though fishing for small- and medium-sized browns can be good to excellent with flies or flashy spinners. The lower sections of the stream can be good at any time of year if the water is not turbid. Much of the lower stream is on private land. Ask for permission before fishing on private land. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease* by cleaning mud from waders and equipment. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.



**GUNLOCK RESERVOIR:** The water level is dropping in preparation for draining this fall. Remember special regulations for bass: four bass under 10 inches and two over 20 inches. A fish consumption advisory was issued for largemouth bass from Gunlock due to elevated levels of mercury. It is recommended that adults limit their consumption of

largemouth bass to two 8-oz portions per month. Women who may become pregnant, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and children should limit their consumption to one 4-oz portion per month. For further details, visit [www.fishadvisories.utah.gov](http://www.fishadvisories.utah.gov).

**JOHNSON RESERVOIR:** Moderate to heavy pressure. Fishing for tiger muskie is hit and miss, with most anglers throwing rapalas. Target the weeds and don't be afraid to try the weirdest thing



in your tackle box. A few fish over 40 inches have been caught this year. The reservoir contains an abundance of suckers, Utah chubs, and small yellow perch. Special regulations: Whole fish and amphibians are not allowed as bait. Cut bait must be no longer than one inch in any dimension and only one piece per hook. Limit one tiger musky over 40 inches all tiger muskies less than 40 inches must be immediately released.

**KOLOB RESERVOIR:** Fishing is generally slow. Trolling is usually most effective in the summer. Recent sampling found that rainbows and cutthroat are abundant and healthy. A few large fish over three pound are present. Special regulations include artificial flies and lures only, with a limit of one trout, which must be over 18 inches. Scented jigs are not allowed. Tributary streams were closed to fishing until July 12. Please call the poaching hotline (1-800-662-DEER) to report violations.

**KOOSHAREM RESERVOIR:** Fishing is fair for cutthroat. Now is the time to troll the lake, before the weeds get thick. One angler reports good success trolling needlefish and dare devils in red and white.

**LOWER BOWNS RESERVOIR:** The water level has dropped to the conservation pool. Lots of pressure on the weekends. Fishing for rainbows is good to excellent with any bait or fly.

**MAMMOTH CREEK:** Flows are low and clear. Fishing is good for small browns with spinners. Public access is possible on some of Mammoth Creek west of Highway 89 please watch for and respect private property postings. Special regulations apply to a section of Mammoth Creek check the proclamation for details. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**MILL MEADOW RESERVOIR:** Perch fishing is good to excellent. Slow action for trout. Recent sampling found that medium-sized brown trout are abundant. These brown trout are wild fish spawned in the Fremont River. It is very unique to find such a dense population of wild brown trout in a reservoir. Best techniques for the browns are flashy lures, streamers, and natural baits like night crawlers and minnows. Good-sized perch up to 10 inches are semi-abundant. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**MINERSVILLE RESERVOIR:** Trout fishing is generally slow. The fish are skinny and easily stressed due to warm water. Please reduce playing and handling time to avoid hooking mortality. Smallmouth bass fishing is good. Work the rocky shorelines with curly-tail jigs or lures that imitate crayfish and chubs. Special regulations include artificial flies and lures only, with a limit of one trout, which must be over 22 inches. Scented jigs are not allowed. Please call the poaching hotline (1-800-662-DEER) to report violations. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**MONROE MOUNTAIN LAKES:** Most lakes are producing well (Big, Deep, Annabella, Upper and Lower Box Creek Reservoirs). Most anglers are using bait, though some are doing well using fly and bubble combos in the evenings. One report of good fishing at Manning Meadow for cutthroat up to 16 inches with an assortment of lures. Remember special regulations: Manning

Meadow Reservoir artificial flies and lures only and the trout limit is one fish over 22 inches. Barney Lake trout limit is two — artificial flies and lures only.

**NAVAJO LAKE:** Fishing is fair to good for rainbows and splake. Recent sampling found that splake survived the winter very well and are still very abundant. Some 18- to 19-inch fish are present. Trolling is producing more rainbows than shore fishing. For splake, try lures, streamers, or jigs tipped with chub meat.

**NEWCASTLE RESERVOIR:** Lots of pressure lately. Wiper success is good to excellent if you fish at the right time. Best times for large fish are before sunrise and at sundown. Smaller fish are being caught just after sunrise and in the evening. Slow through most of the day, when most anglers are fishing. Best success trolling gold crankbaits (Frenzies, Rapalas, etc.). Some small fish are being caught on popgear. Also try wooly buggers. Smallmouth fishing is fair to good for small to medium-sized fish. Try a variety of soft plastics, crankbaits, and even streamers. Keep switching tactics until you find something that works. Recent sampling has found that three- to four-pound wipers are abundant and spread out through various depths. Try trolling minnow-imitating lures for wipers. Experiment with various speeds and depths. Please remember that golden shiners are not approved for use as fresh or frozen bait. A fish consumption advisory was issued for rainbow trout in Newcastle Reservoir due to elevated levels of mercury. It is recommended that adults limit their consumption to two eight-ounce portions per month. Women who may become pregnant, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and children should limit their consumption to one four-ounce portion per month. For further details, visit [www.fishadvisories.utah.gov](http://www.fishadvisories.utah.gov).



**OTTER CREEK RESERVOIR:** Trolling is good to excellent for rainbows from 1.5 to 3 pound with Jake's, flatfish, and crankbaits. Stillfishing from boats is also productive with PowerBait and worm and marshmallow. Shore fishing has picked up a little. Anglers at a recent bass tournament caught smallmouth up to three pounds.

Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**PANGUITCH LAKE:** Trolling is fair to good. Shore fishing is slow to fair. More and more fish near 22 inches are being caught. Special regulations: Limit is four trout, which must be less than 15 inches or over 22 inches. All trout 15 to 22 inches must be released. Trout caught at Panguitch Lake cannot be filleted, or the head or tail removed, until you get home. Some tributaries are closed until July 12 check the [Utah Fishing Guidebook](#) for which streams are closed. Tips for releasing fish in the slot (15 to 22 inches): If a fish swallows the hook, please cut the line to avoid mortality. A fish can pass a swallowed hook and survive, while digging the hook out will almost certainly kill the fish. Also try fishing with single hooks instead of treble hooks.

**PARAGONAH (RED CREEK) RESERVOIR:** Fair to good success for trollers. Remember that the rainbows here are wild fish, so bait usually doesn't produce as well as flies and lures. Rainbows are very abundant. Harvest is encouraged to allow fish to stay in balance with the food base.

**PINE LAKE:** Catchable-sized rainbows have been stocked, so fishing should be fair to good.

**PINE VALLEY RESERVOIR:** Catchable rainbows have been stocked.

**PIUTE RESERVOIR:** Fishing from boats both trolling and bait fishing is good to excellent for 14- to 18-inch rainbows. Shore fishing has picked up a little. Fishing is good for smaller smallmouth bass. Work the rocky shorelines with soft plastics and crankbaits.

**QUAIL LAKE:** Fishing is fair. Fish early and late to avoid the heat. Remember the special regulations for bass: four bass under 10 inches and two over 20 inches.

**SAND COVE RESERVOIRS:** Good numbers of largemouth bass and bluegill in both reservoirs and fishing is fair to good.

**SAND HOLLOW RESERVOIR:** Bass fishing is good to excellent. Small fish are found just about everywhere while large fish are found closer to brush, rock edges, or in deeper water. Dark-colored senkos are a popular bait. Also try deep-diving crankbaits for larger fish. Bluegill have moved deeper again, but are still being caught with a worm and bobber. Try fishing early and late to avoid the heat and water skiers. New regulations bass limit is six, with one over 12 inches. Public access to the reservoir is available only through the state park.

**SEVIER RIVER (UPPER), ASAY CREEK:** Flows are low and generally clear. Most of the trout water on the upper Sevier is located upstream (south) from the town of Hatch. Intermittent sections of good habitat are present above Hatch and easily accessible from Highway 89. Asay Creek west of Highway 89 is on private land and access is restricted.

**SEVIER RIVER MARYSVALE CANYON:** Irrigation flows have slowed down and the river is a little more fishable. Flows could change at any time, however.



**THOUSAND LAKES MTN:** One angler reports good success for cutts at Meeks with wooly buggers. Fair success at Round.

**TROPIC RESERVOIR:** Catchable rainbows have been stocked and fishing is slow to fair.

**URBAN PONDS:** Washington County: Trout fishing is over for the summer. Try jigs tipped with nightcrawlers for bluegill and small bass. Iron County: Catchable rainbows have been stocked in Parowan Pond and Woods Ranch Pond. Catfish were stocked in Parowan Pond.

**WIDE HOLLOW RESERVOIR:** Catchable rainbows have been stocked. Fishing is fast for bluegill and small largemouth bass using small jigs and worms. Try crankbaits and larger jigs for bigger bass.

**YANKEE MEADOW RESERVOIR:** Moderate to heavy pressure. Good success for nice rainbows trolling deep with crawdad-imitating lures. Slower success with bait.

### **The New Bull Hooker Cow Call™ Brings Love Sick Bull Elk Running**

Hunter's Specialties® new Bull Hooker Cow Call™ from Wayne Carlton's Calls easily reproduces the sounds of a cow elk to lure bulls into range.



The lightweight mouth blown call utilizes an internal reed design for durability and consistency.

Hunters can change the pitch of the call by pressing on the external molded membrane to produce a wide variety

of elk sounds.

The Bull Hooker call comes with a carrying lanyard and makes a great addition to any elk hunter's arsenal of calls.

Suggested retail price is \$14.95.

### **Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**

**August 7, 2008, 9:00 A.M., DNR Auditorium  
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah**

### **AGENDA**

**Thursday, August 7, 2008**

1. Approval of Agenda **ACTION** – Paul Niemeyer, Chairman
2. Approval of Minutes **ACTION** – Paul Niemeyer
3. Old Business/Action Log **CONTINGENT**– Rick Woodard, Vice-Chair

4. DWR Update      **INFORMATION** – Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director
5. Board Appeals - Motion to Dismiss  
    – Matt Jennings      9:30 time certain      **ACTION**  
    – Jeffery Welborn      10:00 time certain      **ACTION**
6. Bucks, Bulls & OIAL Update   **INFORMATIONAL**  
- Anis Aoude, Wildlife Program Coordinator
7. Shed Antler Gathering   **INFORMATIONAL**- Michal Fowlks, Law Enforcement Chief
8. Cougar Research Update **INFORMATIONAL** - Dr. Wolfe, USU
9. Cougar Recommendations   **ACTION** - Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Program Coordinator
10. Bobcat Recommendations   **ACTION** - Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Program Coordinator
11. Taking Non-game Mammals R657-19 (5-yr review)   **ACTION**  
    -Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Program Coordinator
12. Variance Request – Gus Dearman **ACTION**  
    -Martin Bushman, Asst. Attorney General
13. Aquatic Invasive Species Interdiction R657-60 – Amendment      **ACTION**  
    -Larry Dalton, AIS Coordinator
14. Other Business   **CONTINGENT**  
    – Paul Niemeyer  
        ❖ OHV Bill – Ernie Perkins  
        ❖ Bonus/Preference Point discussion – Greg Sheehan

### **Wild Salmon Center Helps Strengthen Pacific Salmon Treaty**

Over the last two years, the Wild Salmon Center has worked with international conservation partners to strengthen protection for wild salmon under the 23-year old Pacific Salmon Treaty, recently renegotiated and signed by the U.S. and Canada. Due to the work of the Wild Salmon Center and our partners Trout Unlimited, the David Suzuki Foundation and the International Environmental Law Project, the treaty--which governs the harvest of salmon stocks shared between the two countries--contains some important improvements for wild salmon conservation.

Under the treaty, the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC), consisting of representatives from both countries, is committed to develop and implement measures to protect and conserve the biological

diversity of wild salmon. PSC scientists will develop a framework for those measures within the next five years.



The parties also agreed to make a 15% cut in the U.S. catch of Chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska, and a 30% cut in the Canadian catch of Chinook off of the West Coast of Vancouver Island. The cuts in the Alaska Chinook fishery will benefit Oregon Coastal Chinook stocks, including the fish that return to the Trask, Wilson, Kilchis and Nehalem Rivers, as well as mid-Columbia and Snake River fall Chinook. The reduction in West Coast Vancouver Island fisheries will benefit Puget Sound Chinook, lower Columbia River fall Chinook and upper Columbia River

summer Chinook.

The Wild Salmon Center and conservation partners testified before the Pacific Salmon Commission during treaty negotiations. This marked the first time that conservation interests formally participated in a PSC meeting during treaty negotiations. A special thanks goes to Jeff Curtis of Trout Unlimited, who organized the efforts of the conservation coalition.

### **FA Gunners High Definition Mallard/Black Duck Decoys Add Realism To Field And Marsh Set Ups**

**Overland Park, Kan.** — The new FA Gunners HD Mallard/Black Duck decoys from Final Approach offer unsurpassed realism and the ability to set up in the field or on a marsh. Nationally acclaimed decoy artist Marty Henson created the carvings for these mallard and black duck designs. For added realism, the feet and legs of the field decoys were molded from actual birds.

These full body field decoys come with motion bases and injection molded Dura-Connect™ head attachment systems that swivel for different positions. An industry-first Snap-Loc Whisper Motion™ system provides a solid connection to the decoy stake so the stake stays attached to the decoy for quick, easy set up. There are six unique postures that let a hunter customize the decoy set up. They include: active drake, short-neck feeder drake, long-neck feeder drake, drake runner, snuggle head hen and active hen.

The Field Mallards/Black Duck decoys are oversized for better presentation and they are available in three different packs. The 6-Pack Field Mallards (474230) includes one active drake, one drake runner, two drake walker/feeders, one active hen and one snuggle head hen. The 4-Pack Field Mallards Feeder (474240) includes two long-neck and two short-neck drake feeders. The 4-Pack Field Black Ducks (474250) includes one snuggle head hen, one snuggle head drake, one active drake and one active hen.

The Floating Mallard/Black Duck decoys offer the same realism and vivid paint scheme in a one-piece bird including the head and keel. The Floating Mallards are available in 6-Pack (474270) and 12-Pack (474260) assortments with six unique postures: active drake (left looking), active drake (right looking), snuggle head drake, snuggle head hen, squawker hen and stretched neck



swimming hen.



The 6-Pack assortment include one each of the above positions an the 12-Pack assortment includes three active drakes (left looking), three active drakes (right looking), two snuggle head drakes, two snuggle head hens, one squawker hen and one stretched-neck swimmer hen.

The Floating Black Ducks in active poses provide added realism to the decoy spread and are available in 6-Pack (474290) and 12-Pack (474280)

assortments.

For more information, visit [www.fabrand.com](http://www.fabrand.com) .

## **Bushnell Makes “Quantum Leap” in Trail Camera Technology Leads to Improvements in an Already Popular Line of Trail Scouts**

**Overland Park, Kan., July 31, 2008** — It’s not even hunting season yet, but Bushnell has already improved its Trail Scout Pro Trail Camera for 2008 by what the company says is a quantum leap in its trail camera technology. First, Game Call technology was added to the Trail Scout Pro this year so hunters and outdoor enthusiasts can attract and photograph more wildlife. Other new features include multiple camera resolution settings of 3-, 5- and 7MP for sharper images and an extended range infrared LED array for better night vision photography.

Bushnell engineers have enhanced the product line of trail cameras with features and improvements to make the trail cameras a better investment and more effective tool for the hunter and wildlife enthusiast. For example, battery life has nearly doubled from 25-30 days to 50-60 days in most scouting conditions, which typically vary from 50 degrees F to 90 degrees F. This advancement has been accomplished on several fronts including optimization of circuits, reduction in excess current draw and enhanced battery terminal conductivity.

Color depth in the images has been improved in the camera sensor and software that optimizes each image; the result is an eye-popping increase in color definition of the images. In addition, for night and low visibility conditions, Bushnell optimized the flash distance and passive infrared

sensing distance to be matched. Now in both night vision and standard xenon flash images, game can be photographed out to 45 feet.

While the camera's design has been continually improved over the past two years, Bushnell improved the ventilation of the Trail Scout products to include six vent holes where there were previously two, to better handle any internal condensation that is sometimes seen in extreme conditions.

With the game call feature, users can select from deer, elk, moose, turkey and predator calls. The built-in external speaker broadcasts the sound at programmed intervals. When big game or predators are called into range, the activity can be digitally recorded as still or video images.

Other key features include the ability to record sound when the camera is set up to take 15-second movie clips. For hunters who want to correlate deer activity to moon phases, the Trail Scout Pro will stamp the moon phase on each digital image. It is available with a brown or Realtree® AP camouflage case.

The Trail Scout Pro with Game Call is easy to set up and operate. It also features an adjustable mounting bracket for better placement and camera adjustment. Toggle switches make it easy to set all the functions, even while wearing gloves. Powered by four "D" batteries, a low-battery indicator lets the user know when to change batteries. This camera is also compatible with the Bushnell solar panel accessory that will extend battery life indefinitely.

The Trail Scout Pro with Game Call will monitor active game trails or feeding areas, and have a delay feature that sets the camera to record images with 30-second, 1-minute and 2-minute delays. An LCD display with a three-button interface is used to program the camera for time/date and name stamp. All the images and video clips are stored on SD cards, and the Trail Scout Pro comes with a free 512MB SD card. There is an auto filter switch feature built in that automatically adjusts the camera to take color images/movies in daylight and night vision images/movies at night.

For security and protection from theft, the camera comes with a cable lock, tree



bracket and keyed padlock. A user-entered password provides the final level of security.

For more information about the Bushnell Trail Scout Pro with Game Call, visit [www.bushnell.com](http://www.bushnell.com).

### **Thank you a 1,000 Times!**

Thanks to all of our wonderful Honda World customers we raised over \$1000 for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's Ride for Kids. We are privileged to have such caring customers. As a way of appreciation we will be holding a Pre-Ride for all of those interested from Honda World to This is the Place Heritage Park for the 25th annual Ride for Kids on Saturday, August 16th, 2008. We will be meeting at Honda World at 8 am for juice and donuts before heading to This is the Place Heritage Park at 8:30. If you are unable to make it to the pre-ride we would love to see you up there before registration closes at 9:45. If you have any questions please call Lynn at 801-572-9800.

### **Ride for Kids**

"Ride for Kids" August 16th at This is the Place Heritage Park.

Registration for the ride starts at 8 am and closes at 9:45 am. The police escorted ride through the Utah countryside starts at 10 am sharp rain or shine! Following the ride please plan on attending the Celebration of Life program.



To participate in the Ride for Kids there is a minimum \$35 donation, with this you will receive a Ride for Kids Pin. We would suggest a \$50 donation that includes a Ride for Kids Pin and a special edition Ride for Kids T-shirt.

We hope to see you all there.

### **New Utah Motorcycle Licensing Rules**

As of July 8, 2008 the Utah Motorcycle Licensing rules have changed to a tiered licensing system. Here is the new system as follows.

- . If a rider tests on a 90cc or less motorcycle or scooter they will be restricted to 90cc or less.
- . If a rider tests on a 249cc or less motorcycle or scooter they will be restricted to 249cc or less.
- . If a rider tests on a 649cc or less motorcycle or scooter they will be restricted to 649cc or less.
- . If a rider tests on a motorcycle or scooter larger than 650cc they will be allowed to ride any motorcycle or scooter.

### **Northern Region Fishing Report**



**BLACKSMITH FORK RIVER:** Dedicated Hunter Scott Harris reports the river is receiving very little pressure. The lone angler he interviewed was using a parachute adams fly and was planning to try a variety of nymphs. Water levels appeared to be perfect for fly fishing.

**BLACKSMITH FORK (SECOND DAM):** Dedicated Hunter Scott Harris talked to an angler who had success catching a few 10- to 14-inch brown trout using a pan-fried matuka (size 14). The angler had also used grasshoppers.

**EAST CANYON STATE PARK:** Dedicated Hunter Spencer Staples reports that anglers are having success catching 12- to 14-inch rainbows using worms. Another group had success catching rainbows using green PowerBait.

**ECHO RESERVOIR:** Dedicated Hunter Spencer Staples talked to anglers who weren't having much success. The water was a little choppy, making it difficult to fish. Water conditions were better earlier in the week. No fish were caught during the time of the interviews.

**HYRUM STATE PARK:** Anglers Ty Anderson and Colten Wuerthrich report fishing conditions are slow. Watersport recreation use is high.

**LOGAN RIVER (FIRST DAM):** Dedicated Hunter Scott Harris reports that anglers are catching 12- to 14-inch rainbows using pink and yellow PowerBait.

**LOGAN RIVER (SECOND DAM):**

Dedicated Hunter Scott Harris reports seeing a lot of fish from the plank close to the spillway. One angler caught 10- to 12-inch rainbows using orange PowerBait and a sinker. Anglers say fishing has slowed down.



**LOGAN RIVER (THIRD DAM):** Dedicated Hunter Scott Harris reports fishing pressure is high, and success is slow. Anglers had a few hits but were unable to land anything with pink PowerBait and salmon eggs.

**LOST CREEK RESERVOIR:** Dedicated Hunter Spencer Staples spoke to anglers who had success catching rainbow trout with salmon eggs and PowerBait (green and rainbow).

**NEWTON RESERVOIR:** Dedicated Hunter Scott Harris reports that anglers are using sinkers and a worm to catch pan-sized bluegill and crappie. Success is high. Anglers were fishing from six to 10 feet off of the bank. Three other anglers had success catching tiger muskies. The muskies were released. Remember, all tiger muskies smaller than 40 inches must be immediately released.

**PINEVIEW RESERVOIR:** Pineview Port Ramp will be closed beginning at 9:30 p.m. on Monday (and lasting through Thursday) for an equipment demonstration as part of the Outdoor Retailers Show. Both Bluff and Anderson Cove Campground ramps will remain open. They, however, do not open until 7:00 each morning. Please plan accordingly. Water continues to drop due to irrigation demands. Temperatures seem to have stabilized at about 77°F; it's unlikely they will climb significantly as overnight lows are now normally in the lower 60s. Angling pressure seems to have declined a bit as the "hot bite" for both smallies and tigers is apparently over. Fish can still be caught, though. Panfish are normally staging off main lake points in deeper water as well as some of the flats adjacent to the inlet coves. Please be aware that tiger muskies are now a catch-and-release species. Be sure you have the proper tools to enable a quick release and enhance survival of the fish.

**PORCUPINE RESERVOIR:** Conservation Officer Matt Burgess reports that fishing is slow.

**ROCKPORT RESERVOIR:** Dedicated Hunter Spencer Staples reports that anglers were having some success catching 12- to 15-inch rainbows using worms, marshmallows and PowerBait. Water conditions were a little choppy due to the wind.

## **BLM Releases Moab Field Office Proposed RMP for Public Review**

### **Dear BRC Action Alert Subscriber,**

The Moab Field Office released their Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) last Friday. The documents and maps are here: [http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning/final\\_rmp\\_eis.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning/final_rmp_eis.html).

To answer your questions... **we don't know!** We just finished downloading all of the info this morning, so we haven't looked at what has changed since the Draft Plan and this Proposed Plan.

Clif Koontz from [Ride with Respect \(RwR\)](http://www.ridewithrespect.org) was looking over the information and sent us an email saying the BLM has some "interesting" proposals!! Clif has been doing yeoman's work on this plan, by the way, and BRC really appreciates what RwR does. (You can join and support the work RwR does here: <http://www.ridewithrespect.org/supp27.php>).



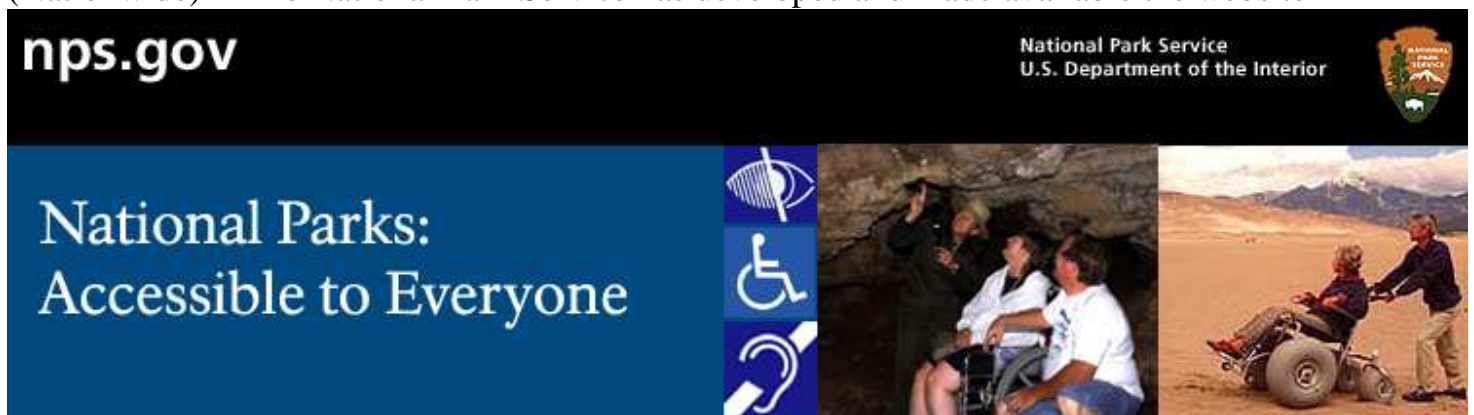
Based on some of Clif's comments, there are some poison pills in the Proposed Plan. It is likely it will need to be altered before it is signed into effect. The window of opportunity for action is short, so we'll be updating you soon.

The Moab BLM, to their credit, has posted detailed maps on the Proposed Pplan and the other Alternatives. To look at what the BLM wants to do, scroll down to Map 2-11-C Designated Routes-Proposed Plan (ALT C) and Map 2-11-E (C) Designated Motorcycle Routes-Proposed Plan (ALT C MOTORCYCLE ROUTES). Also important to read is [Appendix E Moab Field Office Recreation Rules](#) and [Appendix F, Special Recreation Management Areas: Goals, Settings, Outcomes/Management Prescriptions](#).

Take a quick look and if you have any concerns or comments, let us know.

### **New Website—"National Parks: Accessible to Everyone"**

(Nationwide) -- The National Park Service has developed and made available the website



"National Parks: Accessible to Everyone," which showcases trails, activities, and other features that are accessible at units of the National Park System nationwide. The information presented on this website, a work in progress found at [http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/access/](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/access/), is a sampling of the accessible facilities and programs available to visitors throughout the National Park System. A location's not being highlighted on the website does not mean it does not have accessible features. To obtain information about places not included in this website, please call them or visit their websites, which can be reached via [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) and "Find A Park." A unit may have a section on its website about accessibility. Try looking under "Plan Your Visit;" "Things To Know Before You Come" or checking a website's index. About the website "National Parks: Accessible to Everyone," please contact Gerry Gaumer at 202/208-4989.

### **Rock Cliff Triathlon**

HEBER CITY—The Rock Cliff Recreation area at Jordanelle State Park is hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Jordanelle Triathlon. Rock Cliff campground will be closed to camping on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The area will also be closed to the public for day use on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. For more information on the triathlon visit [www.triutah.com](http://www.triutah.com). For more information on the park visit [www.stateparks.utah.gov](http://www.stateparks.utah.gov) or give us a call at (435) 782-3030 or (435) 649-9540.



Rock Cliff is located on Hwy 32 near Francis.

## **Walt Donaldson Named Professional of the Year**

Walt Donaldson recently received a prestigious award from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA).

WAFWA honored Donaldson as its Professional of the Year for 2008. WAFWA includes wildlife agencies in 23 Western states and Canadian provinces.

“For all who know Walt, the distinguishing traits we know he will bring to any assignment are his enthusiasm, professionalism and desire to make things better,” DWR Director Jim Karpowitz said in Donaldson’s nomination letter.

“The division is pleased to nominate Walt for this prestigious award in recognition of his efforts to make progress in each of the division’s three goal areas—agency, resource and constituency—and for the enthusiasm he has generated throughout the Aquatic Section.”

Donaldson started his career with the DWR as an aquatic biologist. In 1989, he became supervisor of the Northeastern Region. In December 2005, he was promoted to Aquatic Section chief.

His work on the Book Cliffs Initiative was among the long list of accomplishments Karpowitz noted in Donaldson’s letter. This unique initiative has met the needs of ranchers while allowing wildlife populations to grow on the Book Cliffs.

Donaldson’s work to expand Utah’s community and warm water fishing programs, implement a program to fight aquatic invasive species and increase the sale of fishing licenses in Utah were also noted in the letter.

In his current role as the DWR’s Aquatic Section chief, Donaldson has found success despite losing six of seven aquatic program coordinators to retirement. “His years of experience in the Division, from aquatic biologist to regional supervisor, helped him attract top candidates to all of these positions,” Karpowitz wrote.

Donaldson received WAFWA’s Professional of the Year award at the organization’s annual conference in Rapid City, South Dakota.

## **Guided Refuge Tours**

Sponsored by Friends of the Bear River Refuge  
Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

Brigham City, Utah

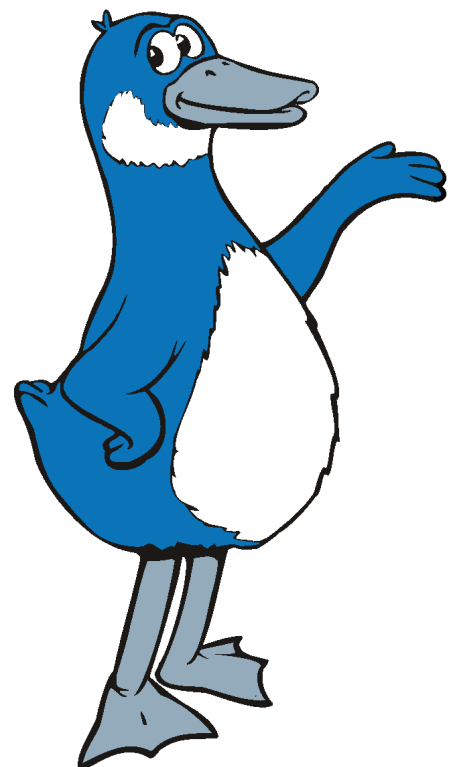
Thursdays

9:00am to 12:00pm

Saturdays

10:30am to 1:30pm

- ◆ Tours are appropriate for all ages
- ◆ Knowledgeable guides to lead you
- ◆ Ride in our van or drive your own vehicle
- ◆ Limit of 6 vehicles per tour
- ◆ Binoculars available to borrow



- ♦ Stops made to view wildlife
- ♦ Learn about birds, history and mgmt.
- ♦ No charge, but donations appreciated

For More Information:

Call: (435) 723-5887 8:00am - 5:00pm weekdays

TTY / Voice: 711

<http://bearriver.fws.gov> or [bearriver@fws.gov](mailto:bearriver@fws.gov)

Directions: From I-15 at Brigham City, take exit #363 (Forest Street), turn west and drive one block to the Wildlife Education Center - meet your guide inside the Center.

Call ahead to reserve your spot on the tours! (435) 723-5887

Tours end August 30

## MIDSUMMER BOAT MAINTENANCE TIPS FROM BOATU.S.

ALEXANDRIA, VA, August 6, 2008 - *Seaworthy*, the newsletter from BoatU.S. that helps boaters and anglers prevent damage to their vessels, recently looked into some of the more common reasons for on-the-water boat troubles that occur mid-season.

"Preventive maintenance will help you avoid the headaches and keep your crew or fishing buddies comfortable and safe," says *Seaworthy* Editor Bob Adriance. "So going over the boat's systems in the spring is very important. But now after a couple months of use, it's time to look at things again. A midsummer check-up will ensure you make it back to home port without a problem."

Here are some midsummer maintenance tips for both power and sailboats:

- **Through-hulls:** Make a thorough check around any below-the-waterline hole or opening. Check all through-hulls for leaks and cycle seacocks to ensure they close properly. If it's hard to move the handle, make a note to service it next time the boat is out of the water. Any hose clamps should be tight and hose ends secure. A bilge pump cycle counter is a simple upgrade and the best early warning system that unwanted water is coming aboard.
- **Engine belts:** For inboard engines, look in areas near the belts checking for evidence of black dust - a sure sign that engine pulleys need to be realigned and the belt replaced. Push on the longest run of the belt - it should not deflect more than one half inch.
- **Engine hoses:** Squeeze coolant and fuel hoses with your hands, looking for softness, cracks or bulges. Replace any that are suspect. Wiggle the ends to ensure they are secure and inspect for any possible chafing issues in the engine compartment.
- **Sterndrives:** Inspect the folds in the bellows and replace if they show signs of cracking.
- **Sacrificial zincs and anodes:** A wasted zinc is a sure sign of trouble, possibly stray current at the dock. Ensure all zincs are no less than half gone - and replace them now if they are.

- **Control cables:** Look for chafe, splits or swelling of the plastic jacket - a sure sign the cable needs replacement.
- **Outboard engine mounts:** Smaller engines can sometimes vibrate loose, so re-tighten clamps and ensure the cut-off switch is operable.
- **Hydraulic steering system and trim tabs:** Ensure reservoirs are full. If you have to add fluid, there is leak that must be fixed immediately.
- **Batteries and electrical system:** Dead batteries are often nothing more than corroded connections - sandpaper can easily clean them up. With conventional batteries check water levels and add if necessary. Inspect cables and wiring for chafe, especially wherever they may pass through a bulkhead.
- **Shorepower cable:** Look for burn marks on the plug ends and the connection to the boat. Replace both the plug and receptacle immediately if you find any.
- **Head:** If your boat has a flushing toilet and its handle is getting hard to operate, you've likely got calcium buildup. Pour a cup of vinegar into bowl pumping only once or twice. Let it sit for one night before flushing with one-fourth cup of mineral oil.
- **On deck:** Old, stiff, or chafed dock lines should be replaced. Also check anchor line and chain shackles and any splices.
- **Sailboats only:** Look for any broken strands on standing rigging. You can find them by running a loose rag up the rigging, which will snag on any broken ends. Cracked swages are an indicator for immediate replacement. Contact a rigger if you suspect a problem. Running rigging also needs to be looked at - especially the roller furling line.
- **Trailers:** Inspect bearings and ensure they are well packed with grease. Hydraulic brake reservoirs should be full. Lastly, check the tires for wear and ensure lugs are tight.

BoatU.S. - Boat Owners Association of The United States - is the nation's leading advocate for recreational boaters providing its 650,000 members with a wide array of consumer services. For membership information visit <http://www.BoatUS.com> or call 800-395-2628.

### **Pet Sitter Selection Checklist Offers Owners Guidance, Peace of Mind**

With Labor Day fast approaching and with holiday travel planning already underway for many, throngs of vacation-bound pet owners will opt for a pet sitter rather than a kennel boarding facility when making plans for their four-legged family members. This to enjoy the many benefits of at-home pet care and otherwise avoid serious psychological and physical health concerns associated with kennel boarding, including emotional distress, kennel cough, Parvo disease and the potentially deadly canine influenza virus, with outbreaks having already been reported just last month in several New Jersey Counties.



“Out of concern for their pet's health, well-being and safety, more people are avoiding kennel, boarding and daycare facilities, and even family members or the neighbor's kids, in favor of professional home-based pet care. But, buyer beware, as all pet sitters are not created equal,” cautions Paul Mann, founder and CEO of FETCH! Pet Care - the nation’s largest pet care brand offering professional pet sitting and dog walking services.

For those who plan to hire a home-based pet sitter so their animals can maintain normal activities, be nurtured in familiar surroundings and avoid both physical and emotional illnesses, Mann offers this Top 10 “must have’s” checklist for selecting a professional pet sitting service:

[ ]  
Locate a  
pet sitter  
in your  
area  
using a



“We appreciated all Kyle did to lower Boomer’s anxiety and elevate his mood in our absence. It was a good match.”  
**Barbara, Coronado, CA**

reputable source, such as at [www.FetchPetCare.com](http://www.FetchPetCare.com);

[ ] Diligently check all of the company’s references – at least three should be voluntarily provided;

[ ] Ensure the company is fully bonded *and* insured;

[ ] Confirm that your sitter has undergone a criminal background check and has received proper training;

[ ] Pre-interview sitter with your pet(s) present to observe interactions and establish a “comfort level” for both you and the pet(s);

[ ] Clearly state how you would like the sitter to use his/her visit time in terms of walking, playing, feeding, cleaning, etc.;

[ ] Verify that the sitter can accommodate both your pet’s daily feeding and walking schedule as well as your desired vacation schedule, even during the busiest holidays;

[ ] Ensure the company offers 7-day per week telephone and email availability;

[ ] Provide medical and behavioral history about your pet(s) as well as veterinary and other emergency contact information, and gather all necessary supplies, including food, vitamins, and treats in one central location;

[ ] Ensure the company has “backup” measures in place should your sitter have an emergency that prevents them from completing your assignment;

”The difficulty of finding reliable, at-home service providers has spawned the need for firm guidelines on selecting the right professional. If a pet owner takes just a few relatively simple ideas into account before entrusting Fido or Felix to another, they can enjoy peace of mind that their pet - and their home - will be well cared for. Indeed, a touch of due diligence is key to ensure owners find a highly trained, reliable and well-screened animal caretaker to best meet each pet's unique needs, and its owner's expectations,” Mann said.

“Selecting just the right sitter to care for both my pet and my home is not a decision I take lightly,” notes Deanne Christopolus, a FETCH! Pet Care client in the San Francisco Bay Area. “Now, however, I no longer need to burden or impose on family members or friends, or worry that my beloved pet will be subjected to kennel boarding. FETCH! Pet Care’s highly trained, reliable and well-screened sitters ensure my dog receives the love, attention and skilled treatment I expect of a professional caregiver, and that my home remains safe and secure while I’m away. That kind of peace of mind is priceless.”

FETCH! Pet Care offers consumers an at-a-glance comparison of its approach to at-home pet care with other available options, which is accessible online at <http://www.FetchPetCare.com/compare>. In addition, you may view a compelling news report at <http://cbs4denver.com/local/day.cares.doggie.2.563424.html> that details one representative first-hand account of the dangers of doggie-day care.