

FIRST ANNUAL WASATCH FLY TYING & FLY FISHING EXPO

The Stonefly Society and Cache Valley Anglers, chapters of Utah Trout Unlimited, are pleased to announce the First Annual Wasatch Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo. The Expo will be held Saturday, May 19th, 2007 at the Karen Gail Miller Convention Center, Salt Lake Community College, 9750 South 300 West, Sandy, Utah.



This all-day Expo will feature fly tying demos from some of the best fly tiers in Utah, casting clinics, fly tying and fly fishing workshops, activities for kids, and raffles throughout the day. In the evening, we will conclude the Expo with a banquet and auction featuring author and fly fishing guide Landon Mayer (www.landonmayer.com) as our keynote speaker. Expo activities will go from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., with the banquet starting at 7 p.m. General Admission to the public will be free.

The goals we have are threefold: 1) raise funds for future conservation projects for Utah's streams, rivers, and lakes, 2) celebrate fly tying and fly fishing in the state of Utah, and 3) have some fun.

Please click on the following to view and print information on the Banquet and Raffle. RSVP deadline is May 9, 2007.

Banquet & Raffle Packages

Take advantage of an excellent opportunity to learn from some of the best instructors in the fly fishing industry by signing up for one of our workshops offered at this year's Expo at a very affordable price.

These classes fill up quickly so send in your RSVP as soon as possible. Click on the downloadable form, fill it out, and mail it in today.

Workshop Schedule & Registration Form

Here is a list of the current classes that you can sign up for:

1. Tying Provo River & Green River Patterns with Curtis Fry
2. "Simple But Effective Flies" tying class with Bob Trowbridge
3. Tying Foam Flies with Stefanie Jonesott
4. Czech Nymphing with Ryan Barnes
5. Entomology 101: Match the Hatch with Jason Haslam
6. Stillwater Fly Fishing on Henrys Lake & Sheridan Lake with Lynn Scott
7. Pontoon Boat Techniques with Dave Scadden
8. Intermediate & Advanced Casting Techniques with Mickie Anderson

We have also arranged discounted lodging at the Country Inn & Suites in Sandy just a few blocks from the Expo. Room rates will be \$87.00. If you would like to reserve a room please call 801-553-1151. On behalf of the expo planning committee, we would like to thank you in advance for your support and participation.

Orienteering Events scheduled

This Saturday, May 19, 2007 we will have 3 courses created by Tihomir Asparouhov. He assures me that the Jordan Parkway in Draper is ready for us to compete. I also notice that there's going to be a LONG, challenging course available for our advanced racers; the Green Course is 8 km!



Start times are available from 3pm to 5pm - NOTE THAT THESE ARE afternoon TIMES. A short, intro class will be given at 4:30 for those unfamiliar with the sport. New racers will probably prefer the White Course, planned at 4.5 km or the Yellow Course planned at 6.75 km.

Also remember, Ed White is teaching a night class at the Sandy REI store Thursday May 17 from 7 to 8 ish

pm. We encourage students of this course to come Saturday, May 19 to Draper to practice what they've learned.

Visit the web site, <http://www.o-utah.org> for directions or more details.

Lake Powell Fish Report

By: Wayne Gustaveson

May 16, 2007

Lake Elevation: 3604

Water Temperature: 67-74 F

SMALLMOUTH BASS have gone ballistic. The open water reefs that were vacant last month are now RED HOT. Smallmouth bass from 6 inches to 2 pounds are surrounding reefs and long rocky points. Smaller bass are right on top of the reef in a few feet of clear water. Larger fish are residing off the reef edge at depths from 15-25 feet.

It's a sure thing to toss a single tail plastic grub (smoke, green or pumpkin) on a quarter ounce jig head to waiting bass. Just let the grub hit the reef and drag it a few feet at a time. Smallmouth bass will be all over it like a puppy chewing a bone.

Bass spawning is all but over. There may be a few bass still guarding nests but the rising lake covered the nests beyond visibility. Just fish the open reef structure now and maybe a guarding male can be caught. If not, there are so many bass hitting that spawning is no longer significant.



Other fish have made the switch to the 25-foot bottom contour on outside primary points leading into deep water. Stripers, walleye, and largemouth bass are consistently found on irregular bottom contours marked by “yellow water reefs” mixed with “deep blue water”. Look for the flat shoreline with lots of reefs and extended points to find a mixed bag of fish. Points often have a “saddle” just off shore with another reef much further out in the bay. This is the best habitat to fish this week.

To effectively fish reefs, employ a combination of **casting or trolling** the reef edges (with shallow runners like jerk baits or Wally divers), to **spooning** deep on the reef edge, or dragging a plastic **grub or tube** at 20 feet. Bass, stripers and walleye will all hit the same lures when the hot spot is located.

I caught nothing but fat stripers today using the end of reef technique. The reaction bait (spoon or crank bait) was appealing to stripers that feed on sunfish and crayfish. These fish have left the schools to forage on their own. They have fared better than the schooling stripers that do not get fed every day.

Schooling stripers are still being handily caught on bait in the main channel between the dam and the back of Navajo Canyon. At Bullfrog/Halls bait fishing is good from Lake Canyon to Hansen Creek.

Spring fishing is now at a peak. It will remain good for the remainder of May and then slow down in June. Morning and evening fishing is best with fish shallow along the shore. Fishing slows mid day with the sun straight overhead when fish move deeper. Concentrate on the deep edges of open water reefs to catch fish all day long.

Native Teaching Garden Under Construction at Hardware Ranch WMA

Back Country Horsemen of Utah joins forces with the DWR



Hyrum -- On May 19 the Backcountry Horsemen of Utah will be up to their elbows in dirt and native plants at Hardware Ranch WMA. They will be transforming a 51,000 square foot area between the visitor center and

Before the planting on May 19, volunteers in the Dedicated Hunter program will be breaking trail and prepping the site with mini excavators and skid steers.

The garden will become a key location for elementary school programs in the summer and the fall. “It is very important to us that the students are able to see first hand, the plants that support the wildlife at Hardware. The teaching garden will provide us with the opportunity to showcase the plants in a convenient easy to access area” explains Marni Lee, assistant manager at Hardware.

[illegible]

Funding remains a constraint to the amount of plants the Ranch will be able to provide the Back Country Horsemen for planting. “Local nurseries have generously agreed to sell us plants at cost but we are still short on funds” says Lee. We would like to encourage individuals or businesses to sponsor a tree, bench or picnic table and the Back Country Horsemen will plant or install it in your name. Sponsored items will carry a label with your family or business name.

Special thanks to Burton Lumber, Tony's Grove, Willow Valley Free Trappers and Willard Bay Gardens for their assistance.

Backyard Habitat™

By Sarah Boyle

Ten Birds That Help Control Garden Pests

AS A GARDENER, it can be your worst nightmare: watching helplessly as hordes of destructive insects attack your plants. With a little planning and simple landscaping, however, you can help moderate garden pests naturally in your yard. Your weapon: bug-eating birds. "During the late spring and summer months, insects make up the great majority of many avian species' diets," says NWF Chief Naturalist Craig Tufts. The trick to enticing these birds to your property, he notes, is to first learn which of them range in your area, and then to plant appropriate types of native cover that provide insect- and bird-attracting natural foods--leaves, fruit, pollen and nectar--to sustain both adults and their insect-dependent nestlings. Tina Phillips, project leader of Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Bird House Network, adds, "The most important thing to do to attract birds to your yard is to provide an enticing habitat, not just a nest box. Birds choose a nest site based on its surrounding habitat."

Along with native vegetation, offer birds a water source and a few different nesting sites: brush piles, ledges, nest boxes, shrubs and various types of trees--including dead tree limbs and trunks. "As long as they don't create a safety hazard for people, dead trees provide nesting areas and are a great food source for insectivores," says Tufts.

Needless to say, birds will not completely rid your yard of insects, and even if they could, you wouldn't want them to do so. Some insects are imperative for a healthy garden, and birds do not discriminate between destructive and beneficial bugs. But they can help keep insect populations in your neighborhood at a stable, balanced level, benefiting both you and your neighbors. Subsequently, you'll have a nicer garden to show for it throughout the summer.

Which bug-eating birds are the best ones to attract to your yard? There's no simple answer. Scientists cannot say for sure how many insects a certain bird will eat in a summer day. But depending on where you live, the following ten species can be valuable allies in your efforts to sustain a vibrant garden:



Photo: © GEORGE H. HARRISON

[Learn more about](#)



Photo: ©
GEORGE H.
HARRISON

Learn more
about red-eyed
vireos



Red-Eyed Vireo: Until recent population declines, red-eyed vireos were one of the most common woodland birds in North America. These migrants forage in trees, feeding mainly on crawling insects--especially caterpillars--but also on other invertebrates and berries. They range from the upper Northwest to the East Coast, nesting in deciduous shade trees. Plant Virginia creeper, spicebush, elderberry, blackberry and dogwood to supplement insect diet.

Others: white-eyed (eastern half of the country) and warbling (most of the United States, except for parts of the Southwest, Texas and Southeast) vireos

Chipping Sparrow: Well-adapted to various landscapes, chipping sparrows are common throughout backyards in most of North America, except for areas of Texas and Oklahoma. They eat insects and seeds from the ground, shrubs and trees. These common birds tend to nest in evergreens, making nests out of grasses, weeds, roots and hair. Attract them with pines, spruce, arborvitae and yew.

Others: lark (from central through western United States), vesper and savannah (both throughout the northern half of the country during the summer) sparrows



Photo: ©
GEORGE H.
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Learn more
about downy
woodpeckers



Downy Woodpecker: Smaller than all other North American woodpeckers, downy woodpeckers readily visit backyards throughout the United States, excluding some areas in the Southwest. Their diet consists mainly of insects, though they also feed on sap, berries and seeds. The birds excavate nesting sites in dead trees and stumps, which are later used by other birds. They prefer deciduous trees such as aspen and willow, and may eat the berries of dogwood, mountain ash, serviceberry, Virginia creeper and poison ivy.

Others: hairy (throughout most of the country, except parts of Texas and the West) and ladder-backed (arid areas of Southwest and Texas) woodpeckers, as well as flickers (throughout the United States)



Photo: ©
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Learn more
about chipping
sparrows



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Learn more

Yellow Warbler: Known for their sweet songs, yellow warblers eat a diet that is about 60 percent caterpillars. They also eat moths, mosquitoes, beetles and some berries. Widely distributed throughout North America, yellow warblers range from Alaska to the majority of the lower 48 states, except for areas of Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and Florida. They nest in small trees and shrubs and often prefer willow. Plant berry-producing plants native to your area.



Others: American redstarts (eastern half of the country and upper Midwest), common yellowthroats (throughout the United States) and yellow-rumped warblers (throughout most of the country except in areas of the Midwest)

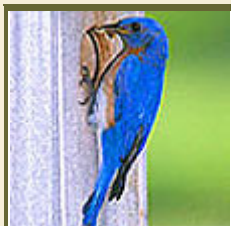


Photo: ©
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*Learn more
about eastern
bluebirds*



Eastern Bluebird: With their numbers increasing due to nest-box projects along "bluebird trails," eastern bluebirds occupy semi-open areas east of the Rockies. They eat a variety of insects, other invertebrates and berries. Eastern bluebirds nest in tree cavities, old woodpecker holes and nest boxes. Plant elderberry, hackberry, dogwood, holly and redcedar to supplement their diet.

Others: western and mountain bluebirds (both in the West)

Common Nighthawk: In reality not hawks but members of the nightjar family, common nighthawks cover most of the continent, eating a variety of flying insects. Partial to open space, they nest on level surfaces, such as the ground or flat rooftops in suburban and city areas. Attract common nighthawks to industrial and corporate rooftops.

Others: lesser nighthawks (Southwest), Chuck-will's-widow (Southeast) and common poorwill (West)



Photo: ©
GEORGE H.
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*Learn more
about common
nighthawks*

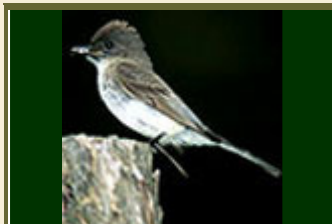


Photo: © GEORGE H.
HARRISON

*Learn more about
eastern*

phoebes



Eastern Phoebe: Easily recognizable by their fee-bee song, eastern phoebes--members of the flycatcher family--oftentimes take up residence on buildings and bridges. Found throughout the eastern half of the United States (frequently near water), they eat many insect species, as well as other invertebrates and berries. Provide a nesting platform and plant native hackberry, serviceberry, poison ivy and sumac to supplement their diet.

Others: black (Southwest) and Say's (western half of the United States) phoebes



Photo: ©

Baltimore Oriole: Colorful migrants that readily visit backyards, Baltimore orioles eat insects, fruit and nectar. The songbirds range from the central Midwest to the Northeast and nest in hanging pouches in deciduous trees. Plant blackberry, serviceberry and cherry for food, as well as elm, sycamore, tupelo and other shade trees as nesting spots.

Others: hooded (Southwest), Bullock's (mostly western half of the country) and orchard (eastern half) orioles

Learn more
about
Baltimore
orioles

eNature.com

House Wren: Regular backyard visitors, house wrens have diets that consist almost exclusively of insects and spiders. Not very fussy about sites, these birds may nest in nest boxes, mailboxes, building crevices--even in pockets of hanging laundry. House wrens range throughout most of the lower 48 states during parts of the year. Include low-lying shrubs (such as American beautyberry) or brush piles in your yard--sources for cover, nesting materials and food.

Other insect-eating wrens that regularly visit backyards include: Carolina (East), Bewick's (southern half of the United States and Pacific Coast) and cactus (Southwest) wrens.

These ten birds, of course, are not alone in consuming backyard pests. Many other species--such as the northern cardinal and black-capped chickadee--eat insects or feed them to their young during the summer. Yet as summer winds down, your efforts to attract birds shouldn't come to a halt. "The natural foods you provide in your yard throughout the year will encourage these songsters to visit again," says Tufts. As a result, the birds may return and combat a new generation of insects the next year.

To learn more, visit NWF's Backyard Wildlife Habitat™ Web site at www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat and www.eNature.com/garden_birds (where you can search by zip code to see which species live in your area). In addition, log onto <http://birds.cornell.edu> to see how you can help monitor backyard birds for scientists. Sarah Boyle is an associate editor for this magazine.

YOUR LIFE JACKET, NO REASON NOT TO WEAR IT



Salt Lake -- There are many reasons people choose not to wear life jackets. However, with approximately 700 people drowning each year in recreational boating accidents, it is important to wear a life jacket while on the water.

Much like a helmet to a mountain biker, life jackets are an essential part of boating safety

equipment and should be worn at all times. In 2004, of the 676 recreational boating fatalities nationally, 90 percent of those victims were not wearing life jackets.

Life jackets are no longer the orange, hot and bulky vests. New innovations and developments have produced smaller, sleeker, and much more comfortable versions.

Accidents can happen immediately. Although many boaters stow life jackets on their boats, very few choose to wear them. During accidents, there often isn't time to grab a life jacket and put it on properly. Wearing a life jacket at all times allows a boater extra time in case of an accident.

Throughout the boating season, remember to practice safe and responsible boating, always wear a life jacket, and be alert and aware while on the water.

FROM FINE ART TO BUFFALO CHIPS, MUCH TO DO FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

May 25 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Star Party: Join the park naturalist for a deeper look into our sun's planets. Event begins with a slide presentation followed by outdoor viewing of the night sky. For more information, please call (801) 721-9569.



May 25 Jordanelle State Park / Rock Cliff - Heber
Walk-About Program -
Hawks up Close: Meet the naturalist Friday evening and stroll the campground with a live hawk. Learn about the adaptations and the role birds of prey play in a healthy environment. For more information please call (435) 649-9540 or (435) 782-3030.

May 26 * 28 Camp
Floyd/Stagecoach Inn -
Fairfield

Civil War Days: Walk

through a Civil War encampment of 1861; visit with re-enactors on issues of Camp Floyd and the Civil War; hear period music, play 19th century games; march and drill with re-enactors; watch a battle and shoot period firearms. A flag retirement takes place the evening of May 26. For more information, please call (801) 768-8932.

May 26 Jordanelle State Park / Rock Cliff - Heber

Junior Ranger Program - Birds of Prey: Children six to 10 are invited to the Nature Center from 11 a.m. to noon to learn about birds of prey. View a live bird and take a walk with binoculars to search for birds. Children earn a badge and certificate. For more information, please call (435) 782-3030.

May 26 Green River State Park * Green River

Green River State Park Golf Course * Couples Scramble Tournament. Play this great nine-hole course and stay overnight in the campground. For more information or to register, please call (435) 564-8882.

May 26 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Junior Ranger Program - Pond Explorations: Children 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 Educational Yurt. For more information, please call (435) 654-1791.

May 26 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Evening Program - Whodunit? A Wildlife Mystery- Join the park naturalist to uncover some of the mysteries of wildlife. Learn to identify common animals by what they leave behind through this fun, interactive program. Meet at the campground amphitheater at 7:30 p.m. For more information call (435) 654-1791.

May 26 to December 31 Edge of the Cedars State Park - Blanding

Canyons, Creeks, and Crooked Cottonwoods - Utah artist, Serena Supplee, exhibits nearly 50 of her vibrant paintings. Each work of art features canyons, cliffs, crooked cottonwoods, and the sunlit red rocks of the Colorado Plateau. An exhibit reception is scheduled for May 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, please call (435) 678-2238.

May 26 Snow Canyon

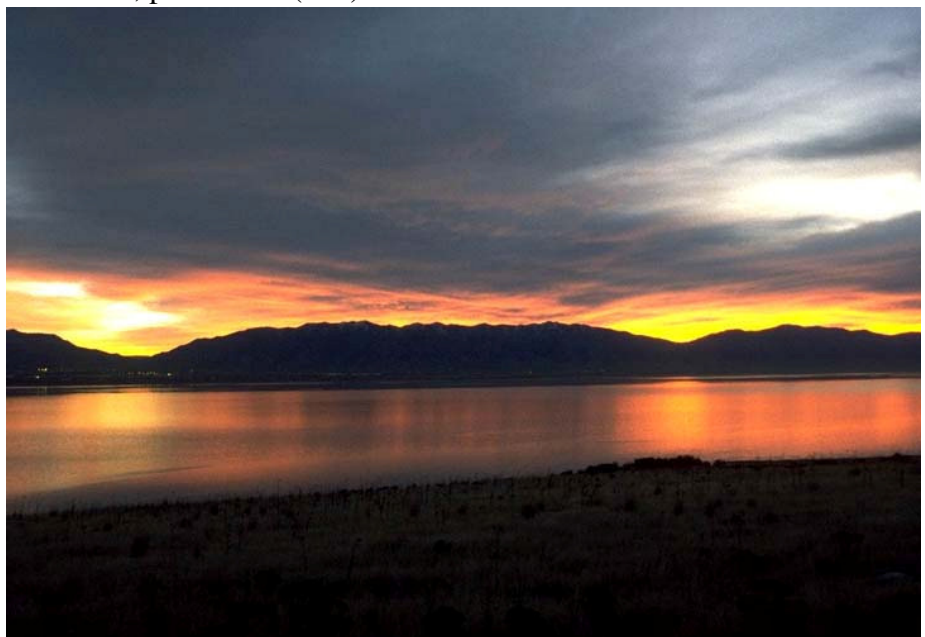
State Park - Ivins

Scorpions: Join park staff at 9:30 p.m. and explore the sand dunes in search of resident scorpions. Space is limited and registration is required. For more information, please call (435) 628-2255.

May 26 Antelope Island

State Park - Syracuse

Join park staff for an informative lecture by Judy Busk, author, retired English teacher, and



descendent of pioneer Utah women, as she discusses her book *The Sum of Our Past*. This presenter is provided by the Utah Humanities Council. For more information call (801) 649-5742.

May 26 and 28 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Fielding Garr Ranch - Make pioneer handkerchief dolls, pick up a needle and quilt, dip candles and make a pioneer lantern. Learn pioneer games such as farm ball and race your family in a sack race. Participants will need to bring an empty vegetable or soup can to make their own pioneer lantern. These activities are available all day. For more information call (801) 649-5742.

May 27 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Guided Hike: Enjoy a guided hike to the top of Frary Peak. This 7.3-mile hike of moderate difficulty is estimated to take 5.5 to 6 hours. Bring sturdy shoes, water, bug spray, sunscreen, snack, and meet at the Frary Trailhead at 8 a.m.

May 28 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Junior Ranger Program: Join the park naturalist for a float among the sea monkeys. Take a deeper look into these fascinating survivors of Great Salt Lake. Participants should bring water, sunscreen, swimsuits, a curious imagination and meet at the Bridger Bay Beach north parking lot at 11 a.m. At 3 p.m. join the Buffalo Chip Toss: Test your ability to toss a real buffalo chip. Meet at the visitor center at 3 p.m. For more information, please call (801) 721-9569.

W.R. Case and Sons' Damascus-bladed SlimLock® Receives Popular Mechanics' Editor's Choice Award at National Hardware Show

Bradford, PA (May 14, 2007) – W.R. Case and Sons Cutlery Company, an American manufacturer of premium knives, received an Editor's Choice Award from Popular Mechanics magazine on Tuesday, May 8 at the National Hardware Show in Orlando, Florida. The Case SlimLock® folder with Damascus blade was one of only thirteen products to be chosen from among thousands of products this year, and the only pocket knife to have won an award. The Editor's Choice Awards highlight products which demonstrate outstanding achievement in innovation, invention, design and engineering.

John Sullivan, Case's Director of Marketing, states, "The SlimLock represents the finest, most modern pocket folder ever offered by Case. We're honored to receive such a prestigious award."

Popular Mechanics recognized the Case SlimLock for its unique blend of beauty, quality construction, and useful function, calling it "the quintessential example of the knife maker's art." They add, "It's not just exotically beautiful, it's razor sharp and resharpens easily."

Case offers the SlimLock with several handle material options. Traditional bone-handled models are offered in 6.5 BoneStag™, Mediterranean Blue, Smooth Chestnut and Classic Green. Other

exotic handle choices include Ebony wood (pictured), Snakewood, Smooth Abalone, and presentation grade Mother-of-Pearl.

The SlimLock's standard features include a convenient one-hand opening thumb stud and an adjustable pivot screw to control blade action. A steel liner locks the blade open for added security. A genuine leather carrying sheath is included with the unique product package which pays tribute to John Russell Case, the company's founder.



The SlimLock is currently offered with a drop point blade made from BG-42 steel (a high performance stainless alloy). Limited quantities are available with ladder-patterned Damascus steel blades. The Damascus steel is hand-forged with a 1075 carbon steel and 201 nickel alloy.

This is the first time the Damascus-bladed SlimLock had appeared at the National Hardware Show. View Popular Mechanics' Editor's Choice Awards coverage online: <http://www.popularmechanics.com/marketing/nhseditorschoice2>

For more than a century, W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery has been hand-crafting premium knives exclusively in the United States. Case's distinction underscores its well-earned place as a genuine piece of Americana and the country's most popular collectable brand. The company manufactures pocket knives, sporting/hunting knives and collectables which are available at hardware stores, cutlery shops, sporting goods stores and large retail chains across the country. All Case knives are backed by a limited lifetime warranty. W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery is based in Bradford, PA and has been part of the Zippo Manufacturing Company since 1993. For more information, visit www.wrcase.com or contact Case at 1-800-523-6350.

Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative

Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative is being lead by the Utah Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) and implemented through a cooperative conservation approach under the umbrella of the Utah Partners for Conservation & Development. This approach involves state and federal agencies working together with conservation organizations, landowners, local elected officials and industry to address statewide watershed issues that cross ownership and administrative boundaries. The success of this program will be measured in ways that include: reducing the threats to our watersheds and increasing the values they provide in the form of clean and reliable water, improved wildlife habitat, reduced sedimentation in streams and reservoirs, and improving rangeland capability. The effectiveness of this partnership is measured in its ability to involve

partners to solve problems and leverage technical and financial resources with real on-the-ground results.

In 2005-06 with the support of the Utah Legislature and the \$2 million appropriation to DNR this cooperative conservation approach has resulted in over 120 watershed restoration projects statewide involving over 125,000 acres on private, state and federal lands. The \$2million appropriation has been successfully leveraged with money from state and federal agencies, conservation organizations, industry and private landowners to total \$8 million in on-the-ground work. In 2006-07 with continued support from the Legislature another 143,000 acres are being restored by leveraging \$2.5 million from the Legislature into over \$11.4 million in on-the-ground work. The long-term results from this effort will be measured in the reduced costs associated with fighting wildfires, reduced soil loss from erosion, improved water quality and yield, wildlife habitat, agricultural production and resistance to invasive plant species.

Single projects that involve over 1,000 acres are taking place in Uintah, Grand, Duchesne, Daggett, Toole, Juab, San Juan, Carbon, Emery, Rich, Kane, Garfield, Piute, Millard, Beaver, Iron, Wayne, Washington, Sevier and Box Elder counties. With the continued support from the Legislature and our conservation partners for this cooperative conservation approach many more projects are being planned for implementation this fall. A detailed list of projects and partners, or more information on the program, is available through the Dept. of Natural Resources, Watershed Restoration Program, Rory Reynolds, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84114 or by e-mail Roryreynolds@utah.gov

PUMP PRICES? – JUST GHASTLY

Record High Prices Set Daily, Reports AAA Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, May 15, 2007- Record high prices for gasoline are being set almost daily both in Utah and nationally, according to the latest monthly gas report from AAA Utah, which tracks gasoline prices as a service to the consumer.

Today's average price in Utah for regular, self-serve gasoline has increased 42 cents this past month to the current average price of \$3.21 a gallon. This is a record high price for Utah. It is 30 cents higher than a year ago. Twelve states have prices higher than Utah.

The national average price also set a record today. The current national price is \$3.09 for a gallon of regular, self-serve gasoline. This price is 22 cents higher than a month ago and 16 cents higher than a year ago.

"Since the beginning of 2007, the national average price of self-serve regular gasoline has jumped from \$2.32 per gallon to \$3.07 per gallon: an increase of 75.3 cents per gallon," said Rolayne Fairclough, AAA Utah spokesperson. "At this price, a typical family owning two vehicles and using 1,200 gallons of gasoline per year spends about \$3,687.60, or about \$307 each month."

Motorists in all of the Intermountain West experienced trepidation as they filled up their vehicles during the past month. Idaho's average price increased 34 cents this month to \$3.19.

Montana's average price jumped 28 cents to today's \$3.16. Wyoming saw a 35-cent increase. The average price in Wyoming is now \$3.05. Colorado's motorists saw the highest increase of all in the Intermountain West. The current price in Colorado is now \$3.25, a 43-cent increase from last month. Arizona's price increased 14 cents to the current average of \$3.09. Nevada's price increased 18 cents to the current average of \$3.25. California's price, the highest in the country, increased 14 cents this past month. California's motorists are now paying an average of \$3.48 cents a gallon for regular self-serve. South Carolina has the lowest price, \$2.84 a gallon.

The Utah cities surveyed by AAA also saw hefty price increases since AAA's last report on April 17. Logan average price increased 39 cents to the current price of \$3.20 a gallon for regular, self-serve. Ogden's price jumped 41 cents to the current average of \$3.19 a gallon. Salt Lake City's motorists also saw prices jump 41 cents. The current average price in Salt Lake is now \$3.17. Provo's average price also jumped 41 cents to the current price of \$3.19. St. George's price is now \$3.24 a gallon of regular, self-serve gasoline. This price is 41 cents higher than last month's average. Moab's average price is \$3.22, a 27-cent increase from last month. Vernal's average price is \$3.19, a 37-cent increase from last month.

AAA believes these prices should alarm elected officials and those seeking election. In the recent presidential debates the subject of America's energy problems has only been mentioned in passing. With the average price of gasoline reaching new record highs, it is time for a vigorous and specific debate that engages the American public in evaluating how the United States can best address the ongoing problem of runaway fuel prices. As voters participate in this discussion, they need to be provided with the numbers behind the policy proposals that will demonstrate how problems can actually be solved related to domestic refining capacity, increasing energy conservation, addressing environmental concerns and providing for the emergency storage and distribution of fuel when and where needed.

Motorists can use the following tips to use gasoline more efficiently:

- Make sure tires are properly inflated. This is particularly important as air pressure changes with the seasons.
- Use the vent feature rather than air conditioning.
- Lighten the load and when packing for vacation, do not place loads on top of vehicle.
- Drive the speed limit and try to smooth out driving by avoiding fast accelerations and hard braking.
- Consolidate errands and plan the most efficient route.
- Try to use mass transit or car pooling when possible.
- Keep vehicle well serviced with clean fluids and filters and belts and hoses that are in good repair.

Motorists can shop aggressively for the lowest fuel price available with AAA's Fuel Finder located at www.aaa.com/gasprices. This site has real time information on gas prices at more than 85,000 stations in the United States.

AAA's Fuel Gauge Report is the most comprehensive retail gasoline survey available, with over 85,000 self-serve stations surveyed everyday nationwide. Data is provided in cooperation with OPIS Energy Group and Wright Express, LLC.

AAA Utah offers a wide array of automotive, travel, insurance and financial services to more than 165,000 members. AAA has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers since it was founded more than 100 years ago.

UTAH STATE PARKS LAUNCH AND WATER CONDITIONS

Please find below, launch ramp and water conditions as of May 14. All Utah State Parks campgrounds located at lakes and reservoirs are open for the season. Reservations are available by calling (801) 322-3770 or 1-800-322-3770 from outside the Salt Lake area:

Bear Lake State Park Marina: Launch ramp open, 42 degrees

Deer Creek State Park: Launch ramp open, 46 degrees

East Canyon State Park: Launch ramp open, 45 degrees

Wide Hollow at Escalante State Park: Launch ramp open, 60 degrees

Great Salt Lake State Marina: Launch ramp open, 46 degrees

Gunlock State Park: Launch ramp open, 50 degrees

Huntington State Park: Launch ramp CLOSED, 43 degrees

Hyrum Lake State Park: Launch ramp open, 63 degrees

Jordanelle State Park: Launch ramp open, 45 degrees

Millsite State Park: Launch ramp open, 44 degrees

Otter Creek State Park: Launch ramp open, 54 degrees

Palisade State Park: Launch ramp open, 48 degrees

Piute State Park: Launch ramp open, 56 degrees

Quail Creek State Park: Launch ramp open, 59 degrees

Red Fleet State Park: Launch ramp open, 54 degrees

Rockport State Park: Launch ramp open, 45 degrees

Sand Hollow State Park: Launch ramp open, 67 degrees

Scofield State Park: Launch ramp open, 42 degrees

Starvation State Park: Launch ramp open, 55 degrees

Steinaker State Park: Launch ramp open, 58 degrees

Utah Lake State Park: Launch ramp open, 59 degrees

Willard Bay State Park: North Marina launch ramp open, 60 degrees

Yuba State Park: Launch ramp open, 63 degrees

Strawberry: Launch ramp open, 42 degrees



Flaming Gorge: Launch ramp open, 50 degrees

Winners Announced for Nevada Passage Made-for-TV Adventure Competition

RENO, Nev. – For the second year in a row the winning team of the Nevada Passage made-for-TV adventure reality program was comprised of two accountants: 2006 champion Linda Lindsay, 42, of Petaluma, Calif., and Tim Menoher, 36, of Erlanger, Ky., who won Friday with the highest overall score of the five-day adventure competition.

The Telly award-winning Nevada Passage concluded with a backcountry ski competition at Mt. Rose in Reno where the physicians' team, Peter Hanson, 41, of Minneapolis, and Caroline Colonna, 43, of Taos, N.M., won first place for the day's competition.

Reno's own Phillip Glenn, 30, an emergency medical technician, and his partner, Lisa Bommer, 25, an athletic trainer from Chicago, competing as the "Wild Card" team, finished in second place for the overall competition.

Although the 2007 Nevada Passage adventure competition is complete, the athletes will participate in an exploration Saturday, May 12, in downtown Carson City, Nev., rollerblading along the historic Kit Carson Trail beginning at 9 a.m. PDT.

"Another great Nevada Passage adventure competition has reached the finish line and now will be made into a television program that will show viewers the exciting outdoor opportunities that await them," Commission Director Tim Maland said. "We hope that the 20 competitors enjoyed experiencing Nevada's great adventure and that they will become brand ambassadors for the alluring venues and mind-blowing challenges to be found throughout the state."

The one-hour syndicated program will air in more than 80 U.S. markets from August through February 2008. In Nevada it will be seen on KOLO-TV Channel 8 in Reno and KLAS-TV Channel 8 in Las Vegas, then will be seen on <http://www.nevadapassage.com>, where last year's exciting 2006 Nevada Passage currently is viewable and downloadable.

The Nevada Passage competition paired 20 athletes into 10 two-person coed teams by profession. For the first time in the Nevada Passage's three-year history, a "Wild Card" team auditioned for the fun, yet physically taxing competition.

The physician team, Colonna, a doctor of Oriental medicine, and Hanson, a sports medicine physician, missed overtaking the "Wild Card" team by one point.

Lauren Kemp, 43, from San Diego and John Madden, 30, from Mountain View, Calif., on the engineer team, came in fourth place for overall points. Rounding out the top five was the journalist team with Lisa Jhung, 34, and Brian Metzler, 38, both from Boulder, Colo.

The other five teams were:

Realtors:

Christina Burgos, 38, realtor specializing in independent sales from Houston, Texas
GL Brown, 63, residential real estate consultant from Grand Rapids, Mich.

Pilots:

Ildiko Lengyel, 29, captain for Jet Blue Airways from Park City, Utah
Steve Cole, 51, DC-9 pilot and captain from Olive Branch, Miss.

Programmers:

Jackie Ryan, 48, software engineer from Birmingham, Ala.
Frank Febbraro, 32, partner and director of technology for Phase2 Technology from Fairfax, Va.

Attorneys:

Jennifer Huber, 38, litigation attorney from Washington, D.C.
Adam Chase, 41, tax attorney from Boulder, Colo.

Physical Therapists:

Heather McNamara, 45, physical therapist from Brighton, Mich.
Dave Ruby, 47, post-rehabilitation therapist from La Verne, Calif.

**NEW GEOLOGIC MAPS OF
THE KOLOB CANYONS PART OF ZION NATIONAL PARK**

Salt Lake City, Utah -- Two new maps, released by the Utah Geological Survey (UGS), will delight geologists, hikers, and other visitors to the Kolob Canyons region of Zion National Park. The geologic maps of the Kolob Arch and Kolob Reservoir 7.5' quadrangles cover the northern part of Zion National Park and adjacent areas in Washington and Iron Counties. The maps show the geology of this part of the park in unprecedented detail and also show selected roads and hiking trails, allowing visitors to the park to better appreciate the geology underlying the spectacular scenery of the Kolob Canyons and Kolob Plateau.

Each map covers an area of about 55 square miles. Together they cover the area between I-15 on the west and Lava Point on the east, and from Ash Creek Reservoir on the south to beyond Kolob Reservoir on the north.

The Kolob Canyons are a series of west-trending canyons that cut the western escarpment of the Markagunt Plateau. Each canyon is like a miniature Zion Canyon, broad at the mouth where easily erodable rocks are exposed, but narrowing to a slot canyon in the upper reaches. Massive 2000-foot-tall cliffs of Navajo Sandstone dominate the view, and basaltic lava flows dramatically record the effects of uplift along the Hurricane fault and subsequent erosion.



The Kolob Arch and Kolob Reservoir geologic maps will be of special interest to educators and others simply interested in learning about the fascinating geology of this area. The maps also provide geologic data useful to federal and county agencies, consulting geologists, and developers to address geologic hazard and resource issues. The maps were jointly funded through a cooperative agreement between the Utah Geological Survey and the National Park Service.

"UGS geologists created new geologic maps that cover Zion National Park and the surrounding area in order to provide park officials with detailed geologic information for land-use management decisions, to provide an important educational resource for visitors, and to stimulate further geologic research in and near the park," said Bob Biek, UGS Senior Geologist.

Geologic maps of the Kolob Arch and Kolob Reservoir 7.5' quadrangles (Maps 217 and 220,

respectively) are accompanied by a second plate with a correlation diagram, geologic cross-sections, and an explanation of map units and symbols. The Kolob Arch quadrangle also includes a third plate with photos that describes selected geologic features in the quadrangle, including the Kanarra anticline, Hurricane fault zone, basaltic lava flows, and Ice-Age lake deposits that formed behind landslide dams. The Kolob Arch and Kolob Reservoir maps are available for \$ 13.95 and \$11.95 at the Natural Resources Map & Bookstore, located at 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, (801) 537-3320 or 1-888-UTAHMAP, <http://mapstore.utah.gov>.

The Utah Geological Survey is an applied scientific agency that creates, interprets, and provides information about Utah's geologic environment, resources, and hazards to promote safe, beneficial, and wise use of land.

Bill Introduced in Congress to Ban Polar Bear Hunting

(Columbus) – A bill to outlaw polar bear hunting yesterday was introduced before Congress. Sportsmen are campaigning against the measure that will wipe out the programs that provide the principal revenue for polar bear conservation.

On May 15, Rep. Jay Inslee, D-Washington, and Frank LoBiondo, R-New Jersey, introduced HR 2327 to repeal an exemption within the Marine Mammal Protection Act, which allows sportsmen to hunt polar bears in Canada and return trophies to the United States. The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, the nation's premier sportsmen's advocacy group, helped establish the exemption in 1994. Polar bear numbers are at an all-time high, and the overall population is considered healthy by wildlife professionals.

"From a conservation standpoint, there is no reason to stop polar bear hunting – it's all politics," said Rick Story, U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance senior vice president. "All we are seeing is an early salvo in the war to outlaw the taking of all wildlife. If the federal government can amend the law to stop polar bear hunting for no good reason, then it and state governments can do the same thing with deer, turkeys, elk, you name it. All it takes is enough pressure, and we say it's time to fight back."

The bill will bring Canada's successful polar bear conservation programs to a screeching halt, as essential funding from hunting programs will immediately fall off.

American sportsmen account for approximately 80 hunts per year, which means more than \$2.4 million annually into polar bear research, conservation and native communities in Canada. Canadian polar bear populations are stable and increasing, but if U.S. citizens are shut out of these hunts, a primary funding source for polar bear management will be eliminated and the now-healthy bear populations will be at risk.

Anti-hunters support HR 2327 despite the fact that it will eliminate crucial conservation funding.

"The anti-hunters are willing to throw the baby out with the bathwater," adds Story. "They are not interested in what is best for wildlife, which would be the continuation of the hunting programs. Their goal is a hands-off approach to wildlife management, and they want hunting banned no matter what the cost."

In December, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) proposed to list polar bears, including Canada's stable and increasing populations, as federally threatened. The service offered the proposal to appease environmental groups over potential global climate change and shrinking Arctic sea ice, but ignored the science that shows polar bear populations are at historic highs and that there are no imminent threats to the healthy, huntable populations. The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance opposes the listing.

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance urges hunters and supporters of sound conservation practices to oppose HR 2327. Contact U.S. representatives today and ask them to protect sound scientific wildlife conservation and polar bear management, oppose HR 2327. Call (202) 224-3121 or use the Legislative Action Center at <http://www.ussportsmen.org> .

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance is a national association of sportsmen and sportsmen's organization that protects the rights of hunters, anglers and trappers in the courts, legislatures, at the ballot, in Congress and through public education programs. For more information about the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and its work, call (614) 888-4868 or visit its website, <http://www.ussportsmen.org>

FISHING REPORT FOR SOUTHEASTERN UTAH

ABAJO MOUNTAINS Monticello and Foy reservoirs were planted this month with 9-10 inch rainbow trout. Good fishing is expected. Both Blanding reservoirs have provided good fishing all spring with baits and lures. Bass and pike hunters continue to fish Recapture Reservoir.

BENCHES POND The ice is off. Conservation Officer Casey Mickelsen reported slow fishing last weekend. Most people were using worms and PowerBait.

BOULGERS RESERVOIR The ice has melted. No report.

CLEVELAND RESERVOIR The reservoir is ice-free. There was a lot of fishing pressure over the weekend, but no report came back to the DWR.

ELECTRIC LAKE Ice off has finally arrived. The best bait will be a dead minnow. Redside shiners can be caught in nets or minnow traps along the shoreline. Other baits include worms with salmon eggs, or PowerBait in green or rainbow colors. Fly fishermen may want to try #8 dark wooly buggers or leeches.

FAIRVIEW LAKES The ice is off. No report on fishing success.

GIGLIOTTI POND The pond was stocked in early May. Good fishing is expected.

GOOSEBERRY RESERVOIR The U.S. Forest Service gate will be locked until the Memorial Day weekend.

HUNTINGTON CREEK Fly-fishing has been good with an elk hair caddis, blue-wing nymph or pheasant tail. Traditionally, Tom Ogden has had good luck with a size 10 beadhead Montana at this time of year. Conservation Officer Casey Mickelsen says that worms with salmon eggs or worms with marshmallows have been especially good.

HUNTINGTON NORTH STATE PARK State Park Manager Dan Richards says Huntington North Reservoir is gradually filling. He hopes that boat launching will be possible in the next few weeks. Dan has heard several reports of 1-3 lb. bass being caught off the dam. Jigs or spinnerbaits seem to work best. Trout fishermen aren't having any luck, except for a few chubs and very small trout.

HUNTINGTON RESERVOIR (also known as **MAMMOTH RESERVOIR**)

The reservoir is totally ice-free. Tressa Christianson fished last Friday and reported a lot of hits with worms and salmon eggs. She stressed sensitivity to bites and setting the hook quickly. The reservoir is closed to the possession of cutthroat trout. As of June 7, using motorboats with 10 horsepower or more will be prohibited.

JOES VALLEY RESERVOIR

Aquatics biologists Justin Hart and Kenny Breidinger fished the reservoir last weekend. They caught about 40 splake inside the slot limit. They vertically jigged ¼ oz. jigheads with 3-inch curlytail grubs from a boat on the east side south of the dam. Chartreuse and white were good colors for the grub. They always tipped the hook with chub meat. They also had good success on the west side near the mouth of Little's Creek, where they tossed out whole chubs or chub pieces on minnow hooks.

Two fisheries biologists from DWR's Springville office fished Joes Valley last week and did exceptionally well. One of the biologists, Richard Hepworth caught a 10-lb. splake on Friday morning! The other biologist, Mike Slater brought his daughter along. She lost an estimated 8-10 lb. splake just as she brought it to the bank. Richard and Mike used chub meat on minnow hooks cast from shore.

Special regulations apply at this reservoir. The limit is two fish. Only one may be over 22 inches. All trout from 15-22 inches must be immediately released.

LAKE POWELL Visit wayne@wayneswords.com for the fishing report, provided by Wayne Gustaveson, DWR project leader.

LASAL MOUNTAINS If you're a fly fisherman and want to try Ken's Lake, use a streamer for bass or sunfish. Hidden and Dons lakes are accessible. No recent report on these ponds. Conservation Officer Casey McVay reports that the gates to Oowah and Warner will remain locked until the Memorial Day weekend. The rest of the mountain lakes remain inaccessible.

LOWER FISH CREEK Tom Ogden has had good luck with a #10 beadhead Montana. The creek is full of brown trout, which generally range from 8-12 inches. The road from Highway 6 to lower Fish Creek is expected to be muddy for a week or so.

MILLSITE RESERVOIR Fishing continues to be slow to fair, due to a rising water level, which puts a lot of natural food in the water. Fish fill up on insects and ignore angler offerings. Park Manager, Dan Richards has seen a few 2 pound rainbows come out of the reservoir. Apparently, the best technique is still-fishing from a boat on the north side. Try jigging plastic grubs tipped with bait.

SCOFIELD RESERVOIR

Scofield State Park hosted a fishing tournament on May 12th. The fish that won 1st prize weighed 3.25 lbs.

Fisheries Biologist Justin Hart reports that fishing was great over the weekend. Shoreline anglers with egg sacs had some of the best success. Another excellent bait was a worm and marshmallow--this was effective lake-wide. Justin says tiger trout ran about 18 inches. Rainbows measured from 12-20 inches, although his creel survey technician checked two rainbows at the fish cleaning station that probably weighed 5 lbs. before they were gutted.

Tom Ogden fished the reservoir from a tube last weekend. The fish seemed to be moving to deeper water, 7-9 feet deep. Tom's catch consisted of one cutthroat, and the rest were a split between rainbows and tigers. Tom used dark-colored wooly buggers or leech patterns on size 8 hooks. Tom said the best technique was what he called the "cast, sink and strip" method.

WRIGLEY SPRINGS RESERVOIR The reservoir is ice-free. No fishing report.

WILLOW RESERVOIR The USFS gate remains locked. Inaccessible.