

## Meteors to Fall Thursday Night

Utah sky watchers have a date with with the annual Geminids meteor shower on Thursday night and Friday morning, the 13th and 14 of December.

Past Geminids displays have treated observers to more than 100 meteors per hour. "Geminid meteors," says NASA Solar System Ambassador to Utah Patrick Wiggins, "are some of the slowest meteors known so unlike other showers which tend to produce fast, white-hot meteors the Geminids are known for their slow, colorful, graceful meteors."



Many people refer to these objects as 'shooting stars' or 'falling stars' and think they are much bigger and closer than they really are. In fact most meteors are about the size of a grain of sand that burn up and turn to ash when they strike Earth's extreme upper atmosphere.

Most meteor showers happen when the Earth runs into the debris left behind by comets. But the Geminid's parent body is thought to be an asteroid, known as Phaethon, which may be a dead comet.

Telescopes or binoculars should not be used to watch this or any meteor shower because they limit how much of the sky the observer can see.

Wiggins says there's no best place in the sky to look. More important is where to look from. "Observers should try to get away from city light pollution and then just lay back, look up and wait for the meteors to call attention to themselves."

A few Geminids may also be seen in the nights leading up to and following the predicted peak, but the numbers on those nights will likely be fewer as the Earth will then be less well positioned in the particle swarm.

For more information on the Geminids and other astronomical topics log on to Wiggins' NASA Solar System Ambassador web page at <http://utahastro.info> .

## **TRACK ME IF YOU CAN AT JORDANELLE STATE PARK**

Heber City—Join the Naturalist on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month from Dec 15, 07-March 15, 08 at Rock Cliff. From 10am-noon to learn about animal tracking and animal myths. Please RSVP, group size limited to 25 people. Snowshoes available. Day use fee applies. For more information or to RSVP call (435) 782-3030 or (435) 649-9540.

Rock Cliff is open for fishing, hiking, snowshoeing, etc... Park hours are 8am –5pm daily. Nature Center is closed. Day use fees of \$7.00 per carload up to 8 people apply year round.



## **DWR Recommends More Bear Hunting Permits**

Fishing contest changes also recommended

Black bear hunting permits could increase by as much as 20 percent for Utah's 2008 hunts.

Taking bears in areas where bears and people come into conflict every year is part of a three-pronged approach the Division of Wildlife Resources is taking to try and reduce the chance those conflicts occur in 2008.

The other prongs involve the public and those who run campgrounds. DWR staff will continue to educate people about how to avoid attracting bears to them. They'll also encourage the use of bear-proof garbage containers in campgrounds.

“The best way to avoid problems with bears is to not do things that attract bears to you in the first place,” says Kevin Bunnell, mammals program coordinator for the DWR. “When a bear gets into trouble, it's usually because someone has done something that's attracted the bear to them or to someone else.”

Fishing contest changes

Changes to rules that regulate fishing contests in Utah also will be discussed at a

series of public meetings held across Utah. The fishing contest changes the DWR are proposing are available at [www.wildlife.utah.gov/public\\_meetings/info/dec8.pdf](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/info/dec8.pdf). Information about other items that will be discussed is available at [www.wildlife.utah.gov/public\\_meetings/next.php](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/next.php).

The meetings will give you a chance to learn more about the proposals and to provide biologists with your input and suggestions.

Citizens from Utah's five Regional Advisory Councils will take the public input received to the Utah Wildlife Board when it meets in Salt Lake City on Jan. 8, 2008 to approve Utah's 2008 Black Bear Proclamation and other items.

Meeting dates, times and locations are as follows:

#### Southern Region

Dec. 11  
7 p.m.  
Beaver High  
School  
195 E. Center St.

#### Beaver

Southeastern  
Region  
Dec. 12  
6:30 p.m.  
John Wesley  
Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main St.  
Green River



#### Northeastern Region

Dec. 13  
6:30 p.m.  
Uintah Basin  
Technology College  
1100 E. Lagoon St.

Roosevelt

Central Region

Dec. 18

6:30 p.m.

Springville Junior High School

165 S. 700 E.

Springville



Northern Region

Dec. 19

6 p.m.

Brigham City Community

Center

24 N. 300 W.

Brigham City

Black bear permits

The DWR is proposing a total of 296 black bear hunting permits for Utah's 2008 spring and fall hunts. That's a 20 percent increase from the 248 permits offered in 2007.

Most of the additional permits would be issued for the northeastern and north-central parts of the state. Those are the areas where most of the encounters between bears and people happened in 2007. They're also the areas where bears caused the most property damage.

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.

### **Better Fishing on American Fork Creek**

Water rights transferred to the Division of Wildlife Resources

American Fork Canyon -- Fishing on American Fork Creek should be getting even better.

PacifiCorp Project Manager Robert Atwood recently gave the utility's water rights on the creek to the Division of Wildlife Resources.

PacifiCorp turned the water rights over after the utility decided it was no longer economical to operate its American Fork Hydroelectric plant.

The water rights transfer means up to 50 cfs (cubic feet per second) of stream water is guaranteed to remain in the stream. That guaranteed stream flow will improve habitat for both fish and wildlife. In addition, two man-made barriers to fish

migration (including a four-foot high, 30-foot wide concrete dam) have been removed from the creek as part of a restoration effort to improve the



creek. Removing the two barriers immediately opened up a seven-mile stretch of the creek to fish (the stretch runs from the mouth of American Fork Canyon to Tibble Fork Reservoir).

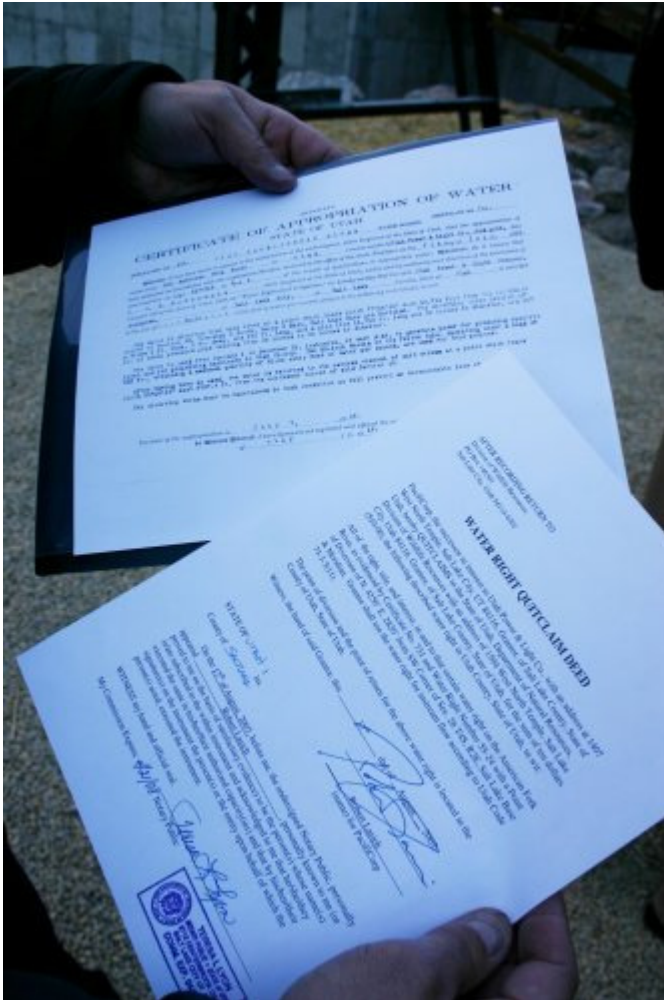
Removing the barriers has allowed fish to migrate up the stream.

“American Fork Creek is mostly a brown trout fishery, but it’s also stocked with rainbow trout,” says Scott Root, conservation outreach manager for the DWR. “Some cutthroat trout are also found on the upper stretch of the creek.

“The restoration efforts have created some beautiful, clear pools of water,” Root says. “These pools will provide excellent cover and spawning areas for trout. The

trout in this section of the creek are easy to see; they're stacked up in the newly-constructed pools of water.

“This project is a great example of public agencies and private organizations working together for a good cause,” Root says. “In this case, that good cause will benefit both trout and anglers.”



The project was a cooperative effort among PacifiCorp; federal and state agencies, including the DWR; American Whitewater; and Trout Unlimited.

American Fork Creek is in American Fork Canyon in north-central Utah.

#### Plant history

The American Fork Hydroelectric plant is 100 years old. The facility generated one megawatt of electricity by diverting stream flows out of the creek and into a pipeline that was two miles long.

Rocky Mountain Power (a division of PacifiCorp) has owned and operated the American Fork Hydroelectric project since 1913.

The 12,000-foot long steel flow-line pipe carried water from the creek diversion high along the north slope of the canyon. There the water descended into the plant where the force of the falling water generated electricity.

The pipeline leaked several times and had been damaged by the elements of nature, including landslides. Over time, the cost of maintaining and repairing the facility and pipeline increased to the point that it was no longer economical to operate the facility.

The pipeline that ran along the north side of the canyon has been removed.

What will happen to the building?

The title to the power plant facility has been given to the U.S. Forest Service.

“We see great value in the facility as an historical building,” says John Logan, a representative for the USFS. “We’re still discussing several options. One possibility is highlighting the history of the facility by using the building as a museum.”



## **Biologists Look for Answers About Plague, Release Black-footed Ferrets**

Ferrets part of sylvatic plague study

Vernal -- On Nov. 21, biologists and members of the public released black-footed ferrets at two sites -- Wolf Creek in Colorado and Snake John Reef in Utah.

The ferrets they released will do more than increase the size of ferret populations that are already in the two areas -- they may help biologists develop a vaccine that will protect ferrets from sylvatic plague.

Similar to black plague in humans, sylvatic plague can wipe out a ferret population.

“The 10 ferrets released into Snake John are part of a larger study to determine the effectiveness of a vaccine developed for the sylvatic plague, which is the prairie dog version of the black plague,” says Brian Maxfield, sensitive species biologist with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

“The black-footed ferret preys almost exclusively on prairie dogs, so large colonies of prairie dogs are essential to the ferrets.

Unfortunately, neither the ferret nor its prey have natural immunities to the plague.



An outbreak can wipe out entire colonies.”

The Utah and Colorado sites are two of four sites that a biological team working for the U.S. Geological Survey have designated in the vaccination study.

“The study started in 2004,” Maxfield says. “As part of the study, we get about 20 animals a year. The vaccine is given to half of the animals. The other half are ‘control’ animals that are not vaccinated.

“So far, it looks like a success. We know we have plague at low levels in the Utah-Colorado area, but there hasn’t been a serious outbreak at these release sites.”

Maxfield says the best information about plague comes from a plague outbreak in prairie dogs at the Charles Russell National Wildlife Refuge, a ferret reintroduction site in Montana. “Part of the ferret colony died, but it seems like the vaccine saved most of the ferrets that were vaccinated,” he says.

In addition to the vaccine study, the ferrets released at Snake John will help the overall reintroduction efforts in the area.

“We released these ferrets in the Snake John area to help supplement a small, wild

ferret population that's already there," Maxfield says. "A few years ago we started receiving reports from motorists who saw ferrets crossing Highway 40. We checked and verified those reports.

"The Snake John area has several good-sized prairie dog colonies. And it also falls within the Black-footed Ferret Management Plan area, so we're able to release additional ferrets into the area. The new ferrets should help increase the genetic pool and give this small population a boost."

Maxfield says the Snake John ferrets likely originated from Coyote Basin, where ferrets were reintroduced in 1999.

"Snake John is roughly eight to 10 air miles from Coyote Basin, but it would take a ferret roughly 30 miles to make its way there on the ground," Maxfield says. "In the 16 or so colonies of prairie dogs in the Snake John area, we've seen ferrets in four. And we've caught ferrets in two of the largest colonies.

"So far, none of the ferrets we've caught have been marked, so these have to be wild-born ferrets at least a generation away from a released animal."

The ferrets have also done well around the main release site in Coyote Basin.

"We've documented ferrets in the eight largest prairie dog colonies closest to the Coyote Basin release site," Maxfield says. "In almost every one, we've confirmed that the ferrets are reproducing in the wild."

Black-footed ferret history



According to reports, the black-footed ferret was the last mammal discovered on the North American continent. That's quite a statement considering the evidence that was eventually found: fossils, skins, body parts and occasional sightings of the

animal indicate they once inhabited at least 12 Western states, southern Canada and northern Mexico.

So why did it take so long to discover them?

These small members of the weasel family are nocturnal (meaning they're active mostly at night), and they live most of their lives underground inside prairie-dog holes.

They were discovered in time to watch the last known colony in South Dakota die out. After years of searching for another colony, black-footed ferrets were declared extinct in 1967.

Ferrets weren't rediscovered until 1981, when a rancher took an unusual animal his dog had killed the night before into a small store in Meeteetse, Wyoming.

Fortunately the storeowner had kept a business card from a searcher who had asked the storeowner questions about an animal like the ferret a few months earlier. The storeowner's call led to the discovery of a small population of black-footed ferrets.

From 1981 to 1985, this small population expanded to 129 animals. Then, in 1985, the population crashed when distemper and the plague ravished the ferrets and a colony of prairie dogs the ferrets were preying on.

The black-footed ferret quickly became the most endangered mammal on earth. It looked like it was destined to be declared extinct one more time.

Biologists collected the last 18 known animals between 1985 and 1986 and began an emergency-breeding program. At first the breeding program failed because most of the ferrets were too young to breed successfully. Fortunately, the last ferret collected was an older male who knew how to breed successfully.

Today, six breeding facilities produce roughly 300 to 350 kits (baby ferrets) per year. About a third of the kits are kept in captivity to breed future generations. The others are released into the wild.

Utah's connection

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Utah began mapping prairie dog colonies in the state. After the colonies were mapped, two areas were identified as potential

reintroduction sites for black-footed ferrets: the Cisco Desert and Coyote Basin.

When an outbreak of plague hit the Cisco prairie dog population, Coyote Basin in northeastern Utah became the state's primary release site.

At the same time, similar sites were also being identified in Colorado. The two states share prairie dog complexes, so Utah and Colorado, along with federal agencies and interested universities, joined forces to create the Colorado-Utah Black-footed Ferret Reintroduction Working Group.

Under the guidance of a biologist from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, government agencies, local businesses, interested organizations and individuals formed a committee in 1992 to write the "Cooperative Plan for the Reintroduction and



Management of the Black-footed Ferret in Coyote Basin, Uintah County, Utah.”

After numerous scoping meetings, committee discussions, public reviews and comments, a plan was created. The plan was signed in 1997. The key to the plan's success was the federal government giving a large area with known prairie dog colonies a 10 (j) designation under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Under a 10 (j) designation, any ferrets reintroduced to the area would be considered part of a nonessential-experimental population.

After reviewing the plan, in 1998 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service declared all of Uintah and Duchesne counties 10 (j) for black-footed ferrets. This designation protects the counties and allows continued activities and development on public lands without the risk of violating the ESA, even if a wild population of ferrets is discovered later.

In the fall of 1999, 71 ferrets were reintroduced into Coyote Basin.

Later that winter, biologists conducted a survey. They found only a half a dozen ferrets. And they found only two ferrets during a survey the following spring.

Because of the low numbers, the working group wondered if the release had failed. Then, during a survey that summer, the biologists found nine adults and three kits. At least two of the adults were clearly females with kits.

With clear evidence of reproduction, Coyote Basin has shown some of the best success of any release site. In the fall of 2000, another 67 ferrets were reintroduced to the area. Between 1999 and the most current release in November 2007, 313 ferrets have been reintroduced into Coyote Basin and the surrounding area of Snake John.

Today

Since the 1999 release, the Coyote Basin ferrets have survived the worst drought in Utah's history and brushes with plague and other diseases. They have also expanded their range to prairie dog colonies on the edges of their introduction site, including Snake John, which is eight to 10 air miles away.

The work isn't done however. While biologists are breathing easier, they also know complications that have happened at other release sites could easily happen here.

To successfully bring an animal that was once considered the most endangered mammal on earth back will depend not only on raising and releasing animals from captive facilities, but also on protecting and enhancing prairie dog colonies and reintroducing ferrets to new sites.

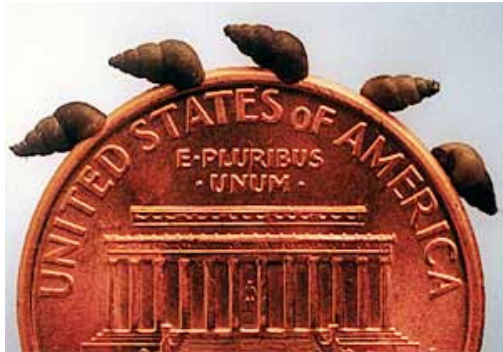
### **New Zealand mud snails found in state fish hatchery**

*DWR biologists are looking for ways to treat infected fish*

LOA — The [Loa State Fish Hatchery](#) is under temporary quarantine, the Division of Wildlife Resources announced Dec. 3.

The DWR placed the hatchery under quarantine after biologists discovered snails in some of the hatchery's raceways. (Raceways are areas where fish are raised after they're hatched from eggs.)

After examining the snails closely, DWR biologists have confirmed that the snails are [New Zealand mud snails](#). Now they're reviewing options on how to best deal with this aquatic nuisance species in the hatchery.



The Loa hatchery is in the town of Loa, about 40 miles southeast of Richfield. Most of the trout the hatchery raises are placed in waters in southern Utah.

"We're not sure how New Zealand mud snails got into the hatchery," says Walt Donaldson, Aquatic Section chief for the DWR. "We won't increase trout numbers at the hatchery until we can ensure that the water coming into the hatchery is free of snails."

Donaldson says at this time, the DWR is not planning on killing the trout that are already in the hatchery. "We're hopeful we can find a way to treat the fish," he says. "If we can successfully treat the fish, we can place them in waters for anglers to catch this spring."

Donaldson says several treatment methods are available. "Fish pathologists at our Fisheries Experiment Station in Logan are evaluating those options now," he says.

### **New Zealand mud snails**

New Zealand mud snails are just one of several aquatic nuisance species (ANS) that have made their way into Utah.

The New Zealand mud snails that are found in Utah are female and reproduce asexually. Because they're asexual, only one snail is required to establish a new colony. One snail can reproduce hundreds of young per year. And they're very effective at colonizing new waters.

ANS are nasty plants and animals. In other states, they've already ruined fishing and affected boating and recreational activities in waters they've infested.

But there's good news: there are several things you can do to

avoid bringing ANS into Utah from outside the state, and to avoid transporting it from one body of water in Utah to another.

Disinfecting your waders and other fishing gear — before you step into a different body of water — is one of the best things you can do. Also, if you're fishing on a river or stream, disinfect your waders and gear before moving to a different stretch of the same river to fish.



To learn more about ANS — including tips on how to avoid spreading them — please visit [wildlife.utah.gov/habitat/ans](http://wildlife.utah.gov/habitat/ans).

Specific information about New Zealand mud snails is available at [wildlife.utah.gov/habitat/ans/nzm.php](http://wildlife.utah.gov/habitat/ans/nzm.php).

### **Thanks to Volunteers sent to Letters to Soldiers**

Just wanted to thank all of our wonderful volunteers, donors, friends in media, and letter writers for making Christmas wishes and donations come true for a camp of 150 US Army soldiers serving their 4<sup>th</sup> Tour in Iraq. Thank you so much, we have raised \$1,254 of our \$1,400 goal as of today and tomorrow many volunteers are coming over to wrap all the amazing items donated by Neways, Noni, Cabellas, and so many others, and stuff them into hand made stockings by one grandmother and some church Young women, and include over 600 hand made cards by school students across Utah and the US that are still coming in and will also be distributed to other servicemen and women in Iraq that we send letters to. Thank you so much from Chaplain Anthony Randall and my fiancée serving in that camp, and all the men and women that will receive this generous gesture of warm wishes.

Thank you again for making this difficult Christmas time for the military and their families a brighter one,

Denise DE Vynck      [www.letterstosoldiers.org](http://www.letterstosoldiers.org)   [info@letterstosoldiers.org](mailto:info@letterstosoldiers.org)



November 30, 2007

Dear Ms. Vynck,

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding the collection of letters and packages of support for soldiers currently serving overseas. I appreciate your interest in the issues facing our country and state, and I am happy to respond. When you contact me, you help me to better represent Utah in Congress.

I greatly appreciate all the work you are doing to ensure that our brave soldiers currently serving overseas receive the recognition they deserve. Especially during the holidays, sending them care packages and letters from their families, friends, and communities can improve the morale of our troops. I have always been a strong supporter of our brave young men who serve in the military, and I will continue to ensure that they get the funding they need both when they are abroad and when they return.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

JIM MATHESON  
Member of Congress

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## Central Region Fishing Report

**AMERICAN FORK RIVER:** (Dec 5) Some nice new fishing holes created at the newly-decommissioned power plant (brown trout seen in the newly constructed clear pools of water). Light fishing pressure and fair success.

**BURRASTON POND:** (Dec 5) No report this week but expect slow to fair fishing success using traditional baits and lures.

**DEER CREEK RESERVOIR:** (Dec 5) Shoreline fishing success was considered fair to good by using baits. Worm/marshmallow combination or PowerBait has worked well. Fishing pressure is very light. State Park Ranger reports that boat ramps are closed but at the Island ramp it is "launch at your own risk" launching is discouraged due to vehicles getting stuck. Call State Park for boat launching information at (435) 654-0171. Although bass fishing success is slow right now, remember that the bass limit is six, but immediately release all bass over 12 inches long. Walleye limit was increased this year to 10 but only one over 24 inches may be kept.

**DIAMOND FORK RIVER:** (Dec 5) Though the brown trout spawn has tapered off, anglers are reporting fair success for brown trout on the lower stretch of the river (below three forks) by using flies. The closed area above three forks will open up to angling on January 1.



**HOBBLE CREEK & CATCH BASIN:** (Dec 5) Most anglers report that the best fishing on Hobble Creek is in the early morning or evening with flies, small spinners or lures. Catch basin is starting to fill up again but no fish will be stocked until next year (although a few rising fish were seen on the surface this week).

**JORDANELLE RESERVOIR:** (Dec 5) Water level is down but fishing is reported as "fair" for smaller trout from both boat and shoreline and "slow" for bass. Bass limit is six, but immediately release all bass over 12 inches long.

**MILL HOLLOW:** Drained! No fishing until 2009.

**PAYSON LAKE:** (Dec 5) Gate to Payson Canyon (Nebo Loop) is now locked therefore, no access to the lakes.

**PROVO RIVER:** (Dec 5) Brown trout spawn has ended but fishing is still considered fair to good by using small nymphs or glo bugs (egg imitations). Read the fishing proclamation for the different regulations on the river some areas allow bait and others do not. Size restrictions and reduced limits (two brown trout under 15 inches) are in place in some stretches.

**SALEM POND:** (Dec 5) Slow to fair success for trout. The park is closed to at 10 p.m. each night. Remember that regulations include: limit is four fish (Daily bag and possession limit is an aggregate total of four for all species, for example: one trout, two channel catfish and one bluegill).

**SALT LAKE WATER:** (Dec 5) Most urban pond anglers report light pressure and fair fishing success.

**SPANISH OAKS RESERVOIR:** (Dec 5) Gate closed and city states that it's closed for the season.

**SPRING LAKE:** (Dec 5) Fair success for trout. Worms and PowerBait work best.

**STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR:** (Dec 5) Boat docks have been pulled for the season, making launching and loading a little difficult. Good fishing success reported by most anglers. Morning can be very cold so dress warmly. Some very large cutts are being caught (over 23 to 27 inches). Try tube jigs, dark wooly buggers, minnow-imitating lures (pointer minnows are very popular) or simply traditional baits. Regulations for the reservoir include an aggregate limit of four trout or kokanee salmon. No more than two of which may be cutthroat trout under 15 inches and no more

than one may be a cutthroat over 22 inches long. All cutthroat between 15 and 22 inches must be immediately released (any trout with cutthroat markings is considered a cutthroat).

Don't feel compelled to harvest fish on every trip. Please do your part to ensure the future of this heavily utilized fishery by voluntarily releasing fish!



**THISTLE CREEK:** (Dec 5) Low Pressure, with fair success.

**TIBBLE FORK RESERVOIR:** (Dec 5) Fair success by using traditional baits.

**UTAH LAK:** (Dec 5) Slow fishing for all species. Walleye limit was changed this year to 10 but only one can be over 24 inches. There is no limit on white bass. Largemouth and smallmouth bass limit is six, but immediately release all largemouth and smallmouth bass over 12 inches long. For more information on conditions call Utah Lake State Park at (801) 375-0731.

**VERNON, GRANSTVILLE & SETTLEMENT CANYON RESERVOIR:** (Tooele Co.) (Dec 5) Slow to fair fishing success at Vernon, Grantsville and Settlement Reservoirs.

**YUBA RESERVOIR:** (Dec 5) Slow success for walleye, northern pike and trout. Perch are being caught, but they must be immediately released. New regulations on perch take place January 1 which will allow anglers to keep 10 perch. For more info call the State Park at (435) 758-2611.

### **Benefit Day Tickets Valid Through December 25, 2007 at Park City Mountain Resort**

**What:** Park City Mountain Resort today announced it has extended the date for the 2007 Benefit Day. Pre-purchased tickets can be used any day of the week from Friday, December 7 through Tuesday, December 25, 2007. Tickets must be purchased by Friday, December 7. All of the proceeds from the sale of the specially priced tickets will be donated to Park City People's Health Clinic. Due to snow conditions and low ticket sales, Park City Mountain Resort has extended the use of Benefit Day tickets through December 25, 2007.

**When:** Specially priced Benefit Day tickets must be purchased by Friday, December 7, 2007. Benefit Day tickets are valid as a day lift pass at Park City Mountain Resort from Friday, December 7 through Tuesday, December 25, 2007.

**Where:** Specially priced \$25 Benefit Day lift tickets may be purchased at the following retailers:  
Jans, Cole Sport, White Pine Touring, Dolly's Bookstore, and Norda's at Redstone Plaza in Park City. Tickets are also available at Foothill Village Sports Den,

Wasatch Touring, REI and any Canyon Sports outlet in Salt Lake City. For additional ticket information, contact the Park City People's Health Clinic at 435-615-7822 or [info@peopleshealthclinic.org](mailto:info@peopleshealthclinic.org).

### **Brian Head invitation to Celebrate expansion**

*Brian Head Resort would like to cordially invite you to join us as we celebrate the inauguration of the much anticipated expansion of our ski area. We've connected our Giant Steps and Navajo Mountains with two new chair lifts and a beautiful new skier bridge over the highway. Oh yes, we've also added nearly 35% more terrain to play on! Please join us in our celebration, and **Come Ski What's New**.*

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15**

**9:30 A.M-4:00 P.M. LIFT TICKETS 50% OFF** when you bring four cans of food to benefit

"Iron County Care and Share".

**12:00 P.M.** Free BBQ for the public at the base of the new Wildflower chair lift. Music and ongoing fun activities including a visit by Santa, snowman building contest, a special display by Land Rover of Las Vegas, and a snowboard "rail jam".

**3:30 P.M.** Apres ski begins. Live music and refreshments.

**5:15 P.M.** Torchlight parade followed by a fireworks extravaganza.

### **Holiday Gift Ideas for Friends and Family**

[Gift Memberships](#) - This is a great gift for everyone on your list. Give a Red Butte Garden membership and let your friends and family enjoy all the Garden has to offer. Purchase a gift membership at the Visitor Center and receive a Garden gift card as well as a free 30 minute massage (valued at \$35) donated by Knead a Massage™.

**Gift Certificates** - Give a gift certificate to someone special! These certificates can be used for purchases at Red Butte Garden's gift shop, Garden admission, class admission and concert tickets.

**Tribute Giving** - For your friends that have everything make a tribute gift to the Garden in their honor. Your friend will receive a card letting them know you have donated in their name.

### **Holiday Gift Ideas for the Garden**

**Bulb display** - Donate to the bulb display and help us reach our goal of planting over half a million spring bulbs throughout the Garden.

**Amphitheatre** - Donate \$500 or more to the Amphitheatre and have your name inscribed on the donor wall in the Amphitheatre.

**Year end giving** - December is the last chance to make a tax deductible gift for 2007 and help the Garden grow in 2008.

**Planned Giving** - Make a major gift to the Garden without writing a check. Find out more about planned gifts today by [clicking here](#) or call (801) 581-3802.

### **What's Happening**

[Children's Drop-In Class Wild About Winter](#) December 8 Saturday 10:00 am – 11:30 am

[http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Classes\\_and\\_Events/?c=Saturday\\_Drop-ins\\_for\\_Kids.inc#WAW](http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Classes_and_Events/?c=Saturday_Drop-ins_for_Kids.inc#WAW)

[Winter Solstice](#) December 22 Saturday 10:00 am – 11:30 am

[http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Classes\\_and\\_Events/?c=Festivals.inc#WSC](http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Classes_and_Events/?c=Festivals.inc#WSC)

[Children's Drop-In Class Animal Track Detectives](#)

January 12 Saturday 10:00 am – 11:30 am

[http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Classes\\_and\\_Events/?c=Saturday\\_Drop-ins\\_for\\_Kids.inc#ATD](http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Classes_and_Events/?c=Saturday_Drop-ins_for_Kids.inc#ATD)



### Where is it?

The winner of last month's contest is Mark Bennett and his 4 ½ year old son, Jonah. Thanks to these two anyone can find last month's photo by using your GPS and going to N 40'45.935, W 111'49.431 Elev. 5080. Great job Mark and Jonah!

Do you know where in the Garden this month's picture was taken? If you win your name will be in next month's E-Garden News as well as you will receive a special prize! Submit your guess and you may be a winner. In the case of multiple correct entries the winner will be chosen at random.

Submit your guess and you may be a winner. [membership@redbutte.utah.edu](mailto:membership@redbutte.utah.edu)

### Winter Hours

Open seven days a week 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Closed December 24 – January 1

### AeroBed Extreme Endura Bed

The Endura Bed was built with the serious outdoor enthusiast in mind. It will withstand extreme temperatures and the most rustic outdoor environments.

- Hi-Tech camouflage pattern
- 3-ply puncture resistant tarpaulin material
- Abrasion resistant and durable enough to withstand the harshest elements
- Patented extra durable rope coil construction
- Inflates anywhere in less than 90 seconds with a powerful cordless, rechargeable NiCd pump
- 3 year limited warranty



Available March 1, 2008 at the following locations:

- Cabela's
- Joe's Sporting Goods
- Target.com
- Amazon.com
- Walmart.com
- Comfortstore.com
- Sportsmansguide.com
- Comfortchannel.com
- Aerobed.com

MSRP

- Twin: \$99.99
- Full: \$129.99
- Queen: \$149.99

### **AeroBed Extreme PerformaLite - Silver Gray**

PerformaLite combines extreme portability with extreme versatility. Experience all the comfort and support of a regular size air mattress with 60 percent less bulk and 30 percent less weight.

- Constructed of 100 percent PVC-free materials
- Inflates in less than 60 seconds



- Ultra-light; weighs less than 5 pounds
- 7" inflated height
- Oval coil provides comfort and support that conforms to your body
- Ultra durable brushed "Rip Stop" material feels soft

to the touch

- Bed folds to the size of a standard self inflating mat
- 3 year limited warranty

Available March 1, 2008 at the following locations:

- REI
- Target.com
- Amazon.com
- Walmart.com
- Comfortstore.com
- Sportsmansguide.com
- Comfortchannel.com
- Aerobed.com

MSRP

- Twin: \$129.99
- Full: \$149.99

### **Air Light Air Pump & Flashlight**

No need to be afraid of the dark if you have Air Light - the first ever flashlight and pump combination.

Perfect for late-night camp set-ups, navigating inside the darkest tents, or campsites.

- Compact and powerful, this new dual purpose pump and flashlight is an ideal addition to your next camping trip
- Inflates products quickly to .42 PSI
- Patent pending built in 3 LED flashlight is ultra bright and convenient
- Dual power supply - runs cordless with 8 C-cell batteries or can be plugged directly in to any DC outlet for immediate use



- 3 year limited warranty

Available March 1, 2008 at the following locations:

- REI
- Target.com
- Amazon.com
- Walmart.com
- Comfortstore.com
- Comfortchannel.com
- Aerobed.com

MSRP:

- \$29.99

### **Student Fellowship Programs**

(Western United States) -- Two Fellowships have been announced for student research in Rocky Mountain parks. The Rocky Mountains CESU (RM-CESU), the University of Montana, and the Crown of the Continent RLC have announced the 2008 Jerry O'Neal student fellowship program to support natural resource management, cultural resource management and social science research in Glacier NP, Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS and Little Bighorn Battlefield NHS. This fellowship program funds graduate or undergraduate research for students attending RM-CESU universities.

Applications, due February 15, 2008, are available at <http://www.cfc.umt.edu/research/CESU/NEWCESU/WhatsNew/default.htm>. In addition, Rocky Mountain National Park has announced the 2008 Bailey Fellowship. Sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Nature Association, the fellowship provides for a graduate student research internship at the park during 2008. Applications are due by February 1, 2008 and forms are available at <http://www.rmna.org/fellowship.html>. For more information contact Kathy Tonnessen, RM-CESU, at 406-243-4449. NPS Contact: Kathy Kupper, 202/208-6843.

### **Petrified Forest NP 101st Anniversary**

(Arizona) -- On December 8 and 9 Petrified Forest National Park will celebrate its establishment as a national monument 101 years ago on December 8, 1906 and its upgrade to national park status 45 years ago on December 9, 1962. NPS Contact: Lyn Carranza, (520)524-6228.

## **TIN LANTERN / CANDLE MAKING AT CAMP FLOYD STATE PARK**

Fairfield - In celebration of the holiday season and remembering simpler times past, Camp Floyd State Park hosts a candle making/punched-tin lantern making workshop on Saturday, December 15, 2007 at 10 a.m. Create a peaceful holiday mood with family and friends at this pre-holiday event, which will be held in the historic, one-room Fairfield Schoolhouse.

The workshop includes making holiday colored candles and creating a punched-tin lantern to hold their candle. Participants will also have the opportunity to play Civil War period children's games, all of which can be purchased in the gift shop



and make great Christmas presents. The Camp Floyd Museum and Stagecoach Inn will also be available for participants to enjoy.

Each participant will need to bring a tin can filled with water and frozen, while the park will provide all other

materials. Participants need only to pay the normal park admission fee (\$2 per person, \$6 per family). An adult must accompany children under eight.

Established in 1858, Camp Floyd housed the largest concentration of U.S. troops then in the United States. The troops were sent to Utah to suppress a rumored Mormon rebellion, which never took place. The army was recalled back east in 1861 for the Civil War emergency.

Camp Floyd State Park is located in the town of Fairfield, Utah, 22 miles southwest of Lehi, Utah on State Highway 73. For more information on this event

or Camp Floyd, contact the park at 801-768-8932.

### **Tonto NM Centennial**

(Arizona) -- Tonto National Monument will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 19, 2007. There will be activities throughout the year, and special exhibits at the Visitor Center. NPS Contact: Susan Hughes, (928)467-2241.

### **Holiday Lights at Scott's Bluff NM**

(Nebraska) -- From December 20 through 23 the Scott's Bluff National Monument Summit Road will be open each evening for viewing the lights of Scottsbluff and Gering. NPS Contact: Patty Rooney, (402)661-1530.

### **Carlsbad Caverns to Offer Rock of Ages and Lantern Tours**

(New Mexico) -- Carlsbad Caverns National Park will once again be offering special lantern tours this holiday season in three areas of the park's famed Carlsbad Cavern. The Rock of Ages tour, a Carlsbad Cavern hallmark from 1927 through 1944, will be presented on Saturday, December 22, starting at 5:15 P.M. The tour, held sporadically since 1944, will be led by a ranger portraying the park's first superintendent Colonel Tom Boles. The tour is limited to 60 people; tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children 4 through 15. To experience Carlsbad Caverns way early explorers and visitors did, join park staff on a historic lantern tour along the Natural Entrance route. Offered on December 22 and 23, and December 29 and 30, at 3 P.M., each tour is limited to 20 people; tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 4 through 15. The Kings Palace area, one of the most highly decorated areas of Carlsbad Cavern, will be lit only by the lanterns carried by park visitors on December 22 and 23, and December 29 and 30. These Kings Palace tours start at noon and are limited to 75 people. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 4 through 15. To reserve tickets for this any other special holiday lantern tours, call (575) 785-3152. Tours are limited to children 4 years and up. NPS Contact: Bridget Litten, (505) 785-3024.

### **BACKYARDS CHRISTMAS SALE STARTS DEC. 3**

We have fantastic prices on several Basketball Systems. Need to get the family off the computer... away from the television... off the couch? What great family exercise and fun!

Still need a 6' banquet table for Christmas dinner? We have one for \$36. You can sit the "little ones" at our Kid's Picnic Table... now through December 22<sup>nd</sup>, just \$44 each.

And, where are you going to put all that “stuff” when Santa brings the new gifts? Perfect time to purchase your new outdoor Storage Shed.

See the attached ad for all of our great deals. (we also have a great gift for Dad as an “In-Store Special” that you won’t see on the ad – our popular Camp Table /wire rack for just \$49 – that’s an \$11 savings).

Come early – it’s all while supplies last!

Thank you.

Backyards, Inc.

(801)728-1900

(800)416-4054 - Toll Free

### **Northern Region Fishing Report**

**BEAR LAKE:** The Bonneville whitefish run is just beginning, but it is definitely "ON". Surface water temperature at Bear Lake is 42°! The ramps at Cisco Beach and the Bear Lake State Park Marina are the only places available for launching boats. The Bonneville whitefish spawn over rocky areas along the shoreline in three to 15 feet of water. We caught whitefish off the Utah State Park marina and a friend of mine caught fish off the North Eden delta. The fish are averaging about one or two pounds, but can grow to upwards of three pounds. The fishing should continue to be red hot for the next two solid weeks and then begin tapering off just before Christmas. Use 1/16- to 1/8-ounce jigs. Twister tails, marabou or small tube jigs all work well. You can also try casting small spinners in the #0–1 sizes as well as small spoons. Try to let your lure run close to the bottom or if you are jigging work the lure right on the bottom. The whitefish can hit hard, but often it is a very subtle hit. If you are not catching fish or snagging up on the rocks, then chances are you are not fishing close enough to the bottom. You can also try tipping your jigs or lures with a small piece of worm, but it is not really necessary during the height of the run.

Fishing for both cutthroat trout and lake trout remains good. Anglers are having the best success by jigging with tube jigs tipped with cisco in anywhere from 30 to 60 feet of water. Good spots to try are off the east side at 1st and 2nd Points and off the west side at the rockpile off Ideal Beach Resort and off the new rockpiles just north of the marina. You may also consider trolling with rapala-type lures on downriggers in the same areas as mentioned above.

For real-time weather (wind speed, water temp, air temp, lake elevation) visit [BearLakeWatch.com](http://BearLakeWatch.com). Remember, a Utah license is valid on the Idaho side of Bear Lake, but you may *not* use a second pole when fishing on the Idaho side of the lake. Idaho license holders are only able to use one fishing pole on either side of the lake this year. For those interested the GPS coordinates for the new rockpiles using WGS84 datum going from south to north are: N 41° 58.097 min., W 111° 23.682 min.; N 41° 58.187 min., W 111° 23.728 min.; N 41° 58.292 min., W 111° 23.765 min.; N 41° 58.418 min., W 111° 23.798 min. — *By Scott Tolentino*

**PINEVIEW RESERVOIR:** I spent a couple of hours on Pineview on Friday, Saturday and Sunday; not much to show for it except raccoon eyes. Surface water temps dropped from 44° to 41° F over the course of that time, however. The same couple of boats were still working over the same areas in the narrows, presumably getting crappie or smallmouth (when asked, they indicated smallmouth, but we know all fishermen are liars). The water is still rising and the ramp is in good condition. Docks are tethered to shore, but it's quite a jump to get to them, so some form of waterproof boot is advised. I did spend about an hour fishing for crappies and perch, and managed to get two and seven, respectively. I was not in the same areas as the guys fishing "smallmouth." Nothing to brag about size wise, but I think if you find them, catching won't be that much of a problem. Small jigging spoons worked best. The perch are particularly eager biters if you get on them; most were caught in about a 10-minute stretch. I would estimate another couple of weeks until ice cover prevents boating (or launching anyway). — *By Sorno Sorenson, DWR Habitat Biologist*

### **November Wildlife Board meeting highlights**

*State Wildlife Board adds extra days to two major Utah elk hunts.*

SALT LAKE CITY — If you hunt spike bull elk with a rifle or mature bull elk With a bow, you might be hunting some extra days in Utah next fall.

At their Nov. 29 meeting in Salt Lake City, members of the Utah Wildlife Board returned the state's general rifle spike bull elk hunt to a 13-day hunt. They also added five days to Utah's limited entry archery bull elk hunt.

Some elk hunters will find a longer season in 2008.

One change the board did not approve was adding four days to the general rifle buck deer hunt in the Southeastern and Southern regions. The hunts in the two regions will still be five-day hunts this fall.

All of the rules the board members approved will be available in Utah's *2008 Big Game Guidebook*. The guidebook should be available at the [Division of Wildlife Resources' Web](#) site by mid-December.

### **More time to hunt spike elk**

You'll have more time to hunt spike bull elk after board members returned Utah's general spike bull elk rifle hunt to a 13-day season. It's been nine days long for the past few years.

The general spike bull elk rifle hunt will run Oct. 4 to 16. Those are the same season dates Utah's any bull elk rifle hunt will run.

"The length of the spike bull elk hunt was shortened a few years ago when the age objective for bulls taken on limited entry units was lowered on most of the units," Aoude says. "Lowering the objective allows more permits to be issued and more bulls to be taken. The idea behind shortening the season was to save more spike bulls so they could grow into mature bulls."



Since that time, Aoude says the age objective on most of the elk units has been raised. Raising the objective means fewer bulls will be taken.

Even if there was a need to protect spike bulls, Aoude says keeping the season at nine days wouldn't make much of a difference. "The elk situation is the same as the deer situation," he says. "Even though the season has been lengthened by four days, most hunters won't take advantage of the extra days."

Aoude says hunters who hunt nine-day elk seasons in Utah hunt an average of five days. That number increases to five-and-a-half days when the season is 13 days long.

### **More days for limited entry archery elk hunters**

Utah's general archery elk hunt will start five days earlier this summer. The early start will provide limited entry bull elk hunters with five extra days of hunting.

Here's what the board approved:

The general archery elk hunt will still be 23 days long, but it will begin five days earlier. The general archery elk hunt begins Aug. 16, which is the same day the general archery buck deer hunt begins.

Starting the general archery elk hunt five days earlier means it will end five days earlier. Those extra five days will be given to limited entry archery elk hunters. That will increase the length of the limited entry archery elk hunt to 28 days without taking any days away from general archery elk hunters.

The Utah Bowman's Association recommended the change.

For more information about Utah's 2008 big game hunts, call the nearest Division of Wildlife Resources office or the DWR's Salt Lake City office at (801) 538-4700.

**ANGLERS: Looking for the Perfect Holiday Gift? Give the Gift of Fishing - a 'Fish Trip IOU'**

*'Fish Trip IOU' Available on [AnglersLegacy.org](http://AnglersLegacy.org) When You Take the Pledge*

**ALEXANDRIA, VA (December 6, 2007)** – In the holiday spirit of giving, the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation ([RBFF](http://RBFF)) today announced that anglers can print a 'Fish Trip IOU' at [AnglersLegacy.org](http://AnglersLegacy.org) when they take the Pledge to take someone new fishing. This free gift for friends and family can be downloaded and printed when visiting [AnglersLegacy.org](http://AnglersLegacy.org) and entering the special code, FISHIOU3.

"What better gift to give this season than sharing your time out on the water with family and friends," said RBFF President and CEO Frank Peterson. "As a thank you to those who take the Anglers' Legacy Pledge and become Ambassadors, the 'Fish Trip IOU' will help you get your friends and family involved in the sport you love. By taking someone new fishing, you are also giving back to the industry and resource."

An online survey conducted by RBFF of more than 7,500 Ambassadors revealed that the Anglers' Legacy program is having a positive impact on the boating and fishing industries and on states. This research revealed that each Ambassador takes

not just one person fishing, but more than four a year and also generates an initial \$120 in fishing tackle and equipment sales, \$166 in boating supplies and accessories and purchases 3.2 fishing licenses.

Anglers' Legacy was launched in May 2006 targeting the country's estimated 7.5 million avid anglers. Through media coverage, industry partners, and pro-staff and celebrity angler involvement, Anglers' Legacy asks avid anglers to share their passion for fishing and "[Take the Pledge](#)" – promising to take one new person fishing each year. More than 20,000 anglers nationwide have already signed on.

## SNOW SREPORTS

RESORT	UPDATED	NEW 24HR	NEW 48HR	BASE	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN	STAKE ELEV.
<a href="#">Alta Ski Area</a> Base: 8530 Summit: 10550	12/6/07	0	0	28	12/116	3/7	9664ft
<b>Comments:</b> Alta is open with skiing on the Collins, Sunnyside and Wildcat Lifts. 12 runs open. Skiing on 500 acres!							
<a href="#">Beaver Mountain Ski Resort</a> Base: 7200 Summit: 8800	12/6/07	0	0	0	0/30	0/5	8000ft
<b>Comments:</b> Check back soon. Snow is on the WAY!!!!							
<a href="#">Brian Head Resort</a> Base: 9600 Summit: 11307	12/6/07	0	0	20	3/54	1/8	10300ft
<b>Comments:</b> Brian Head is open.							
<a href="#">Brighton Ski Resort</a> Base: 8755 Summit: 10500	12/6/07	0	0	26	10/66	3/6	8735ft
<b>Comments:</b> Crest, Majestic and Explorer lifts operate daily from 9 am to 4 pm. Night skiing begins Dec 12. Our terrain park has 10 features.							
<a href="#">The Canyons</a> Base: 6800 Summit: 9990	12/6/07	0	0	18	5/155	5/17	9990ft
<b>Comments:</b> Heavy Snow Warning in effect - over 18' expected by Saturday! Making snow 24/7 as temperatures allow. More runs & lifts opening soon . . .							
<a href="#">Deer Valley Resort</a> Base: 6570 Summit: 9570	12/6/07	0	0	0	0/99	0/22	8100ft
<b>Comments:</b> Deer Valley will open for the 2007/2008							

	ski season on Dec. 8th or as soon as conditions permit.						
<b><u>Park City Mountain Resort</u></b> Base: 6900 Summit: 10000	12/6/07	0	0	24	5/106	3/15	10000ft
	<b>Comments:</b> Benefit Day -Dec 7th Ticket benefit the People?s Health Clinic. See parkcitymountain.com for details.						
<b><u>Powder Mountain Resort</u></b> Base: 6895 Summit: 8900	12/6/07	0	0	0	0/114	0/7	8200ft
	<b>Comments:</b> Powder Mountain will open for the 2007-08 season as soon as conditions permit.						
<b><u>Snowbasin, a Sun Valley Resort</u></b> Base: 6391 Summit: 9350	12/6/07	0	0	24	10/86	2/12	8200ft
	<b>Comments:</b> Snowbasin is now open for skiing & snowboarding from the Needles summit! Enjoy lunch at Needles Lodge or Saturday evening dining 4-8 pm.						
<b><u>Snowbird Ski &amp; Summer Resort</u></b> Base: 7760 Summit: 11000	12/6/07	0	0	26	2/85	2/11	9840ft
	<b>Comments:</b> Snowbird is open!						
<b><u>Solitude Mountain Resort</u></b> Base: 7988 Summit: 10035	12/6/07	0	0	24	7/64	4/8	9300ft
	<b>Comments:</b> Eagle Express, Apex, Moonbeam and Link are open with 7 groomed runs!						
<b><u>Sundance Resort</u></b> Base: 6100 Summit: 8250	12/6/07	0	0	12	0/42	0/4	7100ft
	<b>Comments:</b> Sundance is scheduled to open for the 2007/2008 season on December 7th.						
<b><u>Wolf Mountain</u></b> Base: 5300 Summit: 6300	12/6/07	0	0	19	3/20	3/4	5900ft
	<b>Comments:</b> Check out our upcoming events.						

**CROSS COUNTRY  
SKI AREAS**

**Kilometers of  
Track Open**

**Alta                    0/10**  
**Snowbasin            0/24**

**BACKCOUNTRY  
INFO**

**Utah Avalanche Center**  
**Wasatch Range**  
**Avalanche Forecast**

**IMPORTANT  
CONTACTS**

**Utah Weather Service**  
**Phone: 801.975.5449**  
**Utah Road Conditions**

[Solitude](#) 2/20  
[Sundance](#) 0/0  
[Ruby's Inn](#) 0/30  
[Soldier Hollow](#) 0/32  
[White Pine](#) 0/20

[Avalanche Education  
Classes](#)  
[Ski Utah Interconnect  
Tour](#)  
[Cottonwood Canyons  
Weather Forecast](#)

Phone: 866.511.1882  
[Utah Avalanche  
Forecast](#)  
Phone: 888.999.9401  
Salt Lake County Ski  
Road Conditions (Utah  
Only)  
Phone: 511  
Nordic Information  
Phone: 801.461.1900  
[Utah Transit Authority](#)  
[Keep Utah Cool.com](#)  
[Interconnect Adventure  
Tour](#)  
Phone: 801.534.4190  
[Utah Ski Weather](#)

## **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Names New CEO**

(December 6, 2007) MISSOULA, Mont. -- The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's board of directors announced today that it has selected David Allen of Billings, Mont., as the Elk Foundation's new president and chief executive officer.

A lifelong conservationist with a deep passion for elk and hunting, Allen says he will rededicate the Elk Foundation to its core mission of ensuring the future of elk, other wildlife and their habitat.

"We will focus on two primary paths for our mission: permanent land protection and stewardship," said Allen. "The Elk Foundation is in a class by itself when it comes to conserving wildlife habitat. In excess of 5 million acres secured and enhanced in the past 24 years is astounding. It speaks volumes on what we do best."

Allen aims to bring his wealth of marketing and business experience to work for protecting elk country. He began his career as media director for the Pro Rodeo Cowboys Association and served as director of special events for Wrangler Jeans. He went on to create his own sports marketing agency where he directed marketing and sponsorships for the Dale Earnhardt/Richard Childress race teams and other

NASCAR teams until Earnhardt's death in 2001 at the Daytona 500. Allen has spent 33 years marketing pro rodeo, the Pro Bull Riders Tour and NASCAR, and served on the board of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation.

"David's longtime association with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and his dedication to wildlife conservation overall, make him a great choice as the organization's new CEO," said Richard Childress, president of Richard Childress Racing and a renowned wildlife conservationist. "He and I have been friends for three decades, so I know how important the Elk Foundation's mission is to him. His personal experience will make him a strong leader who will continue the Elk Foundation's commitment to wildlife conservation."

Andy Hoxsey, chairman of the board for the Elk Foundation, says Allen was the finest of a sterling crop of contenders for the CEO position.

"We're delighted to have David Allen's leadership and marketing acumen," said Hoxsey. "We welcome his commitment to conservation and feel confident that he'll help the Elk Foundation meet the tremendous pressures facing wild elk country today."

Randy Bernard, CEO of the Pro Bull Riders, Inc, applauds the selection of Allen as CEO.

"It was very exciting to hear that RMEF has hired David Allen," said Bernard. "I have worked with him for the past 15 years and have never met a person that didn't like him or seen a job he couldn't do. I believe David's values of integrity and hard work and his get-it-done attitude will take RMEF to the next level."

Allen brings a profound admiration for the foundation's 10,000 dedicated volunteers.

"Serving on the RMEF's board of directors, I came to recognize our volunteers as real-life heroes of wildlife conservation in this country," said Allen. "For no payment other than satisfaction, they put on our big game banquets, roll up old barbed-wire fence, build water guzzlers, seed and reseed lands after fires and a host of other work--all on behalf of elk and other wildlife. They are the kind of conservationists Theodore Roosevelt would brag about. My goal is to give them all the tools they need to make the greatest possible difference."

Born and raised in Deadwood, South Dakota, Allen studied journalism at the

University of Wyoming and now makes his home with his wife and two sons in Billings, Montana.

## **Utah Friends of Paleontology Great Basin Chapter News**

**Thursday, January 10, 2008, 7:00 pm: UFOP, GBC Meeting.** Speaker: Don DeBlieux, Utah

Geological Survey - Summer 2007 Expedition to Tanzania.

**Wednesday, January 30, 2008, 7:30 pm:** Frontiers of Science Lecture, Aline Wilmot Skaggs Biology Building, University of Utah. Presentation by Marcia K. McNutt, president and CEO of Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute - "Global Climate Change: It's All About the Oceans"

**Tuesday, February 12, 2008: Darwin Day Celebration.** The Humanists of Utah is hosting a Darwin Day Celebration at the University of Utah. We will have a UFOP Booth. For more information see: [www.darwinday.org](http://www.darwinday.org) or [www.humanistsofutah.org](http://www.humanistsofutah.org)

**Thursday, February 14, 2008, 7:00 pm: UFOP, GBC Meeting.** Speaker: Jennifer Cavin, Utah Geological Survey.

**February 15-18, 2008: WAVP (Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontology) Annual Meeting,** Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff Arizona. To receive more information for this meeting, send an email to Mike Woodburne at: [mikw@npgcable.com](mailto:mikw@npgcable.com)

**May 2-3, 2008: Utah Friends of Paleontology Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City.** Hosted by the Great Basin Chapter. Location and other details TBD. **Host committee volunteers needed.**

### **UTAH FRIENDS OF PALEONTOLOGY 2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL REMINDER**

It is time once again to pay your annual membership dues. Family membership dues are \$20/year; Individual membership dues are \$15/year; and Junior/Student membership dues are \$10/year. All membership renewals are due at the beginning of the calendar year.

Bring your dues to the next meeting, or mail your membership information and check to:

UFOP, Great Basin Chapter

Utah Geological Survey

1594 W. North Temple

P.O. Box 146100

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6100

Name: Check or money order for:

Address: \_ Family: \$20.00/year

\_ Individual: \$15.00/year

Phone Number: \_ Student: \$10.00/year

Email:

(Our newsletter is currently sent out by email, unless you specifically request a mailed copy. So please update your email address, if necessary, **OR** indicate that you would like a mailed copy.)

**2008 Meeting Dates:**

Thursday, January  
10<sup>th</sup>

Thursday,  
February 14<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, April  
10<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

Thursday,  
September 11<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

Thursday,  
November 13<sup>th</sup>  
All meetings are held  
at 7:00 pm in the  
Department of Natural  
Resources

Auditorium, 1594 W.  
North Temple, Salt  
Lake City, Utah.

There are no meetings  
in June, July, August,  
and December.

UFOP Meeting 7 PM  
November 8, 2007

Minutes

1. Welcome new members and visitors
2. Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed
3. Treasurer's Report, (Time to renew dues at end of year)

**Dues are \$15/single, \$20/family, \$10/student**



**Current balance: \$3562.42**

4. New Business

**A. Dec. Mtg. Christmas Party. Tentatively set for Fri. night, Dec. 14th at Mark Loewen's house. Details to be sent out as soon as possible**

B. Craig Wilkinson has asked if UFOP was interested in doing anything for Darwin Day

([www.darwinday.org](http://www.darwinday.org)) - **February 12, 2008** – (Humanists of Utah

(<http://www.humanistsofUtah.org/>) is planning an event at the Univ of Utah)

**A motion was made, seconded, and approved to sponsor a UFOP booth at the event at the U of U. Booth volunteers will be needed.**

5. Announcements

A. Paleontology Lab Training Course—offered by UMNH's Mike Getty and Eric Lund.

This is a 5-week course (3 hours per class). Wednesday afternoons 2-5, starting Nov. 28th are still open for those interested (\$50)

B. Feb. 15-18, 2008: WAVP (Western Assoc. of Vertebrate Paleontology) Annual Mtg.

Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff.

C. May 2-3, 2008(tentative): UFOP Annual Meeting hosted by our Great Basin Chapter. Host committee volunteers needed. See Elaine Jones.

D. May 3-10, 2008: Utah Prehistory Week. Art Show and Poster Contest. Deadline for entries for poster contest is January 15th.

E. Duane Taylor (CEU, Price) has passed away. He was a founding member of UFOP.

Also, Don Tidwell (paleobotanist at BYU) had a pacemaker implanted recently. Martha has a get well card and a sympathy card for us to sign to send to Don and to Duane's family. It was brought to our attention that Brad Wolverton's brother has also passed away.

**A motion was made, seconded, and approved to make a donation of \$100 to the CEU lab in memory of Duane Taylor, and \$100 to the UNHM lab in memory of Brad Wolverton's brother.**

F. St. George is planning a field trip to repair some vandalism at the Warner Valley Tracksite on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Please refer to [www.utahpaleo.org](http://www.utahpaleo.org) for more info, or contact Andrew Milner at [amilner@sgcity.org](mailto:amilner@sgcity.org) if you plan to help.

6. Introduction of speaker by Jim Kirkland:

Cliff Green of Cliff Green Studio who spoke on the "History of Paleo Art"

7. Meeting adjourned

Utah Friends of Paleontology Great Basin Chapter Christmas Party

Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm at the home of Mark & Natalie Loewen 545 East 900 South, Salt Lake City  
Bring a potluck dish, your favorite beverage, and a white elephant gift.

**Attention California Recreationists!**

On November 19, 2007, the Stanislaus National Forest published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in the Federal Register, beginning the 60-day comment period, with the public scoping period extending through January 18, 2008.

The Forest will prepare an EIS disclosing the impacts of a forest-wide (not including Wilderness and other non-motorized areas) proposed action that focuses on changes to the transportation system, including the addition of user-created routes, changes to existing motor vehicle restrictions, and the prohibition of wheeled motorized vehicle travel off designated routes and trails. Meetings are scheduled to involve the public in this process.

The Forest Service (FS) will host a series of public meetings during the months of December and January to review the Proposed Actions and answer questions (See meeting schedules and agendas below).



Copies of the Scoping Letter, Notices of Intent, Proposed Action Maps and Supplemental Documents are available for review at the Forest's website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/stanislaus/projects/ohv/index.shtml>.

Please note that the maps provided on the website are full-size versions and cannot be printed on conventional home printers. A full-size version can only be printed from a large plotter. Many local engineering and survey businesses as well as copy businesses can print the map for a nominal fee. They are large files that could take a long time to load on your computer, depending on your connection speed.

Once loaded and visible on your screen, zooming into a particular area will show the details. Proposed Action Maps have been updated to make it easier to find the changes the Proposed Actions would make to the existing transportation system. The Proposed Actions are highlighted in yellow. You can request a CD copy of the files from the Project Coordinator (Contact information shown below).

A draft EIS is expected to be released by May 2008, followed by a 45 day comment period, The final EIS is expected to be completed by October 2008.

## **Public Meeting Schedule**

**Monday, December 10, 2007**

Forest Supervisor's Office, Stanislaus Room  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

Agenda:

12:00 - 6:00 pm Browse maps and ask questions one-on-one with FS employees

**Tuesday, December 11, 2007**

Forest Supervisor's Office, Stanislaus Room  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

Agenda:

12:00 - 6:00 pm Browse maps and ask questions one-on-one with FS employees

**Tuesday, December 18, 2007**

Forest Supervisor's Office, Stanislaus Room  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

Agenda:

12:00 - 6:00 pm Browse maps and ask questions one-on-one with FS employees

**Wednesday, December 19, 2007**

Forest Supervisor's Office, Stanislaus Room  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

Agenda:

12:00 - 6:00 pm Browse maps and ask questions one-on-one with FS employees

**Thursday, January 10, 2007**

Calaveras Ranger District Proposed Actions  
West Point Community Hall  
West Point, CA

Agenda:

5:00 - 6:00 pm Browse maps and ask questions

6:00 - 8:30 pm Overview of NEPA process and ways to get involved

**Saturday, January 12, 2007**

Forestwide Proposed Actions  
Stanislaus County Harvest Hall  
3800 Cornucopia Way  
Modesto, CA 95358

Agenda:

- 1:00 - 2:00 pm Browse maps and ask questions
- 2:00 - 3:00 pm Forest Presentations of the Proposed Action
- 3:00 - 4:00 pm Browse maps and ask questions

**Ways to Participate in advance of the discussions include:**

- \* View the website map products available after the meetings

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/stanislaus>

- \* Get a CD version of the map products
- \* Make an appointment with district recreation staff
- \* Request a scheduled group presentation from the Forest Service

**Written Comments may be submitted to:**

Stanislaus National Forest  
Attn: Motorized Travel  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

Comments may be submitted by FAX [209-533-1890] or by hand-delivery to the address shown above, during normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm). Electronic comments, in acceptable plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf), or Word (.doc) formats, may be submitted to [comments-pacificsouthwest-stanislaus@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-pacificsouthwest-stanislaus@fs.fed.us) with Subject: Motorized Travel.

Comments should include your name, address (include in any e-mail correspondence) and, if possible, telephone number. Please include site-specific facts or comments concerning the proposed transportation changes along with supporting information.

For more information contact Sue Warren, Project Coordinator at (209) 532-3671 ext 321 or by email to [swarren@fs.fed.us](mailto:swarren@fs.fed.us). Additional information is also available on their Travel Planning website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/stanislaus/projects/ohv/index.shtml>.

**IF YOU RECREATE IN THE STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST,  
PLEASE HELP BY STAYING INVOLVED!**

As always, if you have any questions please give us a call.

**Thanks in advance for your support!**

Brian Hawthorne  
Public Lands Policy Director  
BlueRibbon Coalition  
208-237-1008 ext 102

**DEER VALLEY RESORT OPENING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2007**



**WHAT:** Deer Valley Resort opens on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The **award-winning Mariposa restaurant** (located mid-mountain at Silver Lake Lodge) will be offering a two for one entrée special starting December 7<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The Mariposa offers a blend of classic and current cuisine, as well as vegetarian and tasting menus. Reservations are necessary; please call 435-645-6715. In addition, Deer Valley will be hosting the Deer Valley Celebrity SkiFest on Birdseye ski run on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**COST:** Early Season lift ticket rate (until further notice)  
**Full Day:                      Half Day:**

Adult	\$65	\$45
Senior	\$46	\$32
Child	\$39	\$31
Tot	\$16	\$11

**LIFTS: 7 out of 22 lifts open.**

Burns	Snowflake
Carpenter Express	Silver Lake Express
Homestake	Viking
Sterling Express	

**RUNS: 11 out of 99 runs open.**

Homeward Bound	Ontario
Birdseye	Little Reb
Silver Link	Success
Rosebud	Wide West
Little Stick	Big Stick
Trainer	



**RESTAURANT OPENING DATES:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Opening</u>
The Mariposa	Friday, December 7 <sup>th</sup> *Open Tuesday through Sunday, dinner only,

Silver Lake Restaurant	5:45 – 9 p.m. Saturday, December 8 <sup>th</sup> *Open daily for breakfast and lunch
Snow Park Restaurant	Saturday, December 8 <sup>th</sup> *Open daily for breakfast and lunch
Bald Mountain Restaurant	TBD
Empire Canyon Grill	TBD
Seafood Buffet	Friday, December 14 <sup>th</sup> *Open Monday through Saturday, dinner only, 6:30 – 9 p.m.
Royal Street Café	Thursday, December 13 <sup>th</sup> for dinner Friday, December 14 <sup>th</sup> for lunch *Open daily for lunch, après ski and dinner
Fireside Dining	11:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. Thursday, December 13 <sup>th</sup> *Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays, dinner only
Snow Park Lounge	6 – 9 p.m. Saturday, December 8 <sup>th</sup> , for wine, beer, cocktails and appetizers. Live music on the weekends. *Monday through Friday, 2:30 – 6 p.m. *Saturday and Sunday, noon – 6 p.m.
Snowshoe Tommy's	Saturday, December 8 <sup>th</sup> for Turkey Chili, sweets, espresso drinks, and hot and cold beverages. *Open daily, conditions permitting,
	9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Deer Valley Resort, Park City, Utah.

### **New Plate, New Gear Ski Utah Announces License Plate Poker**

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH - Ski Utah is absolutely thrilled by the new 'ski' license plate recently issued by the Utah Division of Motor Vehicles. The

new plate features 'The Greatest Snow on Earth' and depicts the majestic Wasatch Mountains with the figure of a skier in front of them. In celebration of the new plate, Ski Utah has decided to play some cards in the form of license plate poker.

License plate poker is simple to play and all Utah vehicle owners are eligible to enter. Contestants must email a picture of their new plate with their name and city to [poker@skiutah.com](mailto:poker@skiutah.com) in order to enter. License plate letters and numbers are scored like poker hands. The player with the highest plate will hit the slopes next winter with a brand new pair of Rossignol skis and bindings or a Burton snowboard with bindings. Ski Utah will accept new contestants throughout the 2007-08 winter season.

"We were so excited by the new ski plate, we just had to have some fun with it," said Ski Utah president, Nathan Rafferty. "License plate poker is a great way to get people as excited as we are about this new plate. and win some great gear too."

The rules of License Plate Poker are just like classic poker only the letters on your plate substitute for the cards in your hand. The new plates contain six characters, consisting of one letter followed by three numbers followed by two letters. These characters will act as your "cards." Your hand will be



the best five cards found in the number/letter combination available from your plate.

- . A=Ace, K=King, Q=Queen, J=Jack, 0 (zero) = 10, W = Wild Card
- . All other letters are garbage (don't count for anything)

- . Since we're using 1s, Aces are high
- . Look for hands containing pairs of numbers or letters to make three-of-a-kind, two pair, straight, full houses, etc.

Best hands are listed in order below:

1. Full House
2. Straight
3. Three of a Kind
4. Two Pairs
5. Pair
6. High Card

Some samples:

Your plate: A566RB your hand: pair of sixes

Your plate: K323AK your hand: two pair - kings and threes, kings high

Your plate: J908XQ your hand: straight - 8-9-10-Jack-Queen

Your plate: A444BA your hand: full house: - pair of Aces and three 4s, 4s high

Vanity plates will also be honored and rewarded with cool new Ski Utah swag.

A few more rules.

- 1.) You have to have the NEW SKI license plate.
- 2.) You must be the owner of the car and be able to provide proof of ownership in order to win.
- 3.) Rules are subject to change so check our Web site often to get the latest\*\*\*
- 4.) Don't like the rules or want to call our bluff, email [poker@skiutah.com](mailto:poker@skiutah.com)  
\*\*\*we're making this up as we go, so rules may be added or scrapped at any time

For more information or to enter, visit [www.skiutah.com](http://www.skiutah.com).

Ski Utah is the marketing organization owned and operated by the 13 statewide ski resorts that make up the Utah Ski and Snowboard Association. The organization has been creating brand awareness of and demand for the Utah wintersports product since its inception in 1978.

## FOREST SERVICE ANNOUNCES OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION STRATEGY



WASHINGTON, Dec. 6, 2007 - Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell today announced the release of the Forest Service's Open Space Conservation Strategy.

"Our vision for the 21st century is an interconnected network of open space across the landscape-one that supports healthy ecosystems, renewable resources, and a high quality of life for Americans," said Chief Kimbell. "We plan to achieve this through collaboration and partnerships-by working with willing landowners, conservation groups and state and local governments to promote voluntary land conservation."

The Open Space Conservation Strategy is the product of extensive public comment and collaboration, with over 22,000 comments received - nearly all supportive. The public also expressed strong support for open space conservation during USDA's Farm Bill listening sessions.

The Strategy charts a path forward for the Forest Service to conserve forests, grasslands, farms, ranches, and urban greenspaces that provide vital ecosystem services and benefits for society. Open space benefits American citizens by providing clean air, abundant water, outdoor recreation, connected fish and wildlife habitat, scenic beauty, improved human health, renewable resource products, and quality of life.

USDA's Farm Bill proposals would strengthen and enhance the agency's ability to achieve the goals of the Strategy. The USDA proposals would provide increased financial and technical assistance to willing landowners to conserve open space, advance ecosystem service private markets to compensate private landowners, enable states to work across boundaries to identify priority forest landscapes for conservation, and help communities protect working forests.

The loss of open space threatens the sustainability of the Nation's forests and grasslands. We lose approximately 6,000 acres of open space each day across the United States-a rate of four acres per minute. Land development is outpacing

population growth, especially in rural areas where the trend is low density, dispersed growth. The new Forest Service report "National Forests on the Edge" projects that over 21 million acres of rural private lands near national forests and 44 million acres of private forest land will undergo increases in housing density by 2030.



Growth and development in wildlands increases the risk of wildfire for people and property, affects the Forest Service's ability to manage the public lands for healthy forests and public enjoyment, and reduces the capacity of privately owned land to provide water, recreation, habitat, and other public benefits.

The Strategy can be found at <http://www.fs.fed.us/openspace>. The site also shares research findings, success stories, and resources for open space conservation.

## **PLAN AHEAD FOR COLD WEATHER, WATER**

Salt Lake - As air temperatures cool and ice begins to form on Utah's lakes and reservoirs, Utah State Parks boating officials remind everyone to be aware of the dangers of cold water temperatures.

“You never know when you might end up in the water. Wearing a life jacket not only keeps you afloat, but provides an extra layer of warmth. The combination of additional heat and flotation might mean the difference between life and death,” said Boating Education Specialist Chris Haller. “Hypothermia happens quickly and occurs when the core body temperature drops below 95 degrees. Most people can survive only five to 10 minutes in 40-degree water before succumbing to hypothermia.”

Signs of hypothermia include loss of coordination, weakness, mental confusion, blue skin, and intense shivering. Wearing a hat, wearing synthetic fabric, dressing for the water temperature, and eating high energy foods are ways to prevent hypothermia.

State boating law requires all children 12 years of age and younger to wear a life jacket while a boat is in operation, and it is recommended that all boaters wear a life jacket at all times.

For more information or to take a boating safety course, go to [www.stateparks.utah.gov](http://www.stateparks.utah.gov) or call (801) 538-BOAT.

## **SCOFIELD STATE PARK HOSTS ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT**



Huntington - Scofield State Park staff hosts its second annual ice fishing tournament Saturday, December 29. Check-in begins at 6:30 a.m. and the tournament starts at 7 a.m. Registration is \$10. A prize for the biggest fish will be awarded. Everyone has a chance to win a prize drawing, and free hot chocolate and hot dogs are available to participants. To register or for more information, please call (435) 687-2491.

## **UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS**

December 15 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse  
Star Party: Look deeper into the movement of the night sky with the park

naturalist. Participants should meet at the visitor center at 5 p.m. (801) 721-9569

#### December 15 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Junior Ranger Program: During the long winter months, animals must learn to adapt to harsh conditions to survive. Join the park naturalist and learn more about these adaptations. Participants should dress for the weather conditions, bring plenty of water, sturdy shoes, and meet at the visitor center at 11 a.m. This activity is intended for children ages six through 12, everyone is welcome. (801) 721-9569

#### December 15 Great Salt Lake State Marina - Salt Lake

Bottom-of-the-Pit Party: Enter your chili dish in the contest for most original, spiciest, best tasting, best chili verde, most unusual, etc. The party is to celebrate the shortest day of the year and the coming of a new boating season. Party is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the marina pavilion. (801) 250-1898

#### December 15 Camp Floyd/Stagecoach Inn - Fairfield

Tin Lantern and Candle Workshop: Camp Floyd State Park staff host a candle making/punched-tin lantern making workshop at 10 a.m. Create a peaceful holiday mood with family and friends at this pre-holiday event, which will be held in the historic, one-room Fairfield Schoolhouse. The workshop includes making holiday colored candles and creating a punched-tin lantern. Participants need to bring a tin can filled with frozen water. Cost is \$2 per person or \$6 per family. (801) 768-8932

### **UTAH STATE PARKS BOARD MEETS IN ST. GEORGE**

St. George - The Board of Utah State Parks and Recreation meets Tuesday, December 11 in St. George. The public meeting begins at 10:15 a.m. at the Tonaquint Nature Center located at 1851 South Dixie Drive.

Topics of discussion include This Is The Place Heritage Park, statewide Friends of State Parks initiative, and review of off-highway vehicle (OHV), trails and pathways, and recreation trails program grant recommendations. New appointments will be made to both the OHV and boating advisory councils. Board members will also review park fees and rule changes for firearms in state parks.

### **Here Comes Winter**

While chilly temperatures and the recent snow may have many Utahns thinking winter is already here we've still a few days to wait until it officially arrives.

According to NASA Solar System Ambassador to Utah Patrick Wiggins, winter officially starts here in the northern hemisphere this coming Friday, the 21st, at 11:09 p.m. MST when the Sun reaches its most southerly point in our skies.

Wiggins notes that this year's start of winter is causing some confusion as many calendars show the solstice occurring on the 22nd. That's because many calendars are based on Eastern Time and in the Eastern Time zone winter starts at 1:09 a.m. on Friday.

Following this event, known to astronomers as the December solstice, the Sun will start creeping back to the north and the periods of daylight will gradually grow longer and warmer.

Things are reversed in the southern hemisphere where the December solstice is seen as the beginning of summer.



The solstice also brings Utah's shortest day with barely 9 hours of daylight versus over 15 hours when the Sun is furthest north in June.

For information on past and future solstices and equinoxes see Wiggins' Solar System Ambassador's web site at <http://utahastro.info>.

## **Southern Region Fishing Report**

**BAKER RESERVOIR:** Fishing was very good for 10- to 12-inch rainbows using PowerBait and worms. Also good success reported using black wooly buggers. Fall and winter are good times to target brown trout at Baker. Try minnow-imitating lures and flies, or dead minnows.

**BARKER RESERVOIRS, NORTH CREEK LAKES:** All lakes except Barker and Lower Barker Reservoirs are now closed to fishing until April 2008. Access should be difficult after the recent snow and most lakes should be frozen over. 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:** All lakes are now frozen over, but the ice will not be safe for at least a couple more weeks. Access to the higher lakes is limited after the recent snow.

**BEAVER RIVER, LOWER:** The lower stretch above the fairgrounds is iced over. Open water in the first mile below the posted section. 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:** Most of the river is iced over, though there are a few open stretches. 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:** Most Boulder Mountain lakes are now closed to fishing until April 2008. Check the [Utah Fishing Guidebook](#) for which lakes are still open. Recent snow has limited access on most of the mountain to snowmobile and ATV. 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:** Small stream east of Fillmore. Catchable rainbows have been stocked in the campground area. Wild rainbows are abundant everywhere else in the stream and can be caught with spinners and flies. Best fishing is away from the campground and more heavily fished spots. 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:** Water is clear and fishing is good, especially for rainbows in the upper stretches. Brown trout get aggressive in the fall as they prepare to spawn, so try fishing streamers or flashy lures. Egg patterns are also effective.

**CORN CREEK:** Catchable rainbows have been stocked in the campground area. Wild brown trout are abundant everywhere else in the stream and can be caught with spinners and flies. Brown trout get aggressive in

the fall as they prepare to spawn, so try fishing streamers or flashy lures. Egg patterns are also effective.

**DUCK CREEK/ASPEN MIRROR:** Ice covers most of the lakes.

**EAST FORK SEVIER RIVER KINGSTON CANYON:** No ice yet, but the river should freeze over sometime in the next couple of weeks. Should have fair to good fishing until then. 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 low and slightly turbid. Brown trout get aggressive in the fall as they prepare to spawn, so try fishing streamers or flashy lures. Egg patterns are also effective. 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 RESERVOIR:** Much of the river is covered with ice, making fishing difficult.

**ENTERPRISE RESERVOIR:** (Upper and Lower): The upper reservoir was drained for dam repairs. The lower reservoir should have thin ice. 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.



**FISH LAKE:** The marinas are iced in, but launching is still possible at the dirt ramps. Don't expect safe ice before Christmas. Good success for splake by jigging just off the weedline and out to 40 to 50 feet. Tip your jigs with sucker or perch meat for best success. Rainbows are also caught at the same depths with jigs or

traditional baits. A few tiger muskies have moved up from Johnson Reservoir. The general statewide limits on tiger muskie apply here — one fish, which must be over 40 inches.

**FORSYTH RESERVOIR:** Thin ice with open water. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**FREMONT RIVER:** Flows above Mill Meadow are low and clear. Brown trout get aggressive in the fall as they prepare to spawn, so try fishing streamers or flashy lures. Egg patterns are also effective. 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:** No recent reports. Bass fishing should be slow. 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 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. Remember special regulations for bass: four bass under 10 inches and two over 20 inches.

**JOHNSON RESERVOIR:** Musky fishing will be nonexistent until spring. 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:** The recent snow should have closed down access. Should have thin ice. 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. Please call the poaching hotline (1-800-662-DEER) to report violations.

**KOOSHAREM RESERVOIR:** Frozen, but the ice is not safe.

**LOWER BOWNS RESERVOIR:** Last weekend's snow likely has limited access.

**MAMMOTH CREEK:** Flows are generally low and clear. Moderate pressure on weekends, especially in Hatch Meadow. Brown trout get aggressive in the fall as

they prepare to spawn, so try fishing streamers or flashy lures. Egg patterns are also effective. 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:** Thin ice with open water. Remember that the perch limit is 20. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**MINERSVILLE RESERVOIR:** Thin ice is forming and melting off and on. A couple reports of fair to good success using black or brown wooly buggers stripped very slow along the bottom near shore. 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 should be iced over and access will be limited after recent snow. These lakes typically don't get much ice fishing pressure.

**NAVAJO LAKE:** The gate will likely be closed after last weekend's storm. Access by snowmobile or walking down from the highway. Thin ice covers much of the lake. It should take two or three more weeks for safe ice. Ice fishing is a good way to target splake. Try jigs tipped with sucker meat or stillfishing dead minnows.



**NEWCASTLE RESERVOIR:** No recent reports. A fish consumption advisory was issued for rainbow trout in Newcastle Reservoir due to elevated levels of mercury. We 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.

**OTTER CREEK RESERVOIR:** Much of the reservoir is covered with thin ice. Lots of open water around the shoreline. Shore fishing may be possible for another week. Rainbows have moved in shallow and fishing from shore is fair to good with most baits. Please prevent the spread of *whirling disease*. *Do not transport* any parts of fish caught here to other waters.

**PANGUITCH LAKE:** New regulations now in effect: Limit is four trout, which must be less than 15 inches or over 22 inches. All trout 15 to 22 inches must be released. 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, but digging the hook out will almost certainly kill the fish. Also try fishing with single hooks. Should have some thin ice. It should take a few more weeks for safe ice.

**PARAGONAH (RED CREEK) RESERVOIR:** Access will be difficult after the recent snow. Any ice will still be too thin. Rainbows are very abundant. Harvest is encouraged to allow fish to stay in balance with the food base. Bait is not as successful for wild fish, so try flashy lures or flies.

**PINE LAKE:** Thin ice covers much of the lake. It should take at least two or three more weeks for safe ice.

**PINE VALLEY RESERVOIR:** Should have some thin ice. Access may be difficult after recent snow.

**PIUTE RESERVOIR:** No ice yet. Shore fishing should be fair to good until it freezes over.

**QUAIL LAKE:** Catchable rainbows have been stocked. Remember the special regulations for bass: four bass under 10 inches and two over 20 inches.

**SAND COVE RESERVOIRS:** Upper reservoir: No recent reports. Lower reservoir: No recent reports.

**SAND HOLLOW RESERVOIR:** Bass fishing slows down during the colder months though it is still possible to catch fish during cooler weather. The keys to success are a slow retrieve (often "deadsticking") and moving around to find the fish. Special regulations for bass include four bass under 10 inches and two over 20 inches. Public access to the reservoir is available only through the State Park.

**SEVIER RIVER (UPPER), ASAY CREEK:** Ice often forms and melts off and on in this stretch. Whitefish will be concentrated in some of the deeper pools and runs through the winter and will take a nymph pattern or wax worm on a dead drift. 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:** No ice yet. Fishing was very good



for browns and rainbows using any technique. Brown trout get aggressive in the fall as they prepare to spawn, so try fishing streamers or flashy lures. Egg patterns are also effective.

**THOUSAND LAKES MTN:** Recent snow will have limited access. Most lakes should be iced over.

**TROPIC RESERVOIR:** The lake is full again, though thin ice covers much of the lake. It should take at least two or three more weeks for safe ice. There may be a few catchable rainbows left, though most would not have survived the previous low water levels. Winter is a good time to target large brown trout. The local favorite technique is a dead minnow fished on the bottom.

**URBAN PONDS:** Iron County: No recent reports. Washington County ponds: Trout have been stocked in all the ponds, most already twice. Fishing should be good with any technique, though adults are encouraged to use flies or lures.

**WIDE HOLLOW RESERVOIR:** Few trout would have survived the previous low water.

**YANKEE MEADOW RESERVOIR:** Access will be limited after the recent snow. Make sure you have 4WD. Should have ice, though it probably is not safe yet.

## News from Wasatch Touring

### Featured Items:



\$139.00/KTS Aluminum

**Kahtoola  
Traction  
System**  
\$144.00/KTS  
Steel

Winter can be a great time to hike, if you've got the right equipment.

When you don't need the flotation of a snowshoe, but want the traction of a crampon without the weight, reach for the Kahtoola Traction System.

The KTS is not just for winter—if you're planning a summer mountaineering trip to Gannett Peak, come in and check these out. We carry two models, in your choice of steel or aluminum. Both models have ten points, and fully adjustable nylon straps with quick release buckles, flexible construction for better mobility than a traditional rigid crampon, and fold flat for easy packing. Serious mountaineers will prefer the durability of the steel model, while aluminum is better suited to weight-conscious travelers and slightly less intense use.

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### **Petzl e+lite headlamp**

\$29.95

Working through your holiday gift list and not sure what to get Uncle Bob? Anyone and everyone can use a headlamp, and we've got one you should check out. Petzl's e+lite uses LED technology, weighs less than an ounce—about the same as five quarters—fits into a compact waterproof case, and its replaceable lithium batteries have a shelf life of ten years. With specs like that, you might forget the e+lite is in your backpack until you need it, but when you do, this headlamp will shine for up to 45 hours on a set of batteries, and lets you select flashing or steady modes on either the white or



red LEDs.

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### **Garmont Axon Alpine Touring Boots**

\$ 829.99

Arriving in limited quantities beginning December 7th Looking for a boot that can ski anywhere, with no compromises in downhill performance or back country “tour ability”? One that’s compatible with Dynafit, Fritschi, Silvretta, or even ISO-DIN

Alpine bindings? For you demanding customers, Garmont is offering the Axon boot in time for this ski season. This boot is based on the proven 4-buckle Adrenalin, and features interchangeable rubber-lug touring soles and ISO-DIN soles that will fit into your resort-only alpine rig. These boots also feature G-Fit heat moldable liners, and the quality that you’ve come to expect from Garmont’s Italian factory.

### **Coat Donations:**

Donate your gently used winter coat during the month of December and get a 10% discount on a base or mid layer of your choice!

If you have a coat that is just taking up space in your closet, give it to someone in need and take advantage of this program to benefit the Utah Road Home shelter.

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **December 1**

Alta Ski Area, base of Collins Lift

FREE Telemark and Alpine Touring ski and boot demo!

Do your snow dance and then come on up to Alta on Saturday the 1st and rip it up on this year’s hottest equipment. Industry reps from Rossignol, Atomic, K2, Trab, Black Diamond, Dynafit, Scarpa, and Garmont will get you set up on their exciting new skis and boots. Just when you thought it couldn’t get any better, Wasatch Touring’s Charlie and Dwight Butler will

also be on hand to answer questions.

## **December and January**

Various locations

Utah Winter Games

Want to learn a new sport, improve your skills, and have fun, all while saving money? Then you'll definitely want to sign up for all the upcoming Utah Winter Games events. Visit this website for details—most are free, but registration is required and clinics fill quickly.

[www.utahwintergames.org/clinics.htm](http://www.utahwintergames.org/clinics.htm)

Examples include:

December 8th: Learn to Telemark at Park City Mountain Resort, free.

December 8th: Learn to Nordic Ski [Skate and Classic] at Soldier Hollow, free.

December 9th: Learn to Nordic Ski [Skate and Classic] at Solitude, free.

December 15th: Learn to Telemark at Solitude, cost \$5, includes lift ticket!

## **December 1**

Online and via telephone

River Permit Request Day

Kayakers, rafters, and other water sports junkies—this is your day to get your paddling buddies together, and apply for trip permits for next season! Submit applications for private trips down Westwater, Cataract, the Grand, or other popular destinations. [Click here](#) to get all the popular Western River permit applications and information.

## **December 6, 6:00-7:30 P.M.**

Wasatch Touring, 702 East 100 South, SLC Nordic Skate and Classic Ski Waxing Demo Nordic skiing is often an uphill battle against gravity, but with proper waxing, you can ski faster and farther—and its easier than ever and not just for racers! Wasatch Touring employee and experienced racer Erik Solberg will share his waxing advice and experiences, along with a dash of Norwegian humor (yes there is such a thing). He'll discuss wax tools, base prep, glide and kick wax, and getting maximum performance at the minimum price, and other questions you might have. For anyone planning on racing in the first Wasatch Citizen's Series race on the 8th, this clinic will be a great time to ask about structure, fluorocarbons, and ski flex.

## **December 8th, 10:00 to 12:00 AM**

White Pine trail head, Little Cottonwood Canyon Avalanche Beacon Training Back country skiing is more enjoyable and safer when you're familiar with your avalanche transceiver, and even better when you're skiing partners have the skill and confidence to find you in the unlikely event you "get slid". Join us for beacon practice, with tips to decrease your search times, and solve multiple burial problems. Compare the performance of the latest models. Come dressed for the weather, and equipped with skins, probe, shovel and beacon.

### **Contra Dance Scheduled**

We'd like to invite everyone to the Ogden Contra Dance this coming Saturday. □ Our new home is in the gym behind the First Presbyterian Church of Ogden located at 880 28th Street. □ It is a wonderful dance venue with a wood floor and plenty of parking.

If you've been toying with the idea of attending a contra dance, now is the time!

Whether your interests lie in dance, folk music, history, or just plain socializing, contra dance offers something for you; it's America's folk/community dance. □ We "walk through" each dance before it begins, so no dance experience (or talent!) is needed. □ Come out and bring some friends! □ It's a good time for all...

Please pass this on to your mailing lists as we are trying to spread the word and get the Ogden, Box Elder, and Davis area communities more involved! □ We'd also love to see some folks from the Logan and Salt Lake dances as well...

Ogden Area Contra Dance

First Presbyterian Church  
880 28th Street, Ogden, Ut

(Dance is in building to the north west in the parking lot)  
Music By The Blue Sage Trio

Calling By Mike Cottle

Saturday, December 8th.  
(And continuing on the second saturday of each month)

Beginner Workshop 7:30

Dance 8:00 - 10:30

Recommended donation is \$5.00 Adults and \$3.00 Children

Please bring separate dance or gym shoes to protect the floor!

For More Information Contact:

Mike or Shauna at 801-782-0534 (or by replying to this e-mail!)

### **Let's Go Outside *for the Holidays***

Need gift suggestions for the people on your list who enjoy getting outside? The Coleman Company has just what you need – products in a wide range of prices so you can find just the right items for the campers, tailgaters, scouts, fishermen, hunters, boaters, grillers and backpackers who'll gather by your tree this year.

To check out a broad selection arranged by prices on the Coleman Web site, click here: [Gift Guide](#)

Or, read on for individual products to consider from this year's crop of new gear. (Click on links below for more info.)

#### **LED Lantern**

For the trekker or traveler who needs a very compact and lightweight LED lantern, the Exponent 4AA

Pack-Away

Lantern is bright,

features a telescoping protective design and

provides an

emergency strobe

that will run up to 75

hours. (\$34.99

MSRP)



#### **Radio Cooler**

Sometimes your

favorite music, or a

quick update on the weather, is just what one needs to go with cold beverages and food. All those things can come in one package with the new Coleman Electronic Radio Cooler. It's the right size at 36 qts. The AM/FM radio also features a clock, a weatherband radio and a jack to plug in an MP3 player or other peripheral device. (\$65 MSRP)

### [Portable Battery-Powered Blender](#)

A healthy smoothie before a morning's hike through the woods has never been easier. Coleman's new Rechargeable Portable Blender is no wimp; it's powerful enough to make 20 or more pitchers of frozen concoctions in about 30 seconds each. It can be recharged via 120 AC outlets, or a 12-volt automotive system. Oh yes, it could make a mean margarita toward the day's end as well, or at a tailgate party. (Four models: \$59.99-\$99.99 MSRP)

### [Life Jacket with Two-Way Radio](#)



Coleman has introduced the industry's first personal flotation device with a built-in two-way radio. The radio compartment is positioned on the upper left chest area of the neoprene vest for one-hand operation. Available in women's and men's sizes, the Transmit Vest offers communication and added safety while boating and other activities on and around the water. (\$99-\$129 MSRP) **Full line of life vests.**

### [Stove Upgrade](#)

Coleman's new EvenTemp InstaStart 3-Burner Stove features a middle burner to provide even heating for cooking on griddles or large

skillets and pots. It fills the void between the two primary burners. It just may be the new favorite cook stove for that outdoorsperson or chili cook you want to

surprise. Runs on convenient propane fuel and features push-button lighting. Sweet! (\$110 MSRP)

### **Mega Tent with Light and Hinged Door**

Speaking of upgrades, doesn't your significant other or someone close need a really nice new tent? If they haven't been naughty, consider the 17x9 Screened Weathermaster Elite tent from Coleman. It will provide plenty of elbow room, a screened area for dining or sleeping in fresh air sans bugs, and all the WeatherTec System features that make it a weather-worthy Coleman tent. But it also features a framed, hinged front door and a built-in lighting system. It is the MacDaddy of tents. The overhead light is bright enough to read by and can be turned on and off with a remote device. (\$199 MSRP)

### **And more**

Coleman offers many more possibilities for gift giving and enjoying the holidays. Toys for your pets, or a bed, sleeping bag or tent for the pooch perhaps? A new assortment of cooking appliances that run on propane will please any camp cook, tailgate gourmet or backyard grillmeister. A good night's sleep is important anywhere one travels, so check out the extensive line of Coleman airbeds and pumps. They will support and soothe backs young and old ... especially old. And for backpackers and boaters, Coleman offers more fun and performance products than ever before.