

Volunteer Vacations now available

With a series of new trips for families, college students and those short on time, American Hiking Society's 2008 Volunteer Vacations make it easier than ever for hikers, trail advocates and volunteers of all ages to have fun, get outside and make a difference.

The 2008 schedule offers 75 projects in 25 states. New trips will take volunteers to help eradicate invasive plants in Arizona's Paria Canyon, clear and maintain trails in Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge in Maine and build a two-mile segment of Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail. Projects in six different states are scheduled specifically during college students' spring break time, and a few trips are shortened to accommodate those unable to volunteer for a full week.

"Our Volunteer Vacations program sends hundreds of volunteers each year into America's most treasured national parks, forests and other public lands, providing critical sweat equity to address the enormous needs of underfunded and understaffed trail programs," said Gregory Miller, American Hiking Society president.

Trips range from easy to strenuous and most require no prior experience -- families can enjoy front-country projects and cabin stays or car camping, while those seeking a bit more challenge can choose to hike to base camps or backpack. Typical trips last one week, during which volunteers from age 18 to 80 work on trails, get to know their fellow crew mates and enjoy campfires, outdoor cooking and exploring in their down-time.



For 30 years, American Hiking Society's Volunteer Vacations have offered participants one of the most affordable, fulfilling ways to explore natural areas and help improve the hiking experience. Browse the complete trip schedule on our website, and don't delay signing up; with all this year's exciting new options, trips

are filling up fast.

Founded in 1976, American Hiking Society is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and protecting America's hiking trails, their surrounding natural areas and the hiking experience. Learn more at www.AmericanHiking.org or call (301) 565-6704.

Arizona Couple Trapped Overnight is First PLB Rescue of 2008

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL JANUARY 21, 2008 Ken and Quinn Golash were on a Sunday drive, January 7, in Prescott National Forest in Arizona. They took a mountainous dirt road that began getting rough and difficult to drive on. When it began to rain, the couple found they couldn't go back the way they came because dry streambeds were filling with water and washing the road out.

It was getting dark and they failed to find an alternate road out. The Golashes, who are in their sixties, decided to spend the night in their truck and wait for the rain to stop. Being experienced hunters and outdoorsmen, the couple pulled together enough food, clothing and blankets for the night. They even captured rainwater as a safeguard. But their most comforting assurance was having an ACR Electronics MicroFix □ 406 MHz GPS Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) with them.

The rain continued throughout the night. The next morning, Ken walked up to a higher elevation and unsuccessfully attempted to get cell phone service. At 10 a.m., he and his wife made the decision to activate their satellite detectable beacon. They knew it was a signaling device of last resort, but they also knew that their son would soon be calling authorities to report his parents missing. The Golashes feared that without knowledge of their location, their son's alert would initiate a time-consuming, all out search over a wide area. By triggering the PLB, Search and Rescue (SAR) teams would be able to pinpoint their exact position in minutes.

A while later, the couple heard planes overhead. A helicopter from the Arizona Department of Public Safety located them and dropped down a two-way radio. The terrain was too narrow for the aircraft to land so they were directed to a spot further up the mountain. The two were airlifted and flown to family members close to their hometown of Peoria, AZ. Three days later they were able to return to the area and drive the truck out.

Ken Golash said receiving the MicroFix □ PLB from his wife last month was the ³best Christmas present I've ever gotten. Without it, I'm not sure we would've

gotten out at all.² He even plans to buy a second MicroFix[®] for Quinn, and they plan to carry them whenever they travel, especially when driving in the wide-open spaces of the west.

Ken also plans to carry the beacon when he hunts, which he often does alone.³ Even if you have no one with you, you're never alone if you have an emergency locator beacon,² he said.

Sgt. Rick Barnes, with Forest Patrol for the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, said the Golashes made a good call in activating the PLB. ³It definitely made it easier to dial in where they were. Otherwise, we would've been searching thousands of miles rather than a small finite area. We like it when rescues are quick and easy



like this one.² Barnes also commended the Golashes for being prepared to spend an unexpected night in the wilderness and for registering the beacon in advance with current information that gave the rescuers vital information for the search.

A PLB is a satellite-signaling device of last resort, for use when all other means of self-rescue have been exhausted and where the situation is deemed to be grave and imminent, and the loss of life, limb, eyesight or valuable property will occur without assistance. All beacons must be registered following purchase. Simply go online to

www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov.

ACR Electronics, Inc. (www.acrelectronics.com), a Cobham plc Company, designs and manufactures a complete line of safety and survival products including EPIRBs, PLBs, SSAS, AIS, SARTs and safety accessories. The quality systems of this facility have been registered by UL to the ISO 9001:2000 Series Standards. Recognized as the world leader in safety and survival technologies, ACR has provided safety equipment to the aviation and marine industries as well as to the military since 1956.

KURU FOOTWEAR CHANGES THE COURSE OF OUTDOOR FOOTWEAR TECHNOLOGY

Salt Lake City, Utah, January 15, 2008 – Kuru Footwear, the number one soft shell footwear brand, has released more details about its patent-pending KuruSole

midsole chassis technology. Developed for those needing proper anatomical support, the patent-pending KuruSole chassis is the result of direct input and feedback from Certified Pedorthists, Physical Therapists and footwear specialists. Each layer is shaped like the foot, resulting in an anatomically correct fit that does not degrade over time. KuruSole chassis offers orthotic quality support molded into every shoe.

“In my almost 30 years developing and manufacturing footwear, the KuruSole chassis is arguably one of the most legitimate and perceptible midsole technologies I’ve seen. It is technology that works and is immediately noticed when the shoe is put on” says Simon Wright, VP Development for Kuru Footwear.

In addition to the KuruSole chassis, Kuru Footwear features Schoeller FTC soft shell with the award-winning NanoSphere finishing technology. Leaves of certain plants and the wings of insects always stay clean because dirt and water cannot adhere to their structured surfaces. Schoeller NanoSphere is a futuristic nanotechnology that alters the surface of the soft shell to mimic the surface of nature. NanoSphere is naturally self-cleaning technology that provides increased durability and excellent stain repellency. Ketchup, honey, coffee, red wine and many other substances simply run off the treated surface or are easily rinsed under running water. “Using NanoSphere technology on footwear is a perfect application. Outdoor enthusiasts are always getting their shoes in the gunk and muck” adds Tom Weinbender, President Schoeller USA. By offering NanoSphere treated soft shell, Kuru offers the outdoor enthusiast a product that wears better and looks newer, longer.

The patented NanoSphere finishing technology meets the high requirements of the bluesign® standard. Bluesign® guarantees the greatest-possible exclusion of substances which are harmful to humans or the environment as well as the most economical use of resources in manufacturing.

About Schoeller Textil AG:

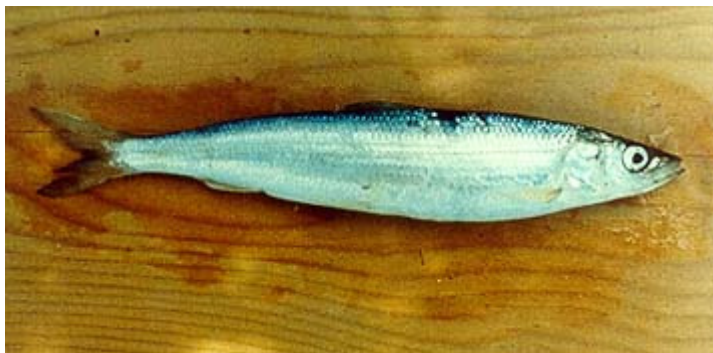
Schoeller Textil AG, established in 1868, headquartered in Sevelen, Switzerland, is an internationally recognized high-tech company specializing in the development and manufacture of sophisticated functional fabrics as well as innovative textile technologies. The Swiss based company is known as a worldwide leader in niche markets of the textile business. A variety of products made meet the bluesign-standard, an ecologically-safe textile manufacturing rating that also denotes products made with the most economical use of resources. Schoeller has developed an international reputation for creating new quality, high performance and

functional fabrics and technologies that push the industry to new heights. The company's products are distributed worldwide supported by a global sales force. Visit www.schoeller-textiles.com

The cisco run is on

An ice fishing opportunity found nowhere else in the world -- dipnetting for Bonneville cisco at Bear Lake -- is fast and furious right now. The action should last through the weekend of Jan. 26 and 27.

You can learn more about dipnetting for cisco -- and about other, more traditional ice fishing opportunities in Utah -- in the latest Wildlife Review magazine story. The "Adventures on the Ice: Winter Fishing Fun in Utah" story was co-written by Ron Stewart and Phil Douglass. It's available at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/wr>



Easy Cisco Recipe provided

Cisco are a popular Utah fish, caught only at Bear Lake for a short period of time. Although these fish are not known for having a lot of meat, they are fun to cook and easy to eat. The meat is typically very high in fat

content -- to the point that you can almost squeeze the oil out. Cisco is a soft-boned fish and when you deep fry them, the meat is easily removed from the bone. Although some people will drop the fish straight into the fry oil right after catching them, provided is a recipe for an easy batter mix.

Clean & Skin the fish as you typically would any other fish

Cut off head and tail

Prepare the Batter mix with the following ingredients:

2 eggs

1 cup flour

A shot of Tabasco sauce, chili powder, or black pepper

Combine amounts until you reach consistency of pancake batter. Place fish in batter mix and flip it to cover both sides well.

With oil at 375 F, lay fish in deep skillet or shallow fry pot and cook until crust is golden brown.

Serve warm with lemon or lime juice.

Tip: If you want to store skinned Cisco for later, toss about a dozen in a milk jug. Fill with water and freeze. Keep in mind that these can spoil quickly due to the high oil content.

See Bald Eagles Feb. 2 and Feb. 9

Two chances to see bald eagles are available in February.

Utah's annual Bald Eagle Day will be held Feb. 2 at sites in central, northeastern and southwestern Utah. On the following Saturday, Feb. 9, viewing will be offered at two sites in northern Utah.

Admission to Bald Eagle Day is free. Viewing times are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. except at the Salt Creek Waterfowl Management Area site, where viewing will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

On Feb. 2, you can view eagles at the following locations:

Feb. 2

Fountain Green State Fish Hatchery, located east of Nephi. If coming from the north, take I-15 and exit the freeway at the second Nephi exit (Exit 225). After exiting the freeway, turn east on SR-132 and travel about 10 miles. About 1 mile before the city of Fountain Green, a Bald Eagle Day sign will point you to an access road that leads to the hatchery.



Once you reach the hatchery, you'll be given a driving map of the Sanpete Valley that highlights the best areas in the valley to view eagles. Literature, displays and bathroom facilities will also be available at the hatchery. If

eagles are near the hatchery, Division of Wildlife Resources staff will set up spotting scopes so you can view them. Spotting scopes will also be set-up at

a viewing location about one mile from the hatchery.

Split Mountain / Green River, located north of Jensen and below the Dinosaur Quarry in Dinosaur National Monument (DNM). To reach the site, drive north from Highway 40 in Jensen on the road (SR-149) to the Dinosaur Quarry. Your first stop should be at the staging area located just inside the DNM boundary where displays, spotting scopes and possibly bald eagles and other raptors await. From the staging area, biologists will direct



you to other sites where you may have better views of eagles and other wildlife of interest.

In past years, visitors have seen bald and golden eagles hunting and feeding, as well as prairie falcons, hawks, mule deer, river otters, pheasants, turkeys, sandhill cranes, porcupines, mergansers, Canada geese and other wildlife.

If you'd like a closer look at some of the features in the monument and the surrounding area, members from the Uinta Mountain Club will lead two nature walks. The walks will leave from the main staging area at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

During your trip, you may also want to stop and visit the Dinosaur National Monument. The monument's dinosaur quarry is closed, but you can see a few dinosaur bones at a temporary visitor center near the quarry. The visitor center also includes a small bookstore.

Cedar Valley, located on the northwest side of Cedar City. To reach the site, exit I-15 at Exit 59 and travel west on SR-56 to 3900 W. Turn right on

3900 W. and travel north to 2800 N. The viewing site is located at 3900 W. and 2800 N.

On Feb. 9, viewing will take place at the following locations:

Feb. 9

Salt Creek Waterfowl Management Area (Compton's Knoll), located about 10 miles northwest of Corinne. To reach the WMA, take Exit 365 off of I-15 and travel west on SR-83 through Corinne. Stay on SR-83 until you get to 6800 W. (Iowa String). Travel north to 6800 N. Travel west on 6800 N. until you reach the Salt Creek WMA/Compton's Knoll Watchable Wildlife site.

Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area, located on the west side of Farmington at 1325 W. Glover Lane (925 South).

If you're traveling north on I-15, coming from Salt Lake City and other areas south of Farmington:



To reach the WMA, travel north on I-15, and exit the freeway at Exit 324. Turn left on Park Lane and travel west. The road will angle to the south, and you'll come to Clark Lane at the first traffic light. Turn right. Travel west to the first stop sign, which is at 1525 West, and turn left. Travel south to Glover Lane, and turn right. Travel west on Glover Lane for about two blocks until you come to 1700 W. Turn left on 1700 W. and travel south to the Great Salt Lake Nature Center. You can park in the parking lot.

If you're traveling south on I-15, coming from Ogden and other areas north of

Farmington:

To reach the WMA, travel south on I-15 and exit the freeway at Exit 325.

Go to the stoplight and turn right on Park Lane. Travel south to the next light, which is at Clark Lane, and turn right. Travel west to the first stop sign, which is at 1525 West, and turn left. Travel south to Glover Lane, and turn right. Travel west on Glover Lane for about two blocks until you come to 1700 W. Turn left on 1700 W. and travel south to the Great Salt Lake Nature Center. You can park in the parking lot.

“Spotting scopes will available at each viewing site,” says Bob Walters, Watchable Wildlife coordinator for the DWR. “Division of Wildlife Resources biologists and volunteers will also be on hand to help you spot eagles and to answer your questions.”

Displays will also be set up at each location, and pamphlets and other materials about bald eagles will be available for free, or for a small cost.

Seeing eagles

The best time to view eagles on Feb. 2 and Feb. 9 depends on the individual, Walters says.

The most comfortable time is late morning and early afternoon. That’s when the temperature is the warmest and visibility is the best. The warmer temperatures are especially important if you’re bringing young children with you.

You can expect to see eagles during the late morning and early afternoon but not as many as just before sundown, when eagles fly to trees to roost for the night. At most of the sites, the best time to see the greatest number of eagles is probably from 2 to 4 p.m., Walters says.

Walters encourages you to dress warmly. And if there’s snow on the ground, make sure you wear waterproof boots.

If you’d like to photograph the eagles, bring a telephoto lens. The eagles will be some distance from the viewing areas. Photographers who don’t bring the proper equipment and try to get close to the eagles for a better shot will probably scare them away, Walters says.

Walters started Bald Eagle Day in 1990 as a way to introduce people to Utah’s wildlife. “It was started as a way to arouse people’s interest, whet their appetite and make them aware of the wildlife around them,” Walters says.

Since it began, Bald Eagle Day has grown into Utah’s most well attended, and one of its most enjoyed, wildlife-viewing events.

For more information about Bald Eagle Day, call Walters at (801) 538-4771 or Division of Wildlife Resources offices in Ogden, Springville, Vernal or Cedar City.

Change Awaits Those Applying for 2008 Black Bear Permit

You can start applying for a 2008 Utah black bear hunting permit on Feb. 1. But before you can apply, you must have a valid Utah hunting or combination license.

A valid Utah hunting or combination license is also required if you want to apply for a bonus point.

“This change is important to the future of the state’s wildlife,” says Jim Karpowitz, director of the Division of Wildlife Resources. “As costs continue to rise, the requirement that hunters buy a license will provide us the revenue we need to continue managing bears and other wildlife in Utah effectively.”

Karpowitz provides some advice to help you decide

which license to buy: the hunting license, which costs \$26 for residents, or the combination license, which costs \$30. “I’d encourage you to buy the combination license,” he says. “It costs \$4 more than a hunting license, but it also allows you to fish.”

Hunting and combination licenses are available at www.wildlife.utah.gov. You can also obtain one from DWR offices and more than 350 hunting license agents across Utah.



Start applying on Feb. 1

You can apply for a permit or a bonus point at www.wildlife.utah.gov starting Feb. 1. Your application must be received through the Web site no later than 11 p.m. on Feb. 29 to be entered in the draw for permits.

You can also apply over the phone. To apply over the phone, call (801) 538-4700 no later than 5 p.m. on Feb. 29.

Results of the 2008 Black Bear Draw will be posted by March 14.

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

Avalanche Awareness Ride 2.0

The Rocky Mountain Sledders and Wasatch Snowmobile Association have joined with the Utah Avalanche Center and Friends of the Utah Avalanche Center for the ***Utah Avalanche Awareness Ride 2.0***. The ride will be February 2nd, 2008 at the CO-OP Chicken Creek Trail head, located 25 miles East of Heber UT on highway US40. The dinner will be held at Zermatt resort.

We are asking for donations to help support the Utah Avalanche Center. ALL proceeds will go directly to the Utah Avalanche Center. Donations will be earmarked for snowmobile related projects. The proceeds will help to increase the awareness of the dangers that avalanches pose in the Utah backcountry. With donations made by you, we can make avalanche forecasts available to everyone from almost every aspect. Our goal is to have the forecasts as accessible as possible. For example in every convenience store, text messages, pod cast. Our other Goal is to have avalanche beacon testing and self training areas at every trail



head in Utah. *It will help saves lives everyday.* **All donations are 501(c) 3 tax deductible.** If you decide to donate, we will send you a receipt with the tax id number on it.

We understand that businesses are asked to donate toward many different causes. We are offering the chance to advertise and have a tax-deductible donation at the same time. We

have a few different donation-advertising packages. Your support is appreciated as every little bit helps.

Thank you,
Planning Committee
Pam Madsen
PH# (801) 635-8971
Craig Gordon
PH# (801) 231-2170

Donation Packages

Bronze package: Donations of \$350.00 cash or \$450.00 merchandise will receive your company name on the T-shirts that are to be handed out at the ride. We will also mail you a t-shirt in apparition for your sponsorship. We will need the information 2 weeks prior to the event date to have the name printed on the shirts.

Silver package: Donations of \$600.00 cash or \$850.00 of merchandise will receive your company logo (2" X 2") on the T-shirts that will be handed out to everyone at the ride. We will also mail you a t-shirt in apparition for your sponsorship. We will need the information two weeks prior to the event date to have the logo printed on the shirts.

Gold package: Donations of \$1,000.00 cash or \$1,250.00 of merchandise will receive your company logo (3" X 3") on the T-shirts that will be handed out to everyone at the ride. We will also mail you a t-shirt in apparition for your sponsorship. As part of the **Gold package** you will be able to display your company Banner at the ride and dinner. We will need the information two weeks prior to the event date to have the logo printed on the shirts. (You will need to pay for shipping your banner both ways).



Platinum package: Donations of \$2,000.00 cash or \$2,500.00 of merchandise will receive your company logo (4" X 4") on the T-shirts that will be handed out to everyone at the ride. We will also mail you a t-shirt in appreciation for your sponsorship. As part of the **Platinum package** you will be able to display your company Banner at the ride and dinner. **Platinum package** members will also receive banner ads on various web sites for one year. **Platinum package** members are also invited to set up a small booth at the dinner. The size of the booth should be about 6 foot by ten foot (6' x 10'). We will need the information two weeks prior to the event date to have the logo printed on the shirts.

If you would like more information, please contact

Dave or Pam Madsen 801-963-3819

Cell # 801-635-8971

Rocky Mountain Sledgers

Email rmsledgers@yahoo.com

Shannon Peatross 435-671-0657

Wasatch Snowmobile Association

Email andreaP@smartfella.com

Craig Gordon 801-231-2170

Utah Avalanche Center

Email cgordonski@hotmail.com

Utah Fishing Report

WARNING: Whirling disease was found in the Northeastern Regional area. Please make sure to clean, dry and sterilize waders, live wells and other fishing gear before venturing to another water. Also do not clean fish or dump fish parts taken from one water into another lake or stream as this could also move whirling disease organisms.

BIG SAND WASH RESERVOIR: Anglers report fair ice fishing for rainbows near the dam/boat ramp. Check ice condition carefully before venturing out, especially the edges as it may be filling.

BROUGH RESERVOIR: No new reports. Reservoir has ice. Check ice condition carefully before venturing out, especially the edges as it may be filling. To get to Brough, take State Route 88 south from US Route 40 (Ouray Road). Turn west at the second dirt road past the high power lines, it should be signed. Follow this road approximately two miles following the signs. Road can be quite rutted.

BROWNIE / SPIRIT LAKE: No new reports. The area has received several snowstorms and lakes have ice. Check ice condition carefully before venturing out. Roads closed, accessible by skis or snowmobile. Warning: whirling disease was found in this area, please make sure to clean, dry and sterilize waders, live wells and other fishing gear before venturing to another water. Also do not clean fish or dump fish parts taken from one water into another lake or stream, as this will also move whirling disease.

BULLOCK/COTTONWOOD RESERVOIRS: No new reports.



Both reservoirs have ice but check conditions carefully before venturing out. Reservoirs are located approximately five miles north of the town of Gusher.

CALDER /CROUSE RESERVOIRS: Anglers have reported fair to good

ice fishing. No road access, anglers are using snowmobiles from the Jones Hole Road. Calder regulations include: flies and lures only, no baits; all fish under 22 inches must be released immediately; bag limit is one fish over 22 inches.

CURRENT CREEK RESERVOIR: Lake has ice, several reports of good fishing. Check ice edge thickness carefully before venturing out. Area received more snow last week. The road was kept open to the dam.

EAST PARK / OAKS PARK: No new reports, access by skis or snowmobile. Reservoirs have ice. Check ice edge condition carefully before venturing out as reservoirs are being filled.

FLAMING GORGE: Access Conditions as of January 21: Launching boats is still possible at Cedar Springs and Mustang ramps. All other boat ramps are frozen.

Ice has formed in most areas except for Swim Beach, and the Canyon. Ice is mostly fishable from Big Bend north with a few sheltered locations south of Big Bend. Ice is about eight inches at Marsh Creek. Buckboard is frozen and lake trout, rainbows and burbot are being caught. Ice in Linwood, Antelope and Sheep Creek but check conditions carefully since ice has only formed for four or five days. The Canyon area of the reservoir could stay open all winter if temperatures don't get too cold.

Lake Trout Fishing: Good to excellent fishing for 16- to 24-inch lake trout on most areas of the reservoir. Smaller lake trout will be concentrated in the northern end of the reservoir. If ice fishing, try fishing from the confluence, south to Big Bend. Use tube jigs in white, chartreuse, glow, brown-tipped with a small chunk of sucker or chub meat. Airplane jigs and jigging spoons also work. Look for fish to be located in or near the old river channel. Fishing is usually best early in the morning or later in the afternoon.

First ice is typically good fishing. Use no stretch line to feel strikes and set the hook better. Use a graph to see suspended fish and put your jig in their face. Unlike their larger relatives, the smaller lake trout are excellent table fair with orange flesh and taste as good or better than a rainbow when cooked up on the grill. There's an overabundance of lake trout under 28 inches in the Gorge so do your part to help the fishery and keep a limit of eight fish.

Larger lake trout ice fishing should be good from Big Bend south to Anvil Draw once fishable ice forms. Use larger tube jigs and jigging spoons on the ice. Remember, only one fish over 28 inches may be kept. Big lake trout eat big food so lures and jigs can be big also.

Kokanee Fishing: Kokanee fishing is slow because the schools are difficult to locate under the ice. If you can find schools of fish, try vertical jigging with buzzbombs or jigging spoons. Tipping with a mealworm or fish egg may help.

Rainbow Fishing: Good fishing for rainbows is being reported on most of the reservoir. Ice fishing for rainbows in Wyoming was good if you can find fish. Jigs, spoons and other typical rainbow gear work well. Look for suspended fish on your graph at 10 to 30 feet. Drop your lure in front of them to entice a strike. Most colors of spoons and minnow lures will work but go with lures in the one- to two-inch size.

Burbot (Ling) Fishing: Ice is solid in Wyoming end and we've been getting reports of burbot being caught in Firehole, Lost Dog, Sage Creek and Confluence,

Buckboard and Marsh Creek areas. Try fishing with jigs late in the afternoon, early morning or at night on points coming into reservoir. Use white or glow tube jigs two to three inches in size about 1/4 to 1/2 ounce in weight. Tipping with sucker or crayfish meat will help catch fish. Use of smelly jelly or similar scents in crayfish seem to help. These fish are fairly shallow (six to 30 feet) in the Wyoming end of the reservoir. Many anglers are reporting fast catch rates.

Recent netting in the area north of Buckboard has shown a large increase in the number of burbot present. Larger fish are 30 inches and up to five pounds. Burbot activity increases under the ice as these fish spawn in winter. These fish must be harvested if caught in Utah to help control their population as they were illegally introduced to the upper Green River drainage and could have a major impact on other fish species. There is no limit on burbot after January 1 but you cannot waste the burbot in the Wyoming end of the reservoir and they can be released there.

Burbot are an excellent eating fish with white, flaky flesh that is

similar to a perch. They can be breaded and fried or boiled and dipped in melted butter. You can use six lines on the ice in Wyoming so take advantage of tip-ups



and harvest some burbot.

Smallmouth Bass Fishing: Smallmouth fishing is slow, as smallmouth tend not to bite well at temps near or below 50 degrees. Use twist tail grubs on lead head jigs or small plastic worms, sinkos, twitch and crankbaits in about five to 30 feet of water off rocky shorelines and points. Crayfish imitation colors will work the best. Drop shot techniques will also work.

GREEN RIVER: (upper) The flows on the river are currently 800 cfs. Due to low inflows into the reservoir in 2007, flows should remain steady at 800 cfs throughout the winter to conserve water. Visit the [Bureau of Reclamation Web site](#) for the latest information on flows.

Fishing on the river slows a bit during the winter, as water temps are low. Dry fly fishing is typically slow during the winter. Nymph action was good. Please remember the slot limit size range has changed from 13 to 20 inches to 15 to 22 inches to make regulations more consistent statewide. Try fishing with glo-bugs and San Juan worms with smaller nymphs as a trailer—this combination was a real workhorse. Small midge patterns will work on some days. Streamers are working well and have been extremely good some days as well. Try size 2-4 buggers such as Goldilox and patterns in olive, pink and white.

Spin fishermen should try small rapalas (floating, countdown and husky jerk); small spinners; black, brown or olive marabou jigs; and small jigs. Please check to see that your tube jigs contain no fish attracting scents, as they are illegal to use in the river.

New Zealand Mudsail densities have dramatically increased in several localized areas near Little Hole, and have been documented in most areas of the river. Please thoroughly clean mud and vegetation from waders, boats and fishing gear; and if possible, completely dry equipment before leaving the area. A hot water bath (120 degrees Fahrenheit) will kill mudsnails, and spraying equipment with 409 or a similar soap solution before drying will increase effectiveness.

GREEN RIVER: (lower) Water level is low, but above average for this time of year due to the dam flows. The river is frozen—much more so than normal—but as the currents move and undercut the ice, it is unsafe.

MATT WARNER RESERVOIR: No new reports on fishing success. The area is only accessible by skis or snowmobile due to snow and deep drifts. The Reservoir has ice and is probably good fishing.

MOON LAKE: No new reports. Should be iced over and good fishing as observed at lakes at similar elevations.

PELICAN LAKE: Ice over a foot thick with the possible exception of those areas close to shore, which get exposed as reservoir fills. Anglers report spotty (fair to great) fishing for bluegill and few reports of bass. Try small brightly colored jigs tipped with bait such as a meal worm or piece of a night crawler. Anglers catching fish recommend trying several areas including those near the reeds in four feet of water or less.

RED FLEET RESERVOIR: Reservoir has ice and we've gotten several reports of good fishing.

STARVATION RESERVOIR: Reservoir is iced over; some ice fishing activity was noted but few reports on success rates. Check ice conditions carefully as the ice along the edges will be thinner due to water filling reservoir, as will ice in the deeper areas near the inlet or along the main channel.

STEINAKER RESERVOIR: Reservoir has ice and parts are thick enough to fish. No reports on success. Anglers should check ice conditions carefully before going out. Reservoir is being filled which will make the ice edge thinner and some areas



froze almost a month before other areas.

UINTA MOUNTAIN LAKES AND STREAMS: No new reports. Lakes and streams have ice but check it carefully before venturing out. Area has received several snowstorms. Ice fishing on lakes and reservoirs is also almost always good. Fishing success on mountain lakes and streams can be spotty so if one isn't producing try moving to another. With over 400 managed fisheries on the South Slope alone, it's easy to find a new place to fish. Always go prepared for serious weather, as the Uinta Mountains are well known for frequent unexpected storms and high winds. Note: The Uinta Mountains have a four-trout limit with a bonus of four more brook trout—see [guidebook](#) for details.

FISHING REPORT FOR SOUTHEASTERN UTAH

GENERAL Besides this fishing report, visit the following websites for additional information:

<http://wildlife.utah.gov/fishing/reports.php>

<http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/hotspots/>.

<http://www.bigfishtackle.com/index.html>.

FAIRVIEW LAKES Access by snow machine. Take along Swedish pimples and worms.

GIGLIOTTI POND For Carbon County residents, a short drive will take you to some good fishing for pan-size trout. Use small jigs, tipped with worms, mealworms or salmon eggs.

HUNTINGTON CREEK Success ranges from slow to fair in open water stretches. Bait casters should try worms. Fly fishermen might try Montana nymphs, San Juan worms or hares ears. Expect a light bite from browns, ranging between 10-14 inches.

HUNTINGTON NORTH RESERVOIR Fishing pressure has been light. The ice is 12-14 inches thick. Based on interviews with anglers, Randall Stilson recommends ice flies, tipped with a nightcrawler or mealworm. Rainbows are generally pan-size and browns are up to 16-inches.

HUNTINGTON RESERVOIR (also known as **Mammoth Reservoir**)

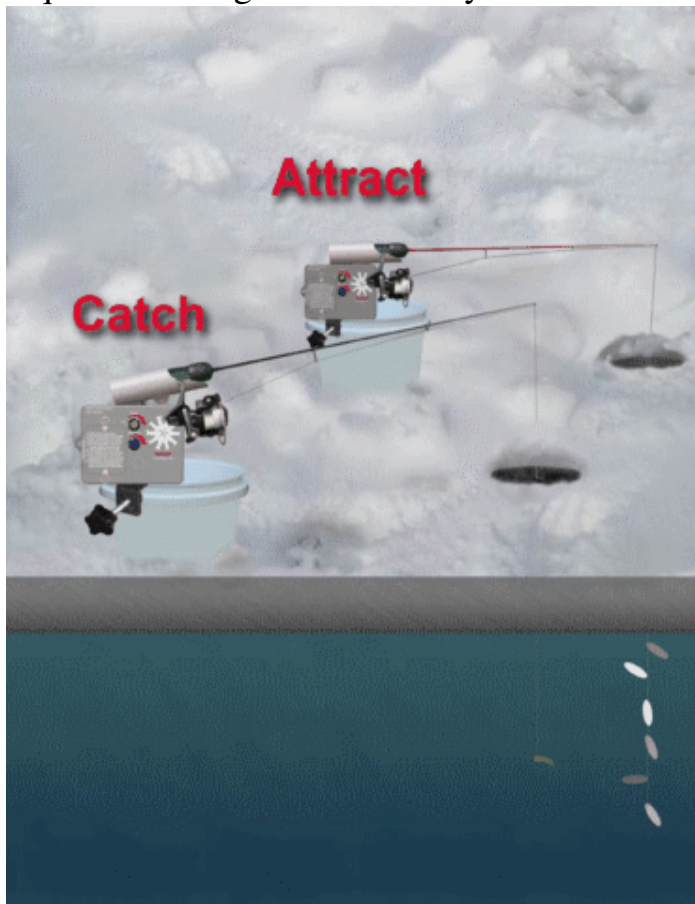
Todd Munford of King's Outdoor World fished the reservoir last weekend. He reported good fishing for tiger trout, ranging from 14-19 inches. Todd recommends bringing a shovel, as the snow pack is deep. The ice is 18-24 inches. Best fishing is mid reservoir in 10 feet of water. Todd recommends an 1/8 ounce chartreuse jighead, tipped with half a nightcrawler. Keep the bait moving, slightly off the bottom. Strikes are very light, so set the hook at the first hint of a bite. This reservoir is closed to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat

markings.

JOES VALLEY RESERVOIR Fisheries biologists Justin Hart and Craig Walker fished the reservoir last weekend and caught 20 fish apiece. They fished in the Seely Creek cove in 15-27 feet of water and used small spoons or jigs, tipped with chub meat. They caught splake, tiger trout and cutthroat trout. All fish species ranged from 11-17 inches. One cutthroat measured a little over 19 inches. Most fish were caught a foot or two off the bottom.

Justin Hart urges anglers to leave commercial cheese baits including PowerBait at home. At Joes Valley, the best year-round bait is chub meat. All of Justin's whopper splake (7-11 lbs.) were caught with whole chubs, although a bait that size will stop all but the biggest fish from biting.

Aquatics Manager Paul Birdsey recommends using a silver attractor



spoon such as a Kastmaster.

Below the attractor Paul recommends a gold or brass spoon tipped with chub meat. He has had good luck with a hammered brass lure. Paul suggests drilling a number of holes and moving around if your hole isn't producing fish.

LAKE POWELL Visit

<http://www.wayneswords.com> for the fishing report, provided by Wayne Gustaveson, DWR project leader.

LASAL MOUNTAINS All

mountain lakes are snowbound. Access is by snow machine only. Conservation Officer Tj Robertson reports that Ken's Lake has 8-12 inches of ice in most places. The edges are thawing and refreezing

every night. Tj asks all anglers to be very careful. He reported angler success with yellow PowerBait, tipped with a salmon egg. Tj recommends fishing about a foot off the bottom.

Aquatics Biologist Darek Elverud fished Ken's Lake last Sunday. He landed 10 fish in two hours. Darek says that jigs, tipped with a nightcrawler, worked well. His rainbow trout ranged from 8-16 inches. The bites were very light. Darek fished in 8-9 feet of water.

MILLSITE RESERVOIR A week ago, State Park Manager Dan Richards reported good fishing for 12-14 inch rainbows and pan-size splake. The hot spots were on the north side of the dam and just out from the boat ramp. Dan recommended small ice flies, tipped with a piece of nightcrawler. Last week, Conservation Officer Casey Mickelsen reported good results with green marshmallows and worms. Randall Stilson talked to one angler who caught fish with a marabou jig, tipped with a mealworm.

SAN JUAN COUNTY Conservation Officer Paul Washburn reports that fishing is hot at iced- over Blanding #3 and #4. Washburn says anglers have been catching their limits in less than an hour. PowerBait or worms have been effective. Recapture Reservoir is mostly iced over, but no anglers have been seen on the ice, suggesting unsafe conditions. Please exercise extreme caution at all San Juan County waters.

SCOFIELD RESERVOIR

Lieutenant Carl Gramlich and his son fished the last two weekends and describes fishing action as slow. In consideration of slowing success, Carl suggests that anglers be creative—try different spots, different times of day, and different baits and presentations. One rig that Carl recommends is a redside shiner on a hook. Try playing the minnow at various depths. Experiment with it in combination with a plastic grub and attractor. A week ago, Bruce Sherman, Sr. and his party caught 10 trout. One measured over 20-inches. They used Foxy jigs with mealworms. Bruce said fishing was slow to fair. Randall Stilson interviewed anglers in mid-January. The consensus seemed to be slow fishing across the reservoir.

STRAIGHT CANYON In open water stretches, try a prince nymph, hares ear or ugly in sizes 14-18. You will need to drift a fly through the hole several times to draw a strike.

AMERICAN FORK RIVER: Snowy canyon so be wise when looking for a parking spot. 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: open water. Slow to fair fishing success using traditional baits and lures.

DEER CREEK RESERVOIR: Many ice anglers seen on sunny days — most are congregating just north of the island and just north of the "lone tree" which is adjacent to highway 40 southwest of the island boat ramp area. Most anglers are reporting at least six inches of ice (but that can always change) and at least fair success for trout by using one-inch jigs tipped with bait (try white-colored jigs).

Yellow perch limit is 10, but you must keep all perch you catch from January 1 through April 30. Remember that the bass limit is six, but immediately release all bass over 12 inches long. Walleye limit is 10, but only one over 24 inches may be kept.

DIAMOND FORK RIVER: Snowy conditions. Light fishing pressure and slow to fair success by using flies, worms or lures. The previously closed area above three forks opened up to angling on January 1st!

HOBBLE CREEK & CATCH BASIN: Catch basin is frozen but unsafe ice. Few anglers seen on the river. Snowy conditions so dress appropriately. Worms are bait of choice.

JORDANELLE RESERVOIR: Ice Anglers on the Rock Cliff side report about 5-plus inches of ice, and they report fair success for perch and trout with ice reportedly at about five inches (conditions can change so please use caution). Bass limit is six, but immediately release all bass over 12 inches long. Perch limit is 50. Please remember not to fillet bass or remove heads or tails because of the size restriction (for law enforcement purposes).

MILL HOLLOW: Drained! No fishing until 2009.



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

PROVO RIVER: Deer, elk and wild turkeys have been hanging out near the Provo below Deer Creek Dam, making the cold temps a little more bearable! Fishing is considered fair to good by using small nymphs. Read the fishing proclamation for the different regulations on the river some areas allow bait and others do not. Please keep out of the smaller gravel areas of the river (spawning beds). Size restrictions and reduced limits ("two brown trout under 15 inches") are in place in some stretches.

SALEM POND: Mostly Open water. Fair to slow success for trout. Slow success for catfish and bass. 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 a total of

four fish in the aggregate for all species, for example: one trout, two channel catfish and one bluegill.

SALT LAKE WATER: Light pressure and slow to fair fishing success. Please don't venture onto any ice on these ponds as they rarely solidify enough to be considered safe.

SPANISH OAKS RESERVOIR: Gate closed and City states that it's closed for the season.

SPRING LAKE: Don't venture onto any formed ice. Slow success for trout and catfish in open water.

STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR: Fair to very good fishing success reported by most ice anglers. Ice thickness varies but anglers report over six inches in most areas. Most anglers are using small to medium-size jigs or plain bait. ATVs are not a wise idea. Plowing is occurring in three main areas of mud creek, ladders and, I believe, chicken creek east. UDOT is also plowing some pulloff along highway 40. Please, please, think twice about fishing during storms — the plows can't plow too well around vehicles, and you might get snow pushed around your vehicle by the plows. Vehicles can't drive on the west side of the reservoir beyond the turnoff to



the Strawberry Marina. 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: Low Pressure due to the snow and cold weather. Fair success. Snowy conditions so where waders and stay dry.

TIBBLE FORK RESERVOIR: Some anglers report some nice big browns where the river enters the lake. Though there is ice on the reservoir it has many soft spots where you can fall in due to warm springs. Ice fishing is not encouraged.

UTAH LAKE: Ice has covered most of the lake and several ice anglers have been adjacent to the docks. Ice thickness is not usually more than four inches and can be much thinner. Stick close to the docks if going for the white bass. White bass success was considered slow to fair. Walleye limit is 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 RESERVOIRS: (Tooele Co.) Officer Hammond reports Ice anglers on Grantsville, Settlement and Vernon but anglers report slow success. No specifics on ice thickness have been reported.

YUBA RESERVOIR: Fair to good success for perch by using a small bait-tipped jig from the ice on the Painted Rocks side of the reservoir. Ice conditions are about four inches or so in the painted Rocks area and probably unsafe ice exists on much of the reservoir other than the Painted Rocks area. New regulations on perch began on January 1 which now allow anglers to keep 10 perch However all perch must be kept from January 1 through April 30. For more info call the State Park at (435) 758-2611.

BLM Seeks Bids for One or More New Pasture Facilities to Care for and Maintain Wild Horses

As part of its responsibility to manage, protect, and control wild horses and burros,

the Bureau of Land Management is soliciting bids for one or more new pasture facilities located anywhere in the continental United States. Each pasture facility must be able to provide humane care for and maintain at least 500 wild horses – up to as many as 2,500 – over a one-year period, with an option under BLM contract for an additional four one-year extensions. The BLM needs additional space for wild horses placed in long-term holding facilities, all of which are currently located in Kansas, Oklahoma, and South Dakota.

Details of the BLM's requirements are posted in solicitation NAR080054, which is available today at <http://www.fbo.gov>. Applicants must be registered at <http://www.ccr.gov> to be considered for a contract award. The solicitation ends March 24, 2008.



The BLM manages wild horses and burros as part of its overall multiple-use land management mission. Under the authority of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, the Bureau manages and protects these living symbols of the Western spirit while ensuring that population levels are in balance with other public rangeland resources and uses. To achieve this balance, the BLM must remove thousands of animals from the range each year to control the size of herds, which have virtually no predators and can double in population every four years. Based on the most recent official

data, the current free-roaming population of BLM-managed wild horses and burros is about 29,000, which exceeds by some 1,500 the number determined by the BLM to be the appropriate management level. Off the range, there are about 31,500 wild horses and burros cared for in either short-term (corral) or long-term (pasture) facilities. All animals in holding are protected by the BLM under the 1971 law.

After wild horses and burros are removed from the range, the Bureau works to place younger animals into private care through adoption. Since 1973, the BLM has adopted out more than 218,000 horses and burros. Under a December 2004 amendment to the 1971 wild horse law, animals over 10 years old, as well as those passed over for adoption at least three times, are eligible for sale. Since that amendment took effect, the BLM has sold more than 2,500 horses and burros.

For information about the BLM's wild horse and burro program, see the agency's Internet Home Page at www.blm.gov; for information on how to adopt a wild horse or burro, see www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov.

OUTDOOR RETAILER WINTER MARKET, A BI-ANNUAL GATHERING FOR THE \$289 BILLION OUTDOOR INDUSTRY, OPENS WITH OVER 200 NEW EXHIBITORS PREVIEWING GEAR, TECHNOLOGY AND ACCESSORIES FOR NEXT YEAR

Outdoor Industry Association (OIA), premier trade association for active outdoor lifestyle industry, and Nielsen Business Media (NBM), parent company of Outdoor Retailer announce 15-year strategic alliance

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH (January 23, 2008) – Defying a rocky stock market, the twice yearly showcase for the \$289 billion outdoor industry opened on a note of high optimism with over 200 new exhibitors and buyers from around the world gathering to preview the latest in footwear, gear, apparel and accessories for next season. Building upon strong sales for the last quarter, new exhibitors joined industry veterans including Black Diamond, Patagonia, Smartwool, and Timberland to kick off this four-day show highlighting new innovations and advancements in the intersecting worlds of outdoor and winter sports. In a related announcement, Outdoor Industry Association (OIA), the premier trade association for the active outdoor lifestyle industry, and Nielsen Business Media (NBM), parent company of Outdoor Retailer, announced a 15-year strategic alliance. The show runs Jan. 23-26 at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City.

“This year’s show is overflowing with passion, incredible technology, and an extensive array of products designed to move this industry forward by bringing more people into the outdoor community,” said Kenji Haroutunian, Outdoor Retailer show director. “We worked very hard to establish an atmosphere that is business friendly but also celebrates the heart and soul of the industry. From backcountry skiing, to state-of-the-art technology, to a renewed commitment to protecting the environment, the show continues to be a proving ground for the best of the best.”

For the first time, Backcountry Basecamp was hosted by Snowbasin Resort where buyers could demo innovations in boots, bindings, eyewear, skis, snowshoes and winter sports apparel and accessories. “Backcountry is clearly at a tipping point,” continued Haroutunian. “The category reflects the energy of the next generation of consumers, and has ignited the wintersports marketplace.”

Today's opening breakfast, co-hosted by Outdoor Retailer and the Outdoor Industry Association, featured industry awards for the: 2008 Business Innovator awarded to Horny Toad's dealer toolbox for small format companies; Timberland's Green Index for large format companies; and the 2008 Ambassador Award was awarded to Mountain Gear for small format companies and the Sierra Club for large format companies.

Keynote speaker Michael Wood of TRU Youth Research Firm engaged the audience with his analysis of millennials, today's youth ages 12-19, who are consumed with technology and inundated by advertising. Wood reported that this audience is motivated to get outdoors for a feeling of freedom, escape from the grind, stress relief, and a sense of accomplishment along with an adrenaline rush. *Outerwear with heat controls, bamboo socks and satellite based messenger service for emergencies are front and center in preview of products for fall '08*

New Gear Featured at Outdoor Retailer

SALT LAKE CITY (January 18, 2008) – Outerwear with heat controls, a satellite based messenger service for emergencies, bamboo socks and footwear with recyclable components headline products for next year on display at the bi-annual gathering of the \$289 billion outdoor industry this week in Salt Lake City. The Outdoor Retailer Winter Market is the largest industry event playing host to over 17,000 attendees including CEOs, industry leaders, outdoor and winter sports manufacturers, 5,000+ retailers, athletes, and media.

“Manufacturers are introducing a new generation of equipment, apparel and accessories bringing more people outdoors,” said Kenji Haroutunian, show director for Outdoor Retailer Winter Market. “Newcomers are experiencing new levels of performance, comfort, fit and fashion, while outdoor devotees are seeing advanced technology enabling them to excel at their passions even in the toughest of conditions. What's more, across the board, consumers are demanding that products, whether they are sleeping bags, socks, insulation or outerwear, use components that will be far kinder to the planet.”

Electronics Enhance the Outdoor Experience

SPOT Inc. is introducing the SPOT Satellite Messenger, the first personal messaging device that allows users to *notify friends, family or an international 9-1-1 emergency call center* with status messages based on situation and need. Incorporating GPS and commercial satellite technology that provides coverage

beyond cellular phones, SPOT gives users three message options, plus the ability to create a progress record using Google Maps. www.findmespot.com

Rossignol (www.rossignol.com) will introduce the Hit jacket for women with four heating panels where consumers get heat by pressing the battery's button which triggers the system into a 20 minute cycle, which can be repeated 6 times. **Mountain Hardwear** (www.mountainhardwear.com) is showing the heated Red Savina Glove with a flexible lithium polymer battery for both men and women.

Green Trend Continues, along with Bamboo and Wool

Two of the industry's most respected insulation manufacturers, Primaloft® and Climashield®, are introducing green insulation. Primaloft Eco Insulation is 50% post-consumer recycled. Climashield's 100% recycled Climashield Green is showing up in Sierra Designs, Big Agnes and Kelty sleeping bags.



Brooks Sports (www.brooksrunning.com) will debut the Trance 8 featuring BioMoGo, the first biodegradable midsole. The sustainable footwear trend continues to be extremely strong with a significant increase in footwear brands using "green" components. Hunter Boot, the

proud maker of the Original Wellington boot, will use a Bamboo Carbon Lining in its Balmoral Technical Boot (www.hunter-boot.com).

Merrell's (www.merrell.com) new road running styles use environmentally-friendly materials and processes, including recycled mesh uppers and strobels boards, and materials that reduce the amount of water and energy in the manufacturing process.

"The wool story is less about product and more about transparency in the supply chain," continued Haroutunian. "As new technologies and fabrics emerge, the quest for industry consistency is strong."

The New Zealand Merino Company has created Zque, a traceable and accredited value chain that ensures high-quality New Zealand merino wool while meeting environmental, social and economic sustainability and animal welfare criteria. Customers like Ibex and Smartwool are now certifying garments as Zque.

Icebreaker clothing in '08 will feature a “Baa Code,” or a number that retailers and consumers can input at Icebreaker.com to see how the garment was made, start-to-finish.

Backcountry Attracts Next Generation of Outdoor Enthusiasts

“Backcountry is at the heart and soul of winter sports and is an inspiration for a new genre of apparel, gear and snowshoe design. Some retailers feel this growing segment has completely revitalized winter sports,” continued Haroutunian.

Easton is introducing backcountry snowshoes while Outdoor Research is introducing its Descent apparel collection for skiing and riding backcountry aficionados. Lastly, Highgear is showing the lightweight Axio Mini with the latest in altimeter technology with user-friendly features including a function that tracks ascent and descent rates while recording total elevation gained or lost.

Adventures on the ice

Winter fishing fun in Utah

Although many people get excited about fresh powder on Utah slopes, a growing number look forward to thick ice on Utah lakes and ponds. Plummeting temperatures—usually in late December and early January—herald the start of the ice fishing season.



In recent years, ice fishing has increased in popularity across the state. It's an activity everyone can enjoy and offers the chance to catch some big, hungry fish.

If you've never been ice fishing before, you probably have some questions: What clothes do I need? What equipment should I bring? Is the ice safe? What techniques work best?

These are all good questions, and with just a few simple precautions, you'll be ready for a fun, safe and successful day on the ice!

Keeping warm

Dressing warmly is critical to an ice fishing trip, but it's not as complicated as you might think.

The first tip is to dress in layers. The second is to remember that when wool and acrylic fibers (such as fleece) get wet, they retain more warmth than absorbent fibers (such as cotton).

It's best to start with lightweight socks and underwear. To those, you should add heavier socks, pants, shirts, sweaters or fleece coats along with a wind-resistant outer shell such as bibs, coveralls and a winter parka. Boots, a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, earmuffs and gloves—preferably waterproof and insulated—will help you stay warm and dry.

The advantage of layering clothes is that you can add or remove items as needed. First-time anglers often find that they wore too much, but it's wise to be prepared for the worst. Dressing in multiple layers allows you to be ready for any weather conditions.

One last thought about clothes: ice anglers need to be able to move about in all those layers. "Warmth," "comfort" and "mobility" are the fashion buzzwords for ice fishing.

The following community programs are happening at the Ogden Nature Center during February.

The Ogden Nature Center is located at 966 W. 12th Street in Ogden

To register for classes, please call 801-621-7595

www.ogdennaturecenter.org

Nature Valentines

Saturday, Feb. 9 / 10-11:30 am

Ages: All

Cost: \$6 / members, \$7 / non-members

Get ready for Valentine's day and explore your artistic side as you create valentines for friends, family, or that special someone using materials from nature's living palette. Instructor: Nancy Clark

Call to pre-register by Thursday, Feb. 7

Beginning Yoga

8-week course beginning Monday, Feb. 11 and ending Monday Mar. 31 /

6:30-7:45 pm

Ages: Adults

Cost: \$45 / members, \$50 / non-members (8 classes)

Invigorate your body and mind with a beginning course in Kundalini yoga and meditation with certified yoga instructor Bruce Fisk. Please bring a mat or blanket.

Call to pre-register by Friday, Feb. 8

Writing Nature Poetry

Tuesday, Feb. 12 / 6-7:30 pm

Ages: Adults

Cost: \$6 / members, \$7 / non-members

Nature Center teacher-naturalists William Pollett and Susan Snyder will discuss writing nature poetry. Participants will be given time to try their skills and should bring a notepad.

Call to pre-register by Monday, Feb. 11

Starry Starry Nights Preschool Program

Wednesday, Feb 13 / 9:30 am or 11 am

Thursday, Feb 21 / 9:30 am, 11 am or 1 pm

Cost: \$3 per child, adult chaperones are FREE

Get to know your night-time canopy. Explore the moon, stars, planets, galaxies, comets and more. Hear tales of the night sky and enjoy a ³midnight² snack. Geared for ages 3-5, programs last one hour

Bookworms -- Beowulf

Thursday, February 28 / 7 pm

Cost: FREE for members / \$3 for non-members

Join our discussion on Beowulf, translated by Seamus Heaney...exploring the natural and unnatural worlds.

Refreshments provided.

Rico - West Dolores Area Travel Management Plan Dolores Public Lands Office (Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management)

UPDATE: COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED

The Dolores Public Lands Office is taking public input on a new Travel Plan for the Rico - West Dolores area. This important plan will designate routes that will be

open to summer motor vehicle use on some 240,000 acres of National Forest lands in the Bear Creek, Taylor Mesa, Rico, Dunton, Black Mesa, and Stoner Mesa areas.

The stated goal of the Travel Plan is to sustain natural-resource values through more effective management of motorized vehicle use, enhance opportunities for motorized recreation experiences, and preserve areas for non-motorized experiences. In addition to designating routes for summer motor-vehicle use, the plan will include rules on dispersed camping, seasonal closures, and parking for day-use activities.

Written comments will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 25, 2008. Comments should be addressed to:

Penny Wu
Dolores Public Lands Office
29211 Hwy. 184
Dolores, CO 81323

Public comments will be used to shape a draft environmental assessment for a travel management plan which should be available by early spring for further public input. A final decision is expected by this summer.

**UPDATE: COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED - NEW DEADLINE:
February 13, 2008**

For more information about the Rico - West Dolores Travel Management Plan, please contact Penny Wu at (970) 882-6829. A copy of the Scoping Letter and Rico-West Dolores area map are available on the Forest's website at:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/sanjuan/projects/projects.shtml>.

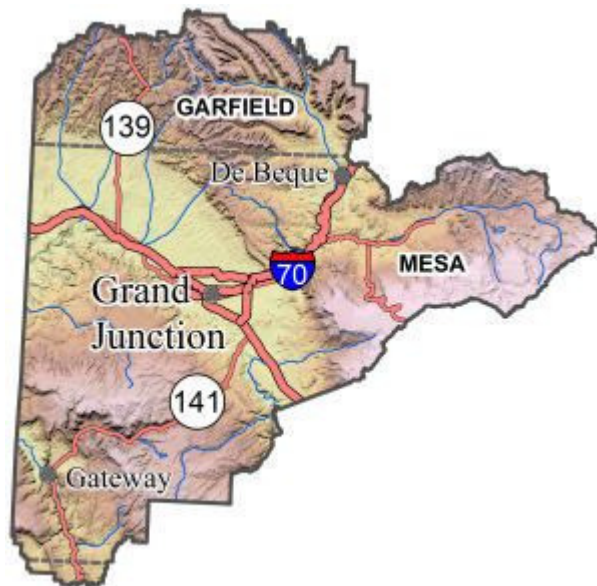
**Gateway Recreation Area Management Plan (Grand Junction Field Office)
Comment Deadline February 29, 2008**

The Bureau of Land Management Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO) has kicked off a recreation planning effort for the 198,000-acre Gateway Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The planning area is located in remote Mesa and Montrose Counties; the planning process is anticipated to take about 12 months to complete.

BLM plans to focus on designating travel opportunities; addressing commercial, competitive, special area, and organized group activities and events; identifying recreation needs; and defining recreation management objectives.

A Recreation Benefit Study was conducted by Arizona State University, with

assistance from Mesa State College, to provide a better snapshot of what kind of experiences those visiting the Gateway area were having and to find out what they wanted to see more of in the future. Both surveys and focus group meetings were used last summer during the study to develop a report on the findings.



The public may submit written comments to the BLM Grand Junction Field Office, ATTN: Gateway Plan, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, Colorado 81506; by fax to (970) 244-3083; or by email to GJFO_webmail@blm.gov. Planning

documents will be available for review at the Grand Junction Field Office or on-line at www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/gjfo.html. For additional information, contact Outdoor Recreation Planner Ken Straley at (970) 244-3031.

Learn More on the Web: Gateway Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP)
http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/gjfo/spotlight/gateway_recreation.html

BLM's Uncompahgre Field Office

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) has kicked off a travel planning effort to amend the Uncompahgre Basin and their portion of the San Juan/San Miguel Resource Management Plans. The BLM just finished a 45-day public scoping comment period intended to provide information about the project and to gather input from the public in identifying issues and concerns to be considered during the environmental review process

"The BLM will be working closely with interested publics throughout this planning process, with ample opportunities for everyone's involvement," Field Manager Barb Sharrow said. "It's important that we get the word out now that changes are necessary to protect resources that are seeing increased use."

The UFO proposes to change the existing "Open" designation to "Limited to Existing" for motorized and mechanized use within the entire field office, excluding the North Delta OHV Open Area as well as designated open areas within the planning boundary of the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area.

Additionally, a transportation system of designated roads and trails is being proposed within the Dry Creek area, which is defined by the USDA Forest Service boundary on the west, private land on the east, 25 Mesa Road on the north, and Dave Wood Road on the south. Travel planning in this area addresses all modes of travel including motorized, mechanized, equestrian and hiking routes. The entire planning area encompasses approximately 578,000 acres of BLM-administered public lands located in Delta, Montrose, Ouray, San Miguel, Mesa, and Gunnison Counties.

The public may submit written comments to the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office, ATTN: Travel Management, 2465 S. Townsend Avenue, Montrose, Colorado 81401; by fax to (970) 240-5368; or by email to cotmpufo@blm.gov. Planning documents may be reviewed at the Uncompahgre Field Office or on-line at www.co.blm.gov/ubra. For additional information, contact Outdoor Recreation Planner Julie Stotler at (970) 240-5310.

Travel Plan links http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/ufo/travel_management.html

GUNNISON BASIN TRAVEL PLANS COMBINED GUNNISON NATIONAL FOREST AND BLM GUNNISON FIELD OFFICE TRAVEL PLAN

UPDATE: GUNNISON NF EXPECTED TO RELEASE THEIR "PROPOSED ACTION" SOON. STAND BY FOR ANALYSIS AND CALL FOR COMMENTS

The Gunnison Field Office of the BLM is working together with the Gunnison National Forest and the public to develop and update our transportation plan for the Gunnison Basin. The joint effort will limit all motorized uses to designated roads, trails and areas. Any route NOT on the Final Travel Plan will be CLOSED.

Learn more on the web:

Forest Service website:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/policy/travel_mgmt/gun/index.shtml

BLM website:

http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/ufo/travel_management/tmp_amendment.html

Colorado BLM

San Juan Public Lands Center

San Juan Public Lands Center has released a Release Combined USFS/BLM Draft Management Plan for Public Comment. An accompanying draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) offers four alternatives proposing differing scenarios for multiple-use management of the San Juan's BLM and National Forest lands. An oil and gas leasing availability analysis is also included as part of the draft EIS.

The San Juan Public Lands Center manages 1.9 million acres of National Forest and more than a half million acres of BLM land, ranging from high-desert mesas to high-alpine peaks. Since the original management plans were finalized two decades ago, new pressures have been put on these public lands. Recreation has boomed, bringing with it environmental and social impacts. Timber-harvest practices have evolved as new science has become available. Fuels reduction is a new focus, and energy development is of high interest.

Beginning in January 2005, many southwestern Colorado citizens participated in community study groups to help the agencies identify ways to improve the existing plans. "We hope to see those people again, along with other interested citizens, at our new set of meetings early in 2008," said Thurman Wilson, San Juan Public Lands Assistant Center Manager for Planning. "We look forward to hearing everyone's ideas about how to improve the current draft proposal. What we learn over the next three months will help shape the final plan."

The Draft Plan and EIS address the main issues raised by the public, including balancing management between maintaining working forest and rangelands and retaining core undeveloped lands, providing recreation and travel management within a sustainable ecological framework, managing special area designations and unique landscapes, and managing impacts from oil and gas leasing and development. The four alternatives outline different management scenarios varying by land allocations in response to issues and concerns.

Public comments will be taken on the draft plan and EIS for the next 90 days. During the comment period they will hold public meetings to assist the people with understanding the documents and submitting comments. Continuing with the Community Study Group meeting format that was used in 2005-06, public meetings will be held at the following locations and dates:

January 16th, 2008 Cortez Holiday Inn/Koko's Conference Center
6:30- - 8:30 pm 2121 East Main
Cortez, Colorado

January 23, 2008 Durango Community Recreation Center
6:30- - 8:30 pm 2700 Main Avenue
Durango, Colorado

January 29, 2008 Pagosa Springs Community Center
6:30- - 8:30 pm 451 Hot Springs Blvd.
Pagosa Springs, Colorado

January 31, 2008 Silverton Town Hall
6:30- - 8:30 pm 1360 Greene Street
Silverton, Colorado

February 6, 2008 Rico Town Hall
6:30- - 8:30 pm 2 North Commercial
Rico, Colorado

Community Study Group members and all interested publics are encouraged to attend one of the meetings. The content at each meeting will include:

- A review of the organization of the documents to help readers navigate them
- Information about how to give comment
- Discussion about how the 2005-06 Study Group meetings (and overall public scoping comments) have been used to shape the DEIS alternatives and plan direction.

In addition to the above information, each meeting will be tailored to focus on the San Juan Public Lands most closely associated with each community (e.g., the Cortez meeting will be tailored to focus on the direction related to the Dolores).

Comments will be accepted until March 12, 2008, and can be offered via Web site at: <http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/forestPlan>, by FAX to: 916-456-6724, or by mail to San Juan Plan Revision, P.O. Box 162909, Sacramento, CA 95816-2909

The draft Plan and draft EIS can be viewed and downloaded in Portable Document Format (PDF), at the following Web site: <http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/forestPlan>. The documents are also available on compact disks (CD). Requests should be sent to San Juan Plan Revision Team, 15 Burnett Court, Durango, Colorado 81301. Requests can also be made by phone to Laura Stransky at 970-385-1216 or via email at lstransky@fs.fed.us.

A limited number of printed copies will be available at the following government offices during regular business hours:

- Columbine Public Lands Office, 367 Pearl Street, Bayfield, CO 81122 (970-884-2512)
- Dolores Public Lands Office, 29211 Highway 184, Dolores, CO 81323 (970-882-7296)
- Pagosa Public Lands Office, 180 Pagosa Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970-264-2268)
- BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, CO 80215
- USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region, 740 Simms Street, Golden, CO 80401

For more information, contact Thurman Wilson, Assistant Center Manager for Planning at (970) 385-1246.

Bison Coming to the Book Cliffs



Vernal -- In November 2007, the Utah Wildlife Board approved a plan that includes a transplant of 45 bison into Utah's Book Cliffs.

The management plan outlines in detail how the massive animals will be moved from their current range on the Henry Mountains and reintroduced to their native range on public land in the Book Cliffs.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) adhered to Utah's Wildlife

Code when preparing the bison management plan and coordinating the transplant.

The first phase of the bison transplant was scheduled

to occur in January 2008 but was delayed. Weather conditions and snow depths interfered with access to potential release areas, and the DWR wanted a more comprehensive plan for disease testing. The Uintah County Commission also requested a delay to the transplant project.

A cooperative effort

Although two years were spent on the actual management plan, many people and groups worked together for decades to make the transplant possible.

Sportsmen, ranchers, the DWR, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Nature Conservancy and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation all united to improve and secure wildlife habitat in the region. Ranches were purchased from willing sellers, grazing was leased, livestock distribution was enhanced and thousands of dollars of range improvements were completed (with more planned for the future).

A committee of 16 local stakeholders was formed to help develop the Northern Book Cliffs Bison Management Plan. This committee included a rancher who would be affected by the transplant, sportsmen, and representatives from oil and gas companies, the Ute tribe, the county commissioners, the BLM, the State Institutional and Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) and the DWR.

The cooperative organizations also reached agreements to ensure that the presence of bison would not restrict energy development in the region.

The public input and approval process

Before the Book Cliffs bison plan was approved, it was posted on the DWR's Web site for public comment. It was also presented across the state of Utah to all five Regional Advisory Councils (RACs).

The RACs are citizens' committees that listen to all public and interest group input before voting on wildlife-related issues. After the RAC assesses the public's concerns, its members vote on the issues and send a recommendation to the Utah Wildlife Board.

The Wildlife Board is made up of representatives from across the state. Appointed by the governor, board members give direction and decide policy for the DWR.

All five RACs approved the bison management plan and recommended that the Wildlife Board approve it as well. After reviewing the RAC recommendations and additional public input, the Wildlife Board passed the plan on November 29, 2007.

Bison and the Book Cliffs

Bison are native to the Uinta Basin, including the Book Cliffs. Accounts from early explorers and trappers place them on both the north and south slopes of the Uinta Mountains and in Browns Park. There are images of bison in Native American rock art throughout the Book Cliffs, and many bison skulls have been unearthed in the region.

Moving ahead

The DWR expects to begin the bison transplant within the coming year, as soon as disease protocols have been refined and transplant conditions are favorable.

The DWR does not anticipate bison will wander far from release sites or leave the Book Cliffs. Any bison that move to areas outside the bison management plan will be removed by herding, transplanting or hunting.

In the meantime, residents of Grand, Uintah and Duchesne counties can look forward to the day when they host one of the few free-ranging bison herds in North America.



More information

To review the Northern Book Cliffs Bison Management Plan, visit the DWR's Web site at www.wildlife.utah.gov/hunting .