

Artists Featured at Bear River Refuge

FORGET the craziness of holiday shopping after Thanksgiving! We invite you to Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge to take part in our "Nature in Art" Weekend!

On Friday, November 23 at 12:00 noon, Brian Currie will tell you everything you ever wanted to know about digital photography, but were afraid to ask. This presentation is appropriate for anyone who can operate a digital camera.



Also on Friday, from 2:00 to 3:30pm, Dave Prevedel will show you how to sketch, and keep a "nature journal".

On Saturday, November 24, local wildlife artist Michael Calles, will teach the basics of drawing wildlife from 10:30am to 12:00pm for ages 12 to adult. Clark Ostergaard will share his insights into drawing for the Jr. Duck Stamp Contest with children in grades K-12, from 1:00pm to 2:00pm. And Jean Hawrylo will teach kids ages 8-12 the basics of drawing ducks and

songbirds from 2:30 to 3:30pm. Mat the art work you create and give it to parents or grandparents for a holiday gift!

In addition, we'll have art work from a number of very talented Utah artists and photographers on display. Please come and view their spectacular work!



The Refuge is pleased to announce it's annual Photo Contest that day. Pick up information when you visit for the Nature in Art Weekend, or look for contest guidelines on our refuge website after December 1.

The Utah Jr. Duck Stamp Contest booklet with entry form and information will also be available during this open house. The contest is open to all children in grades K-12.

There is no charge for any of our activities, but please pre-register for all classes by calling (435) 723-5887 or emailing: bearriver@fws.gov. Questions about any events or announcements can be directed to this same

number. We hope to see you all after Thanksgiving!

Class Schedule for Friday and Saturday

Friday, November 23

12:00pm - 1:30pm "Digital Photography Basics" with Brian Currie

Learn everything you want to know about digital cameras - optical vs. digital zoom, megapixels, storage devices and manipulating photos on your computer.

2:00pm - 3:30pm "Nature Journaling" with Dave Prevedel

Basic drawing skills and mediums for a field notebook will be covered. Dave will guide you as you try your hand at sketching from pictures. For all ages.

Saturday, November 24

10:30am -12:00pm "Drawing Wildlife" with Michael Calles

Figure 1

Learn the basics of drawing wildlife from an expert. The class will draw from animal mounts. For ages 12 to adult.

1:00pm - 2:00pm "How to Draw a Duck Stamp" with Clark Ostergaard

Clark has competed in the Federal Duck Stamp Contest, and will provide pointers



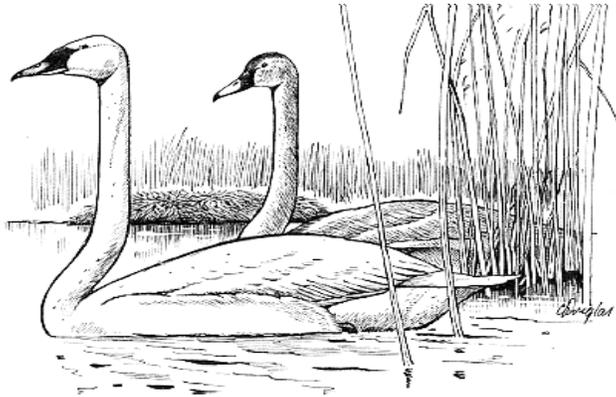
to student artists on drawing for the Jr. Duck Stamp Contest. Booklets for the 2008 contest will be available to parents and children in grades K-12.

2:30pm - 3:30pm "Drawing Birds" with Jean Hawrylo

Jean will show you the basics of drawing both songbirds and ducks. Mat your completed art project to give to parents or grandparents for a gift! For ages 8-12.

View artwork & photography on display by these local artists:

- Doug Allen
- Colleen Bradford
- Russell Case
- Carol Huckabee
- Dave Prevedel
- Adrian VanSuchtelen
- Jana Anderson
- Collette Bradford
- Darlene Ebeling
- Dave Kafton
- Kurt Robinette
- Cecil Whitt
- Tim Avery
- Michael Calles
- Jean Hawrylo
- Clark Ostergaard
- Donald Stewart
- Greg Woodard



“Swan Talk” at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

Scheduled Saturday 12/01/07, 1-3 pm this will be a special day to learn about swans and the differences between the Trumpeter and Tundra – Carl Mitchell, Wildlife Biologist of Grays Lake National Wildlife

Refuge presents a special program on how to distinguish between the two, and their biology and behaviors. Cost: \$1/child and \$5/max per family.

1:00 pm – Carl Mitchell’s Swan Presentation

2-3 pm – a Swan Story and Family Activities

Pre-Registration is Required Call (435) 723-5887

Bear River Refuge is located at 2155 W. Forest Street, Brigham City (I-15 exit #363, turn left one block to the Visitor Center). Contact Kathi Stopher @ 734-6438 for questions.

SPOT Satellite Messenger Now Available at REI

Outdoor retailer to carry new consumer satellite personal safety device

MILPITAS, Calif. (November 20, 2007) – SPOT Inc. today announced that Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI), a national retail cooperative providing quality outdoor clothing and gear, has signed an agreement to carry the SPOT Satellite Messenger in its retail stores nationally and online at www.rei.com. The

revolutionary new product is designed to raise the safety factor for millions of people around the world – particularly outdoor enthusiasts with a vital line of communication to friends, family and emergency services, independent of cellular coverage.



“REI is the true outdoor gear store that outdoor enthusiasts already know and trust, and we’re excited to work with REI to get this product into the hands of some of the people who want it most,” said Jim Shriver, National Sales Manager for SPOT Inc.

“Whereas GPS devices tell you where you are, the SPOT Satellite Messenger lets other people know where to find you. We’re confident that this key difference sets SPOT apart as a product offering and will prove irresistible to REI customers looking for the kind of value, utility and peace of mind it affords.”

“SPOT’s unique function and low price point make it a great extension to our wide selection of personal safety devices,” said Mike McCarty, Product Manager for REI.

“Whether you’re a hiker, backpacker or cross-country skier, and out of cell phone range, the Check-In feature, in addition to Alert 9-1-1, makes SPOT especially compelling.”

SPOT enables users, based on varying levels of need, to send messages to friends, family, or emergency responders, and to visually track the location of the SPOT Satellite Messenger:

- **Alert 9-1-1** notifies emergency responders of your GPS location
- **Ask for Help** sends a request for help to friends and family
- **Check-In** lets contacts know where you are and that you are OK
- **Track Progress** sends and saves your location and allows contacts to track your progress using Google Maps™

Weighing just more than seven ounces and priced at REI at less than U.S. \$150, the SPOT Satellite Messenger is ideal for the growing market of more than 64 million estimated outdoor enthusiasts in the U.S. specifically for backpacking, camping, hiking, ice and rock climbing, skiing, snowshoeing or recreational maritime activities.

SPOT is now available through REI, the SPOT - Web site (www.findmespot.com) and additional retail locations to be announced soon.

About SPOT, Inc.

The SPOT Satellite Messenger, the world's first satellite messenger, uses both the GPS satellite network to determine a customer's location and the SPOT network to transmit that information to friends, family or an



emergency service center. SPOT Inc., a subsidiary of Globalstar, Inc., (NASDAQ:GSAT) provides lifesaving communications technology that allows users to communicate from remote locations around the globe. Thanks to this affordable, cutting-edge personal safety device, the company offers people unmatched peace of mind by allowing customers to notify friends and family of their location and status, and to send for emergency assistance in time of need, completely independent of cellular phone or wireless coverage. For more information on how SPOT Inc. is helping users *live to tell about it*TM – from disaster preparedness to outdoor adventure purposes – visit www.findmespot.com.

About REI

REI is a national outdoor retail co-op dedicated to inspiring, educating and

outfitting its members and the community for a lifetime of outdoor adventure. Founded in 1938 by a group of Pacific Northwest mountaineers seeking quality equipment, REI operates retail stores nationwide, two online stores – <http://www.rei.com> and <http://www.rei-outlet.com> – and an adventure travel company, REI Adventures. REI offers products from all of the top brands for camping, climbing, cycling, fitness, hiking, paddling, snow sports and travel, including its own line of award-winning outdoor gear and apparel. While anyone may join or shop at REI, members pay a one-time \$15 fee and receive a share in the company's profits through an annual member refund based on their purchases. As an active supporter of the communities in which it does business, REI is committed to promoting environmental stewardship and increasing access to outdoor recreation through volunteerism, gear donations and financial contributions.

Red Butte Garden is the place to be December 1st and 2nd!

[Holiday Open House and Art Fair](#) 10 am - 5 pm

Free Admission thanks to Zoo, Arts & Parks (ZAP)

Back by popular demand is the 6th annual Red Butte Garden Holiday Open House and Art Fair. Pour a cup of complimentary hot cocoa or cider then stroll through the Richard K. Hemingway Orangerie to see what treasures the local art community has available for holiday gift-giving. Artists have been selected from a number of varying mediums including; jewelry, woodwork, metal work, pen & ink, paintings, and much more!



http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Holiday_Open_House/?c=Holiday_Open_House_and_Art_Fair.inc

[Wreath Workshop](#)

Join us in spreading a little holiday cheer with hand-made creations of your own. We'll provide the know-how and all the supplies, as well as the holiday music and festive atmosphere. Staff and volunteers will be on hand to help you make your wreath the envy of the neighborhood. Call 581-8454 and register today as spots are filling up fast!

Holiday Discount for Members

10 am – 5 pm

Red Butte Garden Members get an additional 10% off in the Gift Shop. This means that members receive 20% off unique gifts for everyone on your list—and maybe something special for you too!

http://www.redbuttegarden.org/Classes_and_Events/?c=Workshops.inc#WW1

How Much Do You Use Decoys?

The NWTF is constantly trying to offer the most updated information to its members and volunteers. One of the ways we find out what our members want is through surveys. Please take a few minutes to fill out this short survey on your decoy use. This will help the NWTF and our sponsors understand your needs and wants.

Survey link: <http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2275YFFU5PZ>

Holiday Shupe Concerts scheduled

Ryan Shupe & the RubberBand has co-founded an incredible Christmas tour called "The Gift" that will kick off Nov. 30th with performances at 5 Wasatch front venues.

The band will be joined by contemporary folk favorite Peter Breinholt and



master storyteller and songwriter Sam Payne for a night unlike any other.

Visit the website to purchase tickets and to see more about the tour.

<http://m1e.net/c?72244721-bElHbod9vR6s.%402916859-uJwwTN4pTjBNQ>

Tickets are going fast, so get yours today! Here is the Schedule.

November 30th, 2007
Logan, UT
7:30 p.m.
Ellen Eccles Theater

December 6th, 2007
Orem, UT
7:30 p.m.
McKay Events
Center

December 8th,
2007
Sandy, UT
7:30 p.m.
South Towne
Expo Center



December 19th, 2007
Richfield, UT
7:30 p.m.
Sevier Valley Center Arena

December 20th, 2007
St. George, UT
7:30 p.m.
Cox Auditorium

Music comes alive when it is interactive, and what better way to be a part of the show, than to celebrate its theme with the band. We have organized a unique opportunity to join us in giving back to the community this Christmas season.

We are going to donate our time and service to a charitable cause before the show. We encourage all of our fans to do the same. Please send us an email (to comments@shupe.net) or post a message (on our website message board) and let us know what you did. Then we'll get together for a big concert to celebrate.

Also, the Utah Food Bank will have donation bins set up at each of the shows in "The Gift" tour. We encourage everyone to come and celebrate the spirit of giving by bringing canned goods to donate.

Their website is found at

<http://m1e.net/c?72244721-.woAFsgkPIRyE%402916860-7cj/38vCrEaPE>



Cold weather, hot fishing

See what's striking at Bear Lake

Only the toughest anglers make the trip. They trek to Utah's northernmost lake during the darkest, coldest months of the year. If you join them, you'll face frigid wind and water, and often a thick layer of ice.

But the payoff is worth it: you can hook a large, tasty native sport fish found nowhere else in the world.

Bonneville whitefish live and spawn only in the stunning blue waters of Bear Lake. Adult fish can be up to 23 inches long and are easiest to catch during the late fall spawning season and throughout the winter months.

Not your average whitefish

The Bonneville whitefish is a completely different species than the mountain whitefish, which is found in many Utah streams and lakes.

The two species are similar in appearance and color, but that's about the only thing they have in common. Bonneville whitefish have larger mouths and a completely different diet.

After Bonneville whitefish reach roughly 12 inches in length, they begin

feeding on other fish almost exclusively. In contrast, their river "cousins" feed only on insects.

And because Bonneville whitefish are lake dwellers, they don't develop the strong bones that mountain whitefish need to fight relentless river currents. These bones are often a deterrent for anglers, who find mountain whitefish too much of a hassle on the dinner plate.

Bonneville whitefish are a different story. Much less bony, they have a nice firm, white flesh and are easy to prepare. They are good deep-fried, baked, smoked or grilled.

Angling from shore

Bonneville whitefish typically begin spawning around Thanksgiving and continue through the middle of December. During these months, they move to shallow rocky areas off the shoreline on both the east and west sides of Bear Lake.

This fall, lake levels are lower than normal, which will increase fish concentrations near the shoreline. This should make the fish easier to catch because they won't be as spread out as they are during high water years.

If you plan to fish from shore, chest waders or hip boots will allow you to walk out a few extra feet and cast your line further.

Popular spots to catch Bonneville whitefish from shore include Bear Lake Marina in Garden City and along the rocky shoreline on the east side of the lake at First Point, Second Point and Cisco Beach.



WARNING: Whirling disease was found in the Northeastern Region on both the north and south slope of the Uinta Mountains. It is believed anglers are now the main source of movement of the parasite that causes whirling disease. To avoid spreading the disease, do not move fish or fish parts from one water to another. Clean the fish well away from the water and dispose of the unwanted parts in the garbage. If that's not possible then bury it in a deep hole or burn it completely. One infected fish carcass can contain over a million spores. Also, make sure to clean, dry and sterilize waders, live wells and other fishing gear before venturing to another water or above a diversion (such as a small dam) which are being built to stop the movement of infected fish.

BIG SAND WASH RESERVOIR: Anglers report fair to good fishing for rainbow trout. Most angling being done by boat as West side access was eliminated by the reconstruction of the dam. A new access site is being negotiated and hopefully open by next summer. Try fishing top water flies and lures or a floating bait to clear the submerged vegetation and boulders. Catchable-sized fish and fingerlings have been stocked to provide immediate and long-term fisheries.

BULLOCK / COTTONWOOD RESERVOIRS: Cottonwood was drained to work on the outlet and is now being refilled. No new reports, water is murky due to refill. Remember tiger musky have a size limit, all fish under 40 inches must be released immediately. Use of heavy tackle and a steel leader to protect your line is advised for those fishing for tiger musky. Snagging is illegal. Small boats can be launched from undeveloped sites near the dams when the water level is high but with the present levels it's questionable. Reservoirs are located approximately five miles north of the town of Gusher.

BROUGH RESERVOIR: Reports are of good fishing for a mix of large browns and rainbows. Most anglers fish from the bank or portable boats as there is no boat ramp or even a good place to launch due to the mud. The reservoir is managed under trophy catch and release regulations, please read proclamation. Use of heavier tackle to bring the fish in quickly and keeping the fish completely underwater when handling greatly increases odds of survival. Some water in the canal but it seems to be filling slowly and not murky as of last week. 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. Follow this road approximately two miles staying to the left at each main fork. Road can be quite rutted.

BROWNIE / SHEEP CREEK / SPIRIT LAKE: Last reports are good fishing for brook and rainbow trout with a few cutthroat also being taken. Area was receiving storms so access is questionable. Warning: whirling disease was found in this area, please do not clean fish or dump fish parts taken from one lake or stream to another. Also make sure to clean, dry and sterilize waders, live wells and other fishing gear before venturing to another water, as this will also move whirling disease.

CALDER / CROUSE RESERVOIRS: Most reports are of good fishing. Some larger fish have been taken from both reservoirs. The new "trophy " regulation (flies and lures only, no baits) for Calder began January 1, 2007. Please read the proclamation for details on the new regulations.

CURRENT CREEK RESERVOIR: We've been receiving reports of fair to good fishing from anglers. Cooler weather has brought the fish back up towards the surface. Last reports were roads are open and in good condition, however that can change at any time with winter storms. Please check with the ranger station at Strawberry.

EAST PARK / OAKS PARK: Anglers have reported fair to good fishing. Oaks Park has more water than usual due to work on its pipeline, while East Park is quite low. Anglers are also reporting good fishing on some of the streams in the area. The entire Red Cloud Loop road system is open, however storms may make travel difficult so watch the weather.

FLAMING GORGE RESERVOIR: Launching boats is possible on all ramps. Current surface water temp 46 to 50° F.

Lake Trout Fishing: Good to excellent fishing for small lake trout on most areas of the reservoir. Fish are in traditional areas on underwater humps and points and also closer to shorelines. Fishing for smaller lake trout (less than eight pounds.) from the river arms south in 40 to 100 feet was good. The canyon area in UT was producing limits of fish with very fast catch rates. Use downriggers to troll spoons and minnow plugs within 10 to 20 feet of the bottom or look for suspended fish 40 to 70 feet. Good colors for spoons and plugs include chartreuse, orange and white. If fish are concentrated try jigging. Good jig colors are white, brown and chartreuse. Try tipping jigs with a small chunk of sucker meat if you can see them on your graph but can't get them to bite with a plain jig. If you are seeing fish near structure in 100-plus feet, these will probably be lake trout. Use no stretch line to feel strikes and set the hook better. Unlike their larger relatives, the smaller lake trout are excellent table fare 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. Reports of slow to fair fishing for larger fish. Larger fish are finishing the spawn so fishing should pick up soon. For larger lake trout try trolling plugs on downriggers, steel or lead core in Jarvies, Sheep Creek, Linwood, Stateline, Antelope flat, Anvil Draw. Also jigging with three- to 10-inch jigs can work well. Big lake trout eat big food so lures and jigs can be big also. Long-lining crankbaits also works this time of year. Remember, only one fish over 28 inches may be kept.

Kokanee fishing: Immediately release all kokanee caught from Sept. 10 to Nov. 30 to protect spawning fish. Kokanee may still be caught and released.

Rainbow fishing: Good to excellent fishing for rainbows on most of the reservoir. If fishing from a boat try trolling spoons or rapalas with downriggers or try long lining with at least 100 feet of line behind boat. Running planer boards close to shore also works well. The fish range from shallow water close to shore to 50 feet deep so try fishing in several depths if having poor luck. Most colors of spoons and minnow lures will work but go with lures in the one to two inch size. If fishing on bottom, try a worm and marshmallow combo to keep the bait slightly off the bottom. Casting spoons, spinners or smaller crankbaits from shore also works well. In the Utah portion, Sheep Creek, Jarvies, Linwood Bay, Mustang Ridge and off the dam visitor center are all good locations to catch rainbows from shore.

Burbot fishing: 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 long and about 1/4 to 1/2 ounces. Tipping with sucker meat may help catch fish. These fish are fairly shallow (10 to 40 feet) in the Wyoming end of the reservoir. Reports of fast catch rates in 20 to 50 feet of water. 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 four or five pounds. 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. They 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.

Smallmouth bass fishing: Smallmouth fishing is slow as smallmouth tend not to bite well at temps near or below 50° F. 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. Good fishing on the river. The traffic on the river has dropped and fishing success has increased.

Fishing will continue to improve through the fall and use on the river will continue to drop. Brown Trout are spawning so be aware of spawning redds when wading. Please remember the slot limit size range has changed from 13 to 20 inch to 15 to 22 inches to make regulations more consistent statewide. Dry fly fishing has

slowed. Nymphing action was good to excellent. Flies to try include: midges and very small Baetis patterns. On occasion, Chernobyl's and caddis have been good too. Nymphing with glo-bugs and San Juan worms with smaller nymphs trailing was the workhorse. Streamers are working well and have been extremely good some days. Size 2 to 4 buggers such as Goldilox and patterns in olive, pink and white. Check out www.fishgreenriver.com for up-to-date fly info. 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 plastic jigs contain no fish attracting scents or salts, as they are illegal to use in the river.



GREEN RIVER: (lower) No new reports from anglers. Should be fair to good fishing for catfish, carp and other fish.

MATT WARNER RESERVOIR: Anglers reported good fishing for three age classes of fish. Roads were dry and easily accessible from both Highway 191 and Diamond Mountain Road. Water level is holding up well considering the drought.

MOON LAKE: Reports of fair to good fishing for several species. The lake contains a variety of trout and kokanee. Anglers reporting catching fish from both the shore and boats.

PELICAN LAKE: Anglers are reporting slow fishing for bass and bluegill. The cold weather has mostly shut down the warm water fishing until the reservoir ices up. Waterfowl hunters are also using the area.

RED FLEET RESERVOIR: Recent reports indicate good fishing for rainbows with an occasional brown trout. Bass and bluegill fishing was slow. Try fishing the shoreline areas with the most cover such as rocky points or submerged vegetation. The trout have moved back up into the surface waters and will often cruise the shorelines looking for minnows, crayfish and other prey.

STARVATION RESERVOIR: Reports from anglers of slow fishing for yellow perch, walleye and bass. Brown and rainbow trout fishing has picked up due to cooler water temperatures. Trout will be found near rocky shoreline structures or along the weed beds looking for minnows and other prey.

STEINAKER RESERVOIR: Anglers reported fair to good fishing for rainbows and slow for bass and bluegill. Try to find areas with cover such as rocks and submerged vegetation. The fish are moving into the shallows looking for minnows and other prey.

UINTA MOUNTAIN LAKES AND STREAMS: Have heard of some fair to excellent fishing for all species of trout on clear-running streams and mid- to high-country lakes. Browns are fall spawners and are active in many of the larger streams and rivers. Brook trout are also fall spawners and can be found in many smaller streams and mountain lakes. Try brightly colored lures or jigs, trout baits like worms and putty baits or flies by matching the insect hatch. Fishing success on mountain lakes and streams can be spotty so if one hole or lake 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. Some of the shallower waters are getting a film of ice during cold nights, usually melts the next day. Won't be long before these waters ice up. Always go prepared for serious weather, as the Uinta Mountains are well known for frequent unexpected storms and high winds. The Uinta Mountains have a four-trout limit with a bonus of four more brook trout — see proclamation for details.

BEAR LAKE: Surface water temperature at Bear Lake is 48°! Launching is no longer available at First Point ramp or Rainbow Cove ramp due to low water levels. The ramp at Cisco Beach and the Bear Lake State Park Marina are still available. For real-time weather (wind speed, water temp, air temp, lake elevation) visit BearLakeWatch.com Fishing for lake trout has started to slow down compared to the last few weeks, however, some days are still very good. The best luck has come to anglers who are either jigging with tube jigs tipped with cisco or trolling with downriggers on top of the rock pile off Gus Rich Point or off the new rockpiles north of the Utah State Park marina. Best luck has come from water 30 to 45 feet deep. Some luck for lake trout was reported by anglers casting from shore at the Utah State Park marina. Lake trout are pretty much done with their spawning season although a few stragglers will remain. After the spawn, the fish will begin to feed and fishing should remain steady. Whitefish fishing should begin to pick up around Thanksgiving and continue though mid-December. 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: 41° 58.097; 111° 23.682; 41° 58.187; 111° 23.728; 41° 58.292; 111° 23.765; 41° 58.418; 111° 23.798;

BIRCH CREEK RESERVOIR: Fishing reports still indicate that fishing is good for tiger trout.

LOGAN RIVER: (Report courtesy of Pavlik Kasnov from Western Rivers Fly Shop in Logan) Fishing was fair to good over the past week on the Logan. The water levels remain low, so the fish are very easily spooked. Pocket water seems to produce the most successful fishing. Try to use a dropper rig. Fish a dry fly such as a parachute Adams, a pale morning dun, or an Adams on the top, and a small copper john, hares ear, or PMD emerger for the dropper nymph below. I like to use about 18 inches of 6X tippet between the flies. If you come across an area of consistent rises, use a #20 to 24 Griffith Gnat with 6X or smaller tippet. Once again, the fish are extremely easy to spook right now, so use caution when you cast or wade in the water. Rainfall tends to produce more fishing success because it stirs the water a bit. Bait fishing at the dams has also been fair. The best time is in the mornings before the sun is up. I had most of my success on salmon eggs and ground beef. Use thin leader (four-pound test or thinner), and small hooks. Most of the fish caught at the dams are small rainbow and albino trout.

PINEVIEW: (Report courtesy of Sorno Sorensen, DWR habitat biologist) As of Nov. 9, 2007 surface water temperature at Pineview is about 47° F. The reservoir elevation is now rising and remnants of turnover (surface scum) remain despite increasing water clarity at depth. Very little angler pressure was observed. Most notably, a couple of boats working over the Windsurfer Beach area, presumably for crappie and/or smallmouth bass. A few shore anglers were witnesses near the boat ramp and the Yacht Club area. No reports were obtained regarding any angling success; but I think the guys in the boats were trying to keep it on the down low. Maintenance is currently underway on the boat ramp at the Port Ramp site. Crews are scouring the sediment out from between the concrete ties and filling the gaps with new concrete. Boat launching is still possible. Most hazard and No Wake zone buoys have long been removed.

ROCKPORT RESERVOIR: Good fishing was reported for nice rainbows up to 15 inches using yellow PowerBait.

Whirling disease discovered in Springville State Fish Hatchery

SALT LAKE CITY — Late last week, fish pathologists with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources discovered DNA evidence of *Myxobolus cerebralis*, the parasite that causes whirling disease, in rainbow trout at the Springville State Fish Hatchery.

Skeletal deformations, like these in a mature Brook trout, are caused by whirling disease.

Photo courtesy of US Fish & Wildlife Service



Whirling disease affects trout and salmon, resulting in deformations and neurological damage that cause the fish to "whirl."

None of the four-inch trout were stocked in Utah waters. Per DWR protocols, the population of 60,000 fish will be destroyed, and the hatchery will be shut down until a new water supply is secured. The infected fish, weighing approximately 6,000 pounds, are a small fraction of the one million pounds of fish raised annually in state hatcheries.

Surplus rainbow trout at the other hatcheries will ensure that plenty of fish are available to stock Utah waters in the coming year.

The discovery was made during routine disease testing of the young rainbows. While disappointed, DWR officials were not completely surprised. The Springville hatchery also experienced an outbreak in 2005 when whirling disease was discovered in the main water supply.

DWR Aquatics Section Chief, Walt Donaldson, notes that the agency is committed to stocking healthy fish, "Good science requires that we not stock infected fish. We discovered the problem, notified the Fish Health Policy Board and are committed to sustaining healthy fisheries."

The agency is taking another critical step as well. It is currently digging a well to secure a clean water source from an underground aquifer. Officials hope this measure will prevent future occurrences of the disease at the Springville site when it reopens.

The public can also help prevent the spread of whirling disease across Utah. Officials urge anglers to take the following steps when fishing in Utah waters:

Remove mud from all equipment, including boats, trailers, waders, boots, float tubes and fins before leaving a fishing area. Thoroughly dry equipment in the sun if possible before reuse. If you are traveling directly to other

waters, clean your equipment with a 10 percent solution of chlorine bleach or use another set of equipment.

Do not use felt-soled waders; they provide an ideal hiding place for the spores that cause whirling disease.

Do not transport live fish between bodies of water.

Do not dispose of fish heads, skeletons or entrails in any body of water. Fish parts should be disposed of in the garbage, by deep burying or by total burning.

Moab RMP and Travel Plan comment period ends November 30, 2007.

The Moab BLM has released its Draft Resource Management Plan (DRMP) and Draft Travel Plan for public comment.

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) is pushing hard to close as much of Moab as they can via this planning process.

Since the planning process began, SUWA has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars taking pictures and paying for analysis “documenting extensive resource

damage.” Much of this effort is targeted on specific trails and, of course, the White Wash Sand Dunes.

Worse, the BLM seems all too willing to help SUWA by proposing an outrageous plan for the Dunes!

Get this: BLM’s plan for the Dunes includes closing nearly all of the existing campsites until a developed campground is built, requiring all users to pay fees via “individual Special Recreation Permits,” and requiring fences be built around all of the cottonwood trees and “water sources!”

This Action Alert is designed to help you formulate your comments on BLM’s draft plan. We made it very easy via our ***3 Step Moab Action Plan***.

Please take a minute to read the enclosed information and help us defend responsible recreation in Moab!

As always, if you have any questions, please call or email.

Michael Swenson

Executive Director, USA-ALL

mike@usaall.org



801-798-6996

Toll free 800-944-UTAH (8824)

Brian Hawthorne Ric Foster

Public Lands Policy Director, BRC Public Lands Department Manager, BRC

brbrian@sharetrails.org brrichard@sharetrails.org

208-237-1008 ext 102 208-237-1008 ext 107

PS: I can't stress enough how important it is for you to get involved and get your comments in. The plan for White Wash Sand Dunes is just one of many "poison pills" BLM has cooked up in an effort to set the stage for future closures. Check www.sharetrails.org regularly for updates.



USA-ALL / BRC

3 STEP MOAB ACTION PLAN

INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1:

Read the SITUATION statement below and use the addresses provided there to prepare a draft letter or email. Once you get your draft started, go to the COMMENT INFO pages enclosed.

STEP 2:

On the COMMENT INFO pages, read the issue “ISSUE” statements and decide which issues you want to comment on. IMPORTANT NOTE: *You do not have to comment on every issue!* The idea is to mix and match your comments on the issues that are important to you.

STEP 3:

Next, use the “COMMENT SUGGESTIONS” below each ISSUE as materials to help you write your comment letter (each suggested comment has a bullet).

Remember, *you do not have to comment on every issue -- and you don't need to use every bullet point comment in your letter.* Again, the idea is to mix and match, and add some personal info if you can.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

A good comment letter starts with a brief paragraph about yourself and a bit about what you like to do when you visit the Moab field office. One more thing...

Anonymous comments are often discarded, so be sure to include your name and address in your letter or email.

SITUATION:

The Draft Resource Management Plan (DRMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Moab Field Office has been



released for public review and comment. The Moab DRMP/DEIS and supporting information is available on the project web site at:

<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning.html>.

In addition to a new RMP, Moab BLM will be formulating a Travel Plan for motorized vehicles and mountain bikes. Motorized and mountain bike travel will be limited to designated roads, trails and areas.

The BLM has set a deadline of November 30, 2007, for receiving information and comments pertaining to the Alternatives and the analysis presented in the DEIS. Feedback regarding the four proposed alternatives will be used to formulate a Proposed Resource Management Plan, and ultimately, a Final Resource Management Plan and Travel Plan.

Comments and other information may be submitted electronically at:

UT_Moab_Comments@blm.gov.

Comments and other information may also be submitted by mail to: Moab Field Office RMP Comments, Bureau of Land Management, Moab Field Office, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, UT 84532.

COMMENT INFO:

ISSUE: The “Park-ification” of BLM lands



Sadly, today’s BLM seems to have all but abandoned the time-honored and proven principles of Multiple Use/Sustained Yield. BLM lands are meant to be different than National Parks or Wilderness. The BLM has a Congressional mandate to manage these lands pursuant to the Multiple Use/Sustained Yield

paradigm described in law. We believe under multiple use/sustained yield, OHV enthusiasts, mountain bikers, hikers, energy developers, equestrians and the like can share public lands and use them wisely.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- Not all uses are mutually exclusive. There are multiple uses that can and should occur parallel to one another.
- I believe that recreational, agricultural and industrial uses of public lands can and should coexist and share our public lands.
- Management objectives that use such things as primitive recreation zones, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and so-called “areas with wilderness character” to create a de-facto Wilderness management are unlawful.
- Congress put a deadline on inventory and study for Wilderness. The BLM should no longer be allowed to manage solely for “wilderness character.”

- I strongly oppose SUWA's proposal.

ISSUE: BLM formulated three Alternatives, but there isn't much difference between them, and worse, the "pro-motorized" Alternative is LESS friendly to motors than the Preferred Alternative! (In Alt. D, the Rabbit Valley/Westwater area is non-motorized!

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:



- Alternative D fails to provide a true motorized focus.
- I strongly support designating the Utah Rims Special Recreation Management Area with a motorized and mountain bike emphasis.

ISSUE: White Wash Sand Dunes management plan is totally unacceptable and unworkable.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- Tell the BLM that you oppose the fee system contemplated in Alternatives C and D. Fee systems are inherently controversial and often unpopular with the recreating public.



- If funding for infrastructure needs cannot be met with existing funding and grant programs, then any fee system should require the full involvement of the Recreational Fee Advisory Council, BLM's Resource Advisory Council and the affected user group.
- BLM's open area in Alternative C and D must be expanded.
- Requiring fences around the cottonwood trees and "water sources" is both impractical and unnecessary. We strongly oppose this provision of the Draft Plan.
- BLM's open area should be located along easily identified geologic features, or preferably along boundary roads of Ruby Ranch Road on the West, Blue Hills Road on the North, and Duma Point/Ruby Ranch (back way) on the East.

ISSUE: Although many popular ATV routes are open roads in Moab BLM's Travel Plan, some ATV trails are not proposed as open and some of the motorcycle routes should be designated as ATV/motorcycle trails as well.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- Some of the "motorcycle trails" are very popular with ATV users. The Final Travel Plan should designate a mix of single track and ATV trails.
- The FEIS should consider designating more ATV trails, especially between White Wash and Red Wash. We strongly suggest looking closely at the proposal developed by Ride with Respect.

ISSUE: Moab BLM is closing a huge number of dispersed campsites. Moab BLM is proposing a "vehicle camping only in designated campsites" in the entire Field Office. Such a restrictive policy would be appropriate for National Parks or National Monuments, but for Public Lands this is truly unheard of.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- Tell the BLM that you oppose the camping policy as outlined in Appendix E.
- The analysis does not tell us how many campsites would be closed under each Alternative.
- Tell the BLM that you support a policy where existing campsites are open unless determined closure was necessary via lawful public planning process.
- Tell the BLM that it is very important that the final plan must mandate full public involvement in any establishment and management of "restricted camping areas" or "controlled camping areas."



ISSUE: BLM states the "user conflict" issue as a question: *How should recreational uses be managed to limit conflicts among recreational users?* A quick read of BLM's draft plan indicates that their answer is to create "exclusive use zones."

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- When addressing "user conflict," the final plan should avoid "exclusive use zones" where, based on perceived or potential "user conflict," one or more "conflicting uses" is prohibited.
- In order to address the "user conflict" issue, the final plan should direct land managers to educate the non-motorized visitors where they may encounter vehicle traffic in certain areas as well as informing them of areas where they may avoid such encounters.
- The final plan should direct land managers to educate vehicle-assisted visitors of where a road or trail might be shared with non-motorized visitors, and if appropriate, direct slower speeds.
- If "user conflict" can be documented, the BLM should simply re-route one of the uses. For example, a hiking trail can be constructed to avoid a section of popular OHV route, or an equestrian trail may be constructed to avoid a section of popular mountain bike route, etc.

ISSUE: Special Recreation Management Areas: BLM uses something called a "Special Recreation Management Area" to manage recreation. Each SRMA is supposed to have its focus clearly described in the RMP.



COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- All SRMAs with a motorized focus should include direction regarding when and how additional or expanded routes/areas would be provided should there be a need.
- SRMAs and their "focus areas" should avoid excluding other uses categorically.

The Preferred Alternative clearly shows Moab BLM recognizes the importance of providing some motorized routes in non-motorized "zones."

- The Utah Rims SRMA is necessary to properly manage this popular area. It should have a motorized and mountain bike focus, and include the ability to designate or construct routes should they be needed in the future. In addition, limiting camping to one small designated area, in the RMP, is not wise. The RMP should provide general direction and not limit camping in such a way.

- The Utah Rims SRMA should extend further southwest to encompass Mel's Loop and beyond. Increased visitation there warrants the more active management of a SRMA. This larger area would also provide enough room for a full-day's motorcycle ride, and the establishment of a mountain bike focus area.
- BLM should consider a SRMA in the Yellowcat area. Yellowcat is increasingly popular for four wheeling and ATV riding. Designating a SRMA there could utilize the dense network of mine roads that already exist.

ISSUE: In the Moab Field Office, true mountain bike single track trails are in short supply.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- The Mill Canyon - Sevenmile Rim biking focus area should be expanded as Mill Canyon -Tusher Rims in order to provide better terrain for pedaling.
- The Final Plan should extend the South Spanish Valley biking area further south toward Black Ridge.



ISSUE: The OHV community generally supports the “travel limited to designated roads trails, and areas.” The Moab field office is home to several popular “open areas,” but BLM’s plan is not quite enough.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- The White Wash open area is much too small. This area should be expanded.
- An open area in addition to White Wash could provide different terrain for everything from bicycle free riding, to trials motorcycling, to hardcore rock crawling. As 99% of the Moab Field Office becomes limited to designated routes, open areas play an even more critical role for accommodating specialized sports. Perhaps parts of Black Ridge could remain unrestricted for this purpose.



- The Sand Flats Recreation Area could adopt special policies to permit slickrock exploration. We support Ride with Respect's recommendation that mountain bike travel be allowed on any barren rock surface. Slickrock within one hundred yards of a

designated route could be open to motorized travel. This two-hundred yard corridor would accommodate the ways that people currently enjoy Sand Flats.

ISSUE: Some important motorcycle trails are missing from all alternatives. The preferred alternative includes about 100 miles of true motorized single-track.

Alternative D adds another 100 miles. But in total, the final plan should keep roughly 300 miles of non-road motorcycle routes from being closed.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- Travel Plan Alternative D falls short of providing sufficient motorcycling opportunities. Since no single-track inventory was performed, the BLM should continue accepting data on existing routes and consider them for implementation.
- The Utah Rims single-track network should include at least 25 miles of additional routes, in order to be as complete as the Dee Pass network.
- In particular, long-distance single-tracks and rugged roads that connect SRMAs offer a unique experience. The Copper Ridge Motorcycle Loop should be combined with Thompson Trail in the final plan.
- A few more non-riparian washes should be left open, especially in the Cisco Desert. Wash riding is very popular. These travel-ways provide ATV and motorcycle riders an unconfined challenge that roads cannot.



ISSUE: Keep White Wash Sand Dunes Open!

The idea of closing the popular Dune area to OHVs didn't just come from SUWA. According to information BRC obtained, a proposed ACEC that would close the area to motorized use was formulated from within the Moab BLM office itself! In an incredible show of chutzpah, some in the Moab BLM are still pushing the plan to close the Dunes to motors and making it a "hiking and equestrian" area (in Alternative B).

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- I strongly oppose the ACEC proposals in Alternative B. The White Wash ACEC is especially inappropriate.

ISSUE: There is a need for additional mountain bike, trials motorcycle and rock crawling focus areas. The BLM is drastically reducing the "open" areas which will concentrate a lot of use currently dispersed all over the field office. To properly manage recreation, the final plan needs to include additional focus areas.

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- Tell the BLM you support the proposal by Ride with Respect for additional mountain bike, trials motorcycle and rock crawling focus areas.

ISSUE: Route specific comments:

It is important to understand that SUWA is spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on photos and "environmental analysis" designed specifically to close individual routes. Any specific comment on any road or trail, whether proposed as open or closed, is useful and we believe taking the time and effort to do so will be very worthwhile. Use **BRC's maps** located at

www.sharetrails.org/uploads/PL/Moab_2007/ to help you identify the routes.

Below are just a few suggestions:

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING ROUTES OPEN:

- The last bit of Gemini Bridges road. There are very few natural stone bridges that can be driven across. This thrill has been available for decades. Please keep this open.
- The Thompson Trail and the Copper Ridge loop as proposed by Ride with Respect.

- Ten Mile Wash has been a popular OHV route for several decades now. Many riparian washes are being proposed for closure. Popular washes that have had vehicle use for many years should remain open.

SAMPLE LETTER/EMAIL

Moab Field Office RMP Comments

Bureau of Land Management, Moab Field Office

82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532.

Dear Planning Team,

My family has been recreating in the Moab area for many years. We enjoy ATV, dirt bike and 4x4 recreation, although not all at the same time! Normally, we like to camp at the White Wash Sand Dunes or south of Dubinky Well. We prefer dispersed camping and we seldom use developed camping or pay sites. When riding our Jeep, we like to explore the many back roads and the “lower than 4 rated” Moab Jeep Safari Trails. When we take our ATV/dirt bikes, we enjoy riding the White Wash Sand Dunes, 10 Mile Wash and the many great motorcycle trails in the area.

Not all uses are mutually exclusive. There are multiple uses that can and should occur parallel to one another. I believe that recreational, agricultural and industrial uses of public lands can and should coexist and share our public lands.

Management objectives that use such things as primitive recreation zones, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and so-called “areas with wilderness character” to create a de-facto Wilderness management is unlawful. Congress put a deadline on inventory and study for Wilderness. The BLM should no longer be allowed to manage solely for “wilderness character.”

Your open area at White Wash in Alternative C and D must be expanded. The current proposal is unworkable because it closes the killer hill climb and camping area to the West of the Dunes. Such a small area confines a huge amount of vehicle use into a very small area and the area’s boundaries are not well defined and cannot be easily identified on the ground.

Requiring fences around the cottonwood trees and “water sources” is both impractical and unnecessary. We strongly oppose this provision of the Draft Plan. We oppose the fee system contemplated in Alternatives C and D. Fee systems are inherently controversial and often unpopular with the recreating public. The Final RMP should not require a fee system. However, I am willing to support funding for infrastructure if needs cannot be met with existing funding and grant programs, but not with an “individual Special Recreation Permit” program.

We oppose the camping policy as outlined in Appendix E. I support a policy where existing campsites are open unless closure was determined necessary via lawful public planning process. It is very important that the Final RMP mandate full public involvement in any establishment and management of “restricted camping

areas” or “controlled camping areas.” Besides, I looked at your maps and can’t tell if the campsites we use are going to be open or closed.

The Utah Rims SRMA is necessary to properly manage this popular area. It should have a motorized and mountain bike focus, and include the ability to designate or construct routes should they be needed in the future. The Utah Rims SRMA should extend further southwest to encompass Mel's Loop and beyond.

Yellowcat is increasingly popular for four wheeling and ATV riding. Designating a SRMA there would utilize the dense network of mine roads that already exist.

Some of the “motorcycle” trails are actually ATV trails. We support the recommendation of the Utah State Parks on which should be open to ATVs.

Our family is considering modifying our Jeep to be able to experience “Rock Crawling.” Please designate an area where we can experience that ourselves as well as try more challenging routes to hone our 4x4 driving skills.

Your Signature

Your Name,

Your Address

City, State, Zip

Sportsmen Against Hunger Week Marks its Fifth Year

TUCSON, AZ – The Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF) celebrated November 12-18, 2007 as its fifth annual Sportsmen Against Hunger Week. SCIF once again challenged North American sportsmen and women to donate portions of their harvests from this hunting season to the hungry in their communities.

“The incredible effort by hunters nationwide to help SCIF battle hunger in their communities is astonishing year after year,” said SCIF Executive Director John Eichinger. “This year we are asking for even more involvement by chapters and more donations of game meat. Hunters have a unique chance to provide vital meals to local communities through this critical SCIF program.”



Sportsmen Against Hunger is active in all 50 U.S. states, parts of Canada and in several countries around the world. Launched in 1989, this much-emulated program is supported by SCI’s international network of almost 180 Chapters, over 53,000 SCI members and other sportsmen who establish local drives, fundraisers and other programs to support community efforts.

Last year, those who participated in Sportsmen Against Hunger Week provided a staggering 250,000 pounds of game meat. This year, SCIF hopes to increase that impressive total by encouraging the outdoor sporting community to give even more of this high-protein, low-fat food resource. Since the beginning of bow season in Missouri on September 15, 2007, SCI's Central Missouri chapter has donated 366 whole deer to 13 local charities through their Sportsmen Against Hunger program, a gift that has resulted in slightly more than 20,000 pounds of venison.

Steve Boyer, Executive Director of St. Vincent De Paul's Free Dining Room in San Rafael, CA said "SCI's Golden Gate chapter has been our number one meat donor these past 3 years. It is always quality meat, professionally packaged and given with a generous heart." St. Vincent's head chef reiterated this point, saying, "SCI saved us in 2006, we had run out of meat and didn't have the money to buy more. The donation was a godsend! Thanks to all of SCI."

Sportsmen and women who are unsure where to take their harvests for donation can look to SCIF's online databases of nearly 400 licensed game processors and over 300 relief organizations across the United States that use wild game for local hunger programs. These easy-to-use databases are located at www.sci-foundation.org/humanitarian/sah/.

Changes await those applying for 2008 turkey permit

The application period begins on November 28.

If you want to apply for a permit to hunt wild turkeys in Utah next spring, you need to be aware of two changes:

You must have a hunting or combination license before you can apply for a permit.

Applications will be accepted only through the Division of Wildlife Resources' Web site.

Start applying on Nov. 28

You can apply for a permit on this Web site starting Nov. 28. Your application must be received through the Web site no later than 11 p.m. on Dec. 26 to be entered in the draw for permits.

If you're not comfortable applying on the Internet, you can also apply over-the-phone. To apply over-the-phone, you must call (801) 538-4700 no later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 26.

Results of the 2008 Wild Turkey Draw will be posted by Jan. 31, 2008.

Changes

License required

Starting with the 2008 spring hunts, you must have a current Utah hunting or combination license before you can apply for a turkey hunting permit.

"This change is important to the future of the state's wildlife," says Jim Karpowitz, director of the DWR. "As costs continue to rise, the requirement that hunters buy a license will provide us the revenue we need to continue managing wild turkeys and other wildlife into the future."

Karpowitz has some advice for you as 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."



Another change awaits turkey hunters this spring: in addition to allowing you to apply for a hunting permit, you must have one of these licenses with you in order to use your hunting permit.

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.

Karpowitz also reminds you that the cost for a wild turkey hunting permit has dropped by \$5. Wild turkey permits now cost \$35 for residents and \$95 for nonresidents.

Apply on the Web

In addition to the new license requirement, you'll also have to apply for a permit on the Internet this year.

"If you've never applied for a permit online before, and you have questions about how to do it, please drop by a DWR office," says Judi Tutorow, wildlife licensing coordinator for the DWR. "We have computers you can use and staff members who can help you through the process."

You can also apply for a permit over-the-phone by calling the DWR at (801) 538-4700.

"If you decide to apply over the phone, you must call us no later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 26," Tutorow says.

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

Kelty Locus 40 backpack awarded 2008 Best of Adventure Gear by the editors of National Geographic ADVENTURE magazine



New for 2008 pack takes top honors in the 'Desert' category thanks to innovative new AeroFly™ suspension system

The recently launched [Kelty Locus 40 backpack](#), part of an entirely new and innovative line of backcountry packs from Kelty, has been selected by the editors of [National Geographic ADVENTURE](#) for a 2008 'Best of Adventure Gear' award.

Capturing honors in the 'Desert' category, the Locus 40's proprietary AeroFly suspension system is the key to its superior ventilation, keeping backpackers comfortable even in the hottest desert environments.

"As in many of its competitors, the suspension in the 2,500-cubic-inch Kelty Locus 40 creates a space between your back and the pack, but it also vents on the top, bottom, and sides, even when fully loaded," said Steve Casimiro, National Geographic ADVENTURE's gear expert and editor.

Available in a [men's](#) and [women's](#) model, the Locus 40 can be found side-by-side with the world's finest outdoor gear in the December-January issue of National Geographic ADVENTURE, available on newsstands now.

“Kelty is truly honored to have the Locus 40 selected for this award,” said Kenny Ballard, president of Kelty. “Our company has grown on a tradition of innovative design and quality workmanship, and we feel that this pack fully embraces these core principles.”

On Thursday, November 15th, Adventure magazine honored all award winners at the Adventurer of the Year Celebration, hosted at the National Geographic headquarters in Washington, DC. The Locus 40 and all award-winners were on display throughout the event. Additionally, the Locus 40 will join the [National Geographic ADVENTURE Travel Expo](#) tour through March 2008. The Expos will stop in New York (Jan. 12-13), Chicago (Jan. 26-27), Los Angeles (Feb. 9-10) and Washington DC (March 29-30) and feature informational seminars, culinary demonstrations, adventure activity instruction, and more. For more information, please visit www.adventureexpo.com.



Snowbasin Resort Opens on Thanksgiving Day - Skiing & Boarding on Hold for the Moment

Snowbasin, Utah -- Snowbasin Resort opens Thursday, November 22nd, Thanksgiving Day.....Skiing & Boarding on hold for the moment. Snowbasin Resort anticipates that if colder temperatures continue, they will be providing a definite weekend opening top to bottom for skiers and riders. Jesse Collins, Snowmaking Manager, indicates, “If the projected temperatures prevail, we expect to be making snow around the clock.” Watch the website for the latest information! We may surprise ourselves and have riding and skiing available on Friday.

Guests, instead, will find scenic foot passenger gondola rides available, Earl's Lodge Restaurant at the Base Area opens at 8:00 AM for coffee and pastries, and lunch will be served from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM. The No Name Lounge in Earl's

Lodge will be open with the annual gridiron classics on Sports Television from 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM. Remember, Snowbasin Resort was # 2 in on mountain food in Ski Magazine and Earl's Lodge was honored as The Best Restaurant in Northern Utah.

Snowbasin's Grizzly Center will be open from 8:00 AM-6:00 PM showcasing the new lines of skiwear, and Holiday gift items. All Mountain Gift Cards will be available for purchase to enable you to beat the post Thanksgiving Day shopping marathon! Bring your skis in to the tune shop and have your gear ready for the slopes. Registration for the Snowbasin Snowsports Recreation Program, in conjunction with the Standard Examiner, will be offered at the Snowsports Desk in Earl's Lodge. Conditions permitting, beginning and intermediate Snowsports lessons would be available beginning Thanksgiving. Please call 801-620-1015 for further information.



The Thanksgiving Day Feast 2007 “Le Beaujolais Nouveau cest Arrivee” will be happening at Needles Lodge from 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM. Guests will enjoy the fun of the celebration of the arrival of Beaujolais Nouveau, one of the most animated rituals in the wine world, as well as enjoying an extraordinary Thanksgiving Feast offering.

Join us at Snowbasin Resort for a beautiful Thanksgiving Day, welcoming the onset of the Winter Season and as the temperatures continue to drop watch the snowmaking system send their snowflakes in the air.

Park City Mountain Resort Will Open for Skiing and Riding on Friday, November 23

What: Park City Mountain Resort will open for the 2007-08 winter season on Friday, November 23. The Resort will operate PayDay Lift, which will service Homerun, with additional terrain to open as conditions permit.

Legacy Café will open with the Resort on Friday. Legacy Café will feature a limited menu from the grill station, fry station, and pizza station. Pre-made salads and several soup options will also be available.

The ticket price will be \$50 for an all-day adult pass and \$30 for an all-day child pass. Prices will change as more terrain opens.

When: Friday, November 23

Hours of Operation:

PayDay Lift: 9 am to 4 pm

Legends Bar & Grill: 11am to 6 pm

Legacy Café: 10:30 am to 3 pm

Alpine Coaster: noon to 4 pm

Kristi's Coffee Café: 7:30 am to 5 pm

Legacy Sports: 8 am to 6 pm

Where: Park City Mountain Resort – Park City, Utah

Firearms Industry Applauds Supreme Court Decision to Hear Second Amendment Case

NEWTOWN, Conn. -- The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) -- the trade association of the firearms industry -- applauded the decision by the United States Supreme Court to determine authoritatively whether the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution provides an individual right to keep and bear arms.

The U.S. Supreme Court granted a review of a decision from March by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in *Parker, et al., v. District of Columbia* (Circuit docket 04-7041) -- a case that upheld the striking down of the District's ban on private ownership of handguns while asserting that the Second Amendment provides an individual right to keep and bear arms. The case is now known as *District of Columbia v. Heller*. The mayor of Washington, D.C., Adrian M. Fenty, filed the appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, setting the stage for the high court to rule. According to FBI statistics, Washington D.C., with its gun ban, ranks as one of the most dangerous cities in the United States and maintains one of the highest per-capita murder rates in the country.

"The firearms industry looks forward to the Supreme Court putting to rest the specious argument that the Second Amendment is not an individual right," said Lawrence G. Keane, NSSF senior vice president and general counsel. "This intellectually bankrupt and feeble argument has been used by gun control advocates to justify laws and regulations that deny Americans their civil right to

own and lawfully use firearms for protection, hunting, sports shooting and other lawful purposes.

"The firearms and ammunition industry is unique in that our products are the means through which the Second Amendment right is realized," continued Keane. "If there were no firearms and ammunition manufacturers, than the Second Amendment becomes an illusory right."

While the Heller case will be the first time since 1939 that the Supreme Court has addressed the Second Amendment (*U.S. v. Miller*), the nation's leading historians, legal scholars and constitutional experts are on record as having concluded that the Second Amendment provides an individual right. Such renowned scholars as Lawrence Tribe of Harvard, Akhil Reed Amar of Yale, William Van Alstyne of Duke and Sanford Levinson of the University of Texas have been vocal in their assertion that the Second Amendment secures an individual right to keep and bear arms.

"The government has powers, not rights," added Keane. "The contention that the Second Amendment is a collective right of the government is completely without merit."

BACKGROUND:

In March, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, in striking down the District's gun ban, held in *Parker, et al., v. District of Columbia* that "The phrase 'the right of the people' . . . leads us to conclude that the right in question is individual." This was the second time in recent history that a federal circuit court upheld the longstanding belief that the Second Amendment was an individual right. In 2001, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled in the case of *U.S. v. Emerson* that "All of the evidence indicates that the Second Amendment, like other parts of the Bill of Rights, applies to and protects individual Americans."

Ruger Milestone Rifle Highlights SHOT Show Auction

NEWTOWN, Conn. -- Over the years, manufacturers and sportsmen have helped raise well over \$500,000 for the future of hunting in America through the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade (SHOT) Show's annual firearm and knife auction.

The 2008 auction promises to be another exciting one. The items include a highly embellished Ruger rifle with a historic serial number, an elegant Pennsylvania longrifle and a finely crafted, expertly engraved folding knife.

The 5,000,000th Ruger 10-22 was presented to the 4-H Shooting Sports Program by Ruger President Steve Sanetti to help raise support and awareness of this vital program that provides 300,000 youths shooting instruction and opportunity each year. Following the presentation, the rifle was turned over to the Ruger Custom Shop for further enhancements, resulting in one of the finest 10-22s ever made.

The rifle features rich, hand-engraved scroll designs and selective 24kt gold highlights that complement the clean lines and legendary performance of this classic rifle. Full-cover engraving enhances the nickel-finished receiver, featuring scroll designs and a banner that reads "Five Millionth" highlighted with 24kt gold to recognize the milestone the rifle represents. Hand-cut engraving also adorns the barrel and barrel band, and the butt plate features full-coverage engraving and the monogram of William Batterman Ruger. The rifle was hand engraved by Rob Bunting of the Ruger Studio, and Baron Engraving coordinated production of this one-of-a-kind firearm and donated their custom finishing services. The rifle has been stocked with select American black walnut. The auction of this rifle has been facilitated by the newly formed Youth Shooting Sports Alliance, and proceeds will benefit the 4-H Shooting Sports Program.

A spectacular custom Pennsylvania flintlock rifle will also be part of the auction, with proceeds going to the National Muzzleloading Rifle Association (NMLRA). It was crafted by master gunsmith James Klein of Fulton, Mich., in the traditional 18th-century style of Peter Berry. Berry studied under the old masters J.P. Beck and Jacob Dickert, and was a very successful gunmaker in his time.

With Master Klein's extensive knowledge of Peter Berry's work, and with his great talent for building, he has created a faithful, artful rendition of this historic muzzleloader. It is a .50 caliber model that has a striking tiger maple stock and utilizes the highest quality components available. The Colerain barrel, Siler lock and double set triggers make the rifle a real shooter. The lock and triggers were assembled by master lock builder Walter Cain. Mr. Klein has also added to the rifle sterling silver inlays, a handmade brass patchbox, relief carving and hand-engraved mounts.

Klein has been studying and building traditional 18th- and 19th-century style muzzleloading rifles for nearly two decades, focusing on Pennsylvania and

Kentucky longrifles. He began his tutelage under master gunsmith Homer Dangler, and continues the tradition in the guns he builds and the rifle kits and Dangler finishing products that he sells.

The 2008 auction also includes a one-of-a-kind knife by the award-winning William Henry Studio. The button lock's blade is honed from a 45-layer "wave" Damascus steel hammer forged from ZDP 189, hardened to Rockwell 67C, considered the finest cutlery steel in existence. The knife's graceful lines are complemented by hand-cut scroll designs by the world-renowned Italian engraver, Lorenzo Gamba, and 10,000-year-old woolly mammoth tooth scales. The one-hand opening knife is further adorned with diamond inlays on the thumb stud and lock button, and 18kt rose gold fittings provide the final elegant touches. Proceeds from the knife auction will be donated to the 4-H Shooting Sports Program.

Bidding on these auction items will be conducted online at www.gunbroker.com and will begin on Jan. 5, 2008. Bidding will conclude at noon on Feb. 5, 2008.

Join Us For Another Great Ski Season



Thanksgiving weekend marks the traditional beginning of the Utah ski season and officials here expect another banner year.

Solitude opened last week - our first ski resort to start up the lifts. Several other resorts will begin operations this week. Here's the latest schedule:

- [Solitude Resort](#) - Now Open
- [Park City Mountain Resort](#) - Nov 21
- [Snowbasin](#) - Nov 22
- [Brian Head](#) - Nov 22
- [Wolf Mountain](#) - Nov 22

[Alta](#), [Snowbird](#), [Brighton](#), [The Canyons](#), [Powder Mountain](#) and [Beaver Mountain](#) are evaluating conditions; most will open this weekend or early next week. [Sundance](#) is

scheduled to open on Dec 7; [Deer Valley](#) will open on Dec 8.

A storm is expected to dump powder on northern Utah early this week and that should greatly improve conditions. Long-term weather forecasters expect Utah to

receive above average snowfall this winter and so we expect exceptional conditions by the peak of the season - from Christmas through Presidents Day weekend.

December is a great month to ski in Utah because there is usually plenty of snow and the resorts are not crowded. If Mother Nature doesn't cooperate and provide needed snow, the resorts are prepared to make it themselves - they have the infrastructure necessary to ensure quality skiing.

Many [lodging establishments](#) and [ski-related businesses](#) offer discounts during the early part of the season, before crowds come in for the holidays.

The holidays are a magical time at Utah resorts, with outstanding skiing available and a merry bustle from other activities. Lodging establishments close to the ski runs usually book up solid during the Christmas-to-New-Years period. If you want to ski during the holidays, and you have yet to make reservations, call today and you may still be able to reserve posh accommodations.

Lodging in Park City is also booked solid during mid-January, when crowds come for the [Sundance Film Festival](#).

Salt Lake City always offers excellent lodging options, even during Sundance and the holidays, offering many hotels that are only a few minutes away from the slopes.



Utah resorts continue to pull in top rankings from serious skiers. In the latest SKI Magazine poll, Deer Valley was voted the best all-round resort in North America. Park City was number 6, The Canyons number 18, Snowbird number 19, Alta number 25, Solitude number 28 and Snowbasin number 29.

SKIING Magazine groups Snowbird and Alta together and consistently puts them near the top of their North American rankings. This season they are listed at number 2.

All of this attention draws more and more people to Utah's slopes, but the resorts have stayed ahead of the curve by investing millions of dollars to expand ski areas and improve infrastructure.

If you are looking for a great ski trip, come on down.

Thanksgiving's Wilder Bird

11/20/2007

Spanish explorers discovered Mexico in 1517, and on this expedition they also discovered large numbers of turkeys. The men took careful notes and documented every detail of the New World, but failed to tell us whether or not they found wild turkeys or domestic turkeys. Because of this oversight, some historians credit Christopher Columbus as the first European to lay eyes on a wild turkey during his fourth voyage.



Wild turkey

Understanding this — the fact that there are two turkeys — only leads to a series of questions. During the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, the National Wild Turkey Federation, a conservation organization instrumental in helping restore North America's wild turkey populations, receives an incredible number of calls and e-mails about the differences between the two. Why are there two kinds of turkeys? What's the difference? And where do domestic turkeys come from in the first place?

The Tale of Two Turkeys

Both turkeys were common in Mexico in the 16th Century. Historians know that Indian tribes in Mexico, particularly the Aztec Indians, were skilled at hunting wild turkeys and capturing and domesticating some of them. Those domesticated wild turkeys evolved over time, learning to rely on humans and becoming tame.



Domestic turkey

Domesticating plants and animals emerged, more or less, as groups of hunter-gathers evolved into farmers and stockbreeders. So domesticating turkeys was a choice of convenience, a way to fence in dinner.

How long turkeys existed in North America before European explorers discovered the New World is uncertain. It is certain, however, that North America's native bird has five centuries of recorded history.

One Ain't the Other

In spite of all the questions, one thing has always been certain — people like to eat turkeys. Its meat was once reserved for the elite; and in sixteenth-century Mexico, some towns only allowed lords to eat turkeys. When comparing the two birds, the wild turkey is better known for its physical attributes and attitude. Centuries ago, after seeing a turkey for the first time, an East Indian emperor was fascinated by the wild turkey's attitude of self-importance. Tom Kelly, a longtime turkey hunter and outdoor writer, declared the wild bird the epitome of grace.

"His neck stretched out, he looks long and lean and quick — putting every foot down as if he is walking on egg shells," said Kelly. "When he is most impressive is when he's coming to your call, and he gets within 30 or 40 yards and thinks there's a girl (a hen) in sight."

On Thanksgiving Day, you may stop to consider the domestic bird before you. Basted and stuffed, he is not the same as the wild bird often depicted, sometimes standing beside humble pilgrims, in many commercialized Thanksgiving images.

Physical Traits

- Domestic turkeys can't fly or run very fast. They would make easy pickings for any predator found in the wild. Their neck skin, or wattles, is heavier. Snoods, the finger-like appendage that hangs over the bill, are longer and their breasts much larger and broader. The domestic bird also possesses a temperament suited to confinement.
- Wild turkeys are sleek, alert and built for speed and survival. Their senses are sharpened through generations of living in a harsh, unforgiving environment. A wild turkey that loses its caution will likely be eaten by predators. This constant state of caution has made the wild turkey one of the toughest game animals in the world to hunt or photograph.

Turkey Talk

- Domestic turkeys (male) tend to be vocal and will respond with a squeaky gobble to almost any noise.
- Wild turkeys (male) do not gobble as often as domestic turkeys. They've learned that too much talking can call in things other than turkeys, like

predators and hunters. Skill and lots of practice are required for a hunter to call in an elusive wild turkey gobbler.

- Domestic and wild turkeys (female) use similar calls, including the yelp, cutt, purr and kee-kee. (Learn more about turkey talk and listen to turkey calls at www.nwtf.org)

Environment

- Domestic turkeys are found in pens with other domestic turkeys. They eat corn and other poultry mixes.
- Wild turkeys are found throughout forests and wooded areas across North America. They like acorns, seeds, small insects and wild berries.
- For a full menu of facts about wild turkey history, restoration and biology, go to: www.nwtf.org/all_about_turkeys

And Then There Were... Nearly 7 Million

Thanks to the work of wildlife agencies and the NWTF's many volunteers and partners, wild turkey populations have made a great comeback. Once numbering about 30,000 wild turkeys across North America in the early 1900s, today there are more than 7 million.

Making Tracks, a cooperative program between the NWTF and state, federal and provincial wildlife agencies, transfers wild turkeys from areas where they are plentiful to areas where there are few or no birds, but suitable habitat. The NWTF has given wildlife agencies more than 135,000 wild turkey transport boxes, which have been used in the transport of more than 192,000 birds. In the 2007 trap and transfer season alone, the NWTF coordinated the relocation of more than 3,200 birds.

"Without states' trap and transfer programs, wild turkey populations could not have been restored to healthy populations throughout North America," said Dr. James Earl Kennamer, NWTF senior vice president of conservation programs. "Many of these programs were introduced and wild turkey populations continue to benefit from the successful efforts of state, federal and provincial wildlife agencies and nearly 584,000 NWTF members and volunteers."

Since 1985, the NWTF and its cooperators have spent more than \$258 million upholding hunting traditions and conserving more than 13.1 million acres of wildlife habitat. The NWTF is a nonprofit organization with nearly 584,000 members in 50 states and 16 foreign countries. It supports scientific wildlife

management on public, private and corporate lands as well as wild turkey hunting as a North American tradition.

UTAH STATE PARKS BOATING SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Salt Lake City - As waterfowl hunters take to Utah's waterways, Utah State Parks Boating Education Specialist Chris Haller reminds everyone to have appropriate safety equipment and gear onboard their boats.

Wear your life jacket - Don't just have one accessible. In addition to flotation, life jackets add an additional layer of warmth. Make sure each jacket is U.S. Coast Guard approved, and is of the proper size and fit.

Take a waterproof survival kit and re-supply it after every use. Kits should include fire starting materials, flares, a flashlight, space blanket, and first aid supplies.



Load the boat properly and do not exceed the capacity plate limit. Decoys, boat motors, and other supplies can be heavy, and overloaded boats swamp more easily.

Develop a float plan and tell a friend or family member where you are going and when you will return.

For more information on boating safety or to take a boating safety course, visit www.stateparks.utah.gov or call (801) 538-BOAT.

WINTER FACILITIES AT WASATCH MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Midway - All golf courses and campgrounds at Wasatch Mountain State Park are now closed for the season. As snow accumulates, Wasatch Mountain golf courses will be open for cross-country skiing with ski rentals available at the park. Also, the Soldier Hollow tubing hill at Wasatch Mountain State Park is scheduled to open December 11. For more information, please call (435) 654-1791.

UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

November 30 Green River State Park - Green River

Two-Person Best Ball Golf Tournament: Enjoy this nine-hole course all season. To register or for more information, please call (435) 564-8882.



December 1 -
January 31

Antelope Island
State
Park - Syracuse
Art Exhibit: Great
Salt Lake color
photographs by
Charles Uibel are
on
display in the
visitor center art
gallery. For more

information, visit

www.greatsaltlakephotos.com or call (801) 725-9263

December 3 Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum
- Fillmore

Old Time Christmas: Join park staff at the little rock schoolhouse from
6 to 8 p.m. for an evening of Christmas activities.

Enjoy refreshments,

music, and holiday activities including ornament-making, popcorn popping

and stringing, dancing, and stories. Bring the entire family and begin this holiday season with a glimpse into the past. This event is free to the public. (435)743-5316

Gerbing's Releases New Core Heat Transfer System™

Battery Operated Heated Gloves With Thermostat Control

UNION, WASHINGTON - If you have ever felt the numbing paralysis of cold fingers in winter, then you know the value of a warm pair of gloves. Gerbing's, the leader in electrically heated outerwear, has engineered an innovative system for heated gloves. Whether biking, snowmobiling, riding an ATV, or enjoying outdoors recreation like hunting, fishing or golf, Gerbing's new gloves keep hands warm allowing them a full range of physiological movement.

The heated gloves are part of the company's new Core Heat Transfer System™. Through a series of technological advances, the Core Heat Transfer System provides consistent heat transference to occur throughout the gloves.

The new system heats the entire length of each finger as well as the back of the hand. Each glove is powered by a 7.4v lithium battery pack that is housed in a zippered pocket on the cuff. The battery incorporates a 4-level push-button thermostat that allows you to regulate the temperature. On the highest setting, the gloves will provide up to 135° of heat output for a minimum of three hours; the lowest setting provides 85° of heat output for up to 12 hours.

"For most people, it is either the hands or the feet that suffer the most in cold weather," said Jeff Gerbing, CEO of Gerbing's. "Our goal with designing these gloves was to offer a lightweight, very pliable glove that would keep you warm, but still allow you the dexterity of your fingers."

Gerbing's Core Heat series of heated products are designed to prevent the body's physiological response of vasoconstriction that occurs when colder temperatures are detected and the nervous system restricts blood flow to the extremities. The Core Heat Transfer System allows you to maintain blood flow and a constant level of thermal comfort preventing vasoconstriction.

Core Heat gloves incorporate a unique patent pending microwire heating matrix. This system is the most efficient and durable technology ever developed. They are powered by small, microprocessor-managed lithium battery packs that are

rechargeable for up to 500 cycles. This patent pending technology was originally developed for the US Military to help keep soldiers warm in the most extreme cold weather conditions.



"The gloves are engineered to provide incredible heat output surrounding your hands with warmth," Gerbing explained. "They will not only keep you from getting cold but will also keep your hands toasty warm allowing them to function as they would on a warm summer day."

Other features include an Aqua-Tex waterproof/breathable membrane to help keep you dry along with 150 grams of Thinsulate® to insulate the heating elements without the extra bulk. The Core Heat battery operated gloves come in Mossy Oak® Break-Up® camouflage and black

nylon with smoke gray accents. Both include an adjustable wrist enclosure and a zip-cinch cuff. New versions will include the new Winter Fleece style and the Core Heat Sport. Pricing for a pair of Core Heat gloves begin at \$149 (MSRP), and comes with a lifetime warranty on the electrically heating components in the gloves. Currently, snow and camouflage-hunting versions are available.

For over 30 years, Gerbing's Heated Clothing has been manufacturing electrically heated clothing powered by a 12-volt DC power source. Predominantly, they have made products targeted to the motorcycle industry with heated jackets, liners, pants, gloves and socks. Riders simply plug in to their bike's electrical system and

enjoy soothing warmth from head to toe allowing them to stay warm, making for a safer and more comfortable ride. For additional information about the company or about local retailers, call 866-371-HEAT or visit www.gerbing.com.

Nominations Open for Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board

The Bureau of Land Management is extending to December 7, 2007, the deadline for submitting public nominations to fill three vacancies on the national Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board. The categories to be filled are: Wild Horse and Burro Advocacy, Veterinarian Medicine, and General Public Interest. The Board advises the BLM (an agency of the Interior Department) and the Forest Service (an agency of the Department of Agriculture) on the management, protection, and control of wild free-roaming horses and burros on public lands administered by those agencies.



The nine members on the Advisory Board represent a balance of interests. Each member has knowledge or special expertise that qualifies him or her to provide advice in one of the following categories: wild horse and burro advocacy, wild horse and burro research, veterinarian medicine, natural resources management, humane advocacy, wildlife management, livestock management, and general public interest. Members must also have a demonstrated ability to analyze information, evaluate programs, identify problems, work collaboratively, and develop corrective actions.

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Advisory Board; individuals may also nominate themselves. In accordance with Section 7 of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, Federal and state government employees are not eligible to serve on the Board, whose members serve three-year terms, on a staggered-term basis, with one-third of the Board subject to appointment each year.

The Board meets at least two times a year and the BLM Director may call additional meetings when necessary. Members serve without salary, but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses according to government travel regulations.

The BLM is accepting nomination letters plus resumes that include the nominee's name, address, profession, relevant biographical information, references, endorsements, and specific category of interest. Nominations should be sent by December 7, 2007, to the National Wild Horse and Burro



Program, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, P.O. Box

12000, Reno, Nevada 89520-0006, Attn: Ramona DeLorme; phone:

775-861-6583 or fax: 775-861-6711.

The 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act mandates the

protection, management, and control of wild horses and burros to ensure

healthy free-roaming herd populations at levels consistent with the land's capacity to support them. The BLM manages about 29,000 wild horses and burros that roam public rangelands in 10 Western states. (See Wild Horse and Burro Fact Sheet at http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/wild_horse_and_burro/Fact_Sheet.html)

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

Science and Conservation Projects through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology

In National Strategy to Conserve Birds, President Bush Follows Recommendations of Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Partners

y habitats for the migratory birds that he said "fascinate and bring joy to millions of our citizens." He named initiatives based on six actions recommended in a report spearheaded by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and other conservation groups. To read the original report, visit

<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Publications/restoringbirds.html>.

To watch President Bush's address or to read the transcript, visit

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/10/20071020-2.html>



Flamingos of the Andean Plateau

Marita Davison, a graduate student at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, explains her quest to find out how flamingos influence the biodiversity of lakes in Bolivia.

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Publications/Birdscope/Autumn2007/flamingos_andean.html

Spotlight on Citizen Science

Mother Nature Has Many Fields of Study for Citizen Scientists

Read the USA Today article about the growing involvement of citizen-science participants and the value of their contributions.

http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/2007-10-31-citizen-scientists_N.htm

Kids Count: Young Citizen Scientists Learn Environmental Activism

This inspiring article describes the contributions of young citizen-science participants, whether they're looking for crow, clams, or other critters.

<http://www.edutopia.org/service-learning-citizen-science>



A New Milestone for eBird
Participants of eBird have broken a new record for the most checklists submitted in a single month: fifty thousand! Check out eBird results in your town or any place in North America by visiting <http://ebird.org/content/ebird/>.

Winning Bird Photos

Participants of the Great Backyard Bird Count submitted thousands of bird photos for the annual contest in February. View the stunning photo gallery showing the winning and finalist photos! <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/gallery/2007-winners-and-finalists>

A Birder's Holiday Wish-List

Holiday time is fast approaching, and if you need some ideas for the birder on your list, here are a few suggestions:

Join our Flock! A gift membership to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology makes birders happy and it helps us help the birds! Membership includes Living Bird magazine <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/> .

Bird Songs from Around the World, by Les Beletsky. With its built-in digital audio player, you'll see and hear 200 of the world's most spectacular birds. All recordings are from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Macaulay Library archive.

http://www.sapsuckerwoods.com/mm5/merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=7491

The Birds of North America Online: Delve into this rich and authoritative source of information, with sounds, video, photos, and maps. Subscribe for a whole year for \$40 or try the special 30-day subscription--it's just \$5!

<http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna>

Holiday Gift Set

Save \$10 when you buy three popular Sapsucker Woods guides: A Guide to the Birds of Sapsucker Woods coloring book, Birds of Sapsucker Woods field guide, and An Evening in Sapsucker Woods audio CD. <http://sapsuckerwoods.com/>



Or choose from more than 6,000 birding items online at

www.birds.cornell.edu/shop.

A portion of each purchase supports the Lab's programs in research, conservation, education and citizen science.

Happy Thanksgiving--and thank YOU for all your support!

Your friends at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Big game hunting rules for Utah's 2008 seasons are just one of several items members of the Utah Wildlife Board are expected to act on when they meet Nov. 29 in Salt Lake City.

The meeting begins at 9 a.m. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Details are available in the pasted and attached agenda.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
November 29, 2007
9:00 a.m.
DNR Auditorium
1594 W. North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah

AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda ACTION – Paul Niemeyer, Chairman
2. Approval of Minutes ACTION – Paul Niemeyer
3. Old Business/Action Log CONTINGENT– Rick Woodard, Vice-Chair
4. DWR Update INFORMATION– Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director
5. Statewide Unit-By-Unit Hunts in 2009 INFORMATIONAL
- Anis Aoude, Big Game Coordinator
6. Statewide Spike Elk Hunt in 2009 INFORMATIONAL
- Anis Aoude, Big Game Coordinator
7. Hunting and Fishing Accommodations for People with Disabilities ACTION
- Martin Bushman, Asst. Attorney General
8. Hunter Education Rule R657-23 (5-yr review) ACTION
- Lenny Rees, Hunter Education Coordinator
9. CWMU Approval ACTION
- Boyde Blackwell, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator
10. North Book Cliffs Bison Management Plan ACTION
- Dave Olsen, Regional Wildlife Section Coordinator
11. Buck, Bulls and OIAL Proclamation & Rule R657-5 ACTION
- Anis Aoude, Big Game Coordinator
12. Caliber Restrictions ACTION
- Mike Fowlks, Law Enforcement Chief

13. Proposed Utah Species of Concern ACTION
- Carmen Bailey, Impact Analysis/GIS Coordinator
14. Conservation Permit Allocation and Audit ACTION
- Craig McLaughlin, Wildlife Section Chief
15. Other Business CONTINGENT
- Paul Niemeyer
 - Youth Hunter Recruitment Committee – Board Member Rep.
 - Additional Action Log Items.
 - RAC Chairmen attendance at RAC and Board meetings.
 - Wildlife Board Awards for presentation at the Annual Recognition Banquet.
 - Commission Training

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Persons needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) for this meeting, should contact Staci Coons at 801-538 4718, giving her at least five working days notice.

The Greatest Snow on Earth Featured on New Utah License Plate

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH - The Utah Division of Motor Vehicles launched two new



license plates today, an updated version of the former Centennial plate featuring Delicate Arch, and a new ski plate with Ski Utah's world famous registered trademark, 'Greatest Snow on Earth.' The plates were launched as part of the Utah Office of Tourism's new 'Life Elevated' campaign.

The ski plate features the majestic Wasatch Mountains with the figure of a skier in front of them. The skier is Utah resident and three-time Olympian, Heidi Voelker. Voelker's image will be both the first live human and first woman ever to be featured on a United States license plate. "I have been anticipating the launch of this plate for a long time," said Voelker, "I can't wait to stop at a red light and notice that I am the skier on the plate in front of me." Voelker also commented that she plans on buying a new vehicle in the spring and will definitely get the new ski plate at that time.



The Utah 'Ski' license plate was first instituted in 1985 when the state had an average of 2.4 million skier days. Since then, Utah has grown to be the third most skied state in the United States and hosted over 4 million skier days in the 2006-07 winter season. Last winter was the state's fourth consecutive record breaking year for skier visits. "We are thrilled by the new plate," said Ski Utah president, Nathan Rafferty. "The plate symbolizes the importance of skiing and winter-related tourism in Utah. Not only do we have The Greatest Snow on Earth, but our local ski industry constantly strives to be the best in the world, putting Utah on the map as a key

destination." Utah's incredible accessibility, breathtaking landscape and Greatest Snow on Earth are what continue to attract skiers to the area.

Stay tuned for Ski Utah to launch a season-long license plate poker contest in celebration of the new license plates.

Ski Utah is the marketing firm 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.

For media information, contact Jessica Kunzer at 801.433.2016 or by email at jessica@skiutah.com.

THANKSGIVING TRAVEL EDGES UPWARD

Over 342,000 Utahns Will Travel Despite Higher Gas Prices, Predicts AAA

SALT LAKE CITY, November 19, 2007 – High prices at the gas pump may be putting a strain on household budgets, but it's not stopping an expected 342,000 Utahns from clogging the roadways and airports this Thanksgiving weekend, according to a new report from AAA Utah.

“Bottom line, Utahns still value time with their families,” said Rolayne Fairclough, spokesperson for AAA Utah. “Even with the expense of the holiday season ahead, many families will do what it takes to share this traditional celebration with family and friends.”

AAA expects Thanksgiving travel to only rise modestly this year, with an anticipated 1.3 percent increase in the number of Utahns traveling 50 miles or more over the weekend. Auto travel is expected to be up about 1.2 percent, with approximately 275,000 Utahns taking to the roads. About 79 percent of overall Thanksgiving travel will be done by car. Over 48,000 people (about 14 percent) plan on flying to their destinations, a 1 percent increase from AAA's 2006 forecast. Almost 24,000, (7 percent) are expected to travel by other modes of transportation such as railroads, buses or cruise ships. Nationally, AAA predicts 38.7 million people will travel this Thanksgiving weekend.

“There is at least some good news when it comes to the cost of travel,” said Fairclough. “Even though consumers are paying dramatically more for gasoline, they will be getting a break in other areas of their travel budget this holiday.”

Following steep increases last year, hotel, airfares and car rental prices are all either flat or showing a drop in price, according to AAA Leisure Travel Index. Holiday hotel rates are down 3 percent for AAA-Rated Three Diamond hotels. Car rental rates have declined about 12 percent and airfares are about 7 percent lower than last year.

To help keep drunk drivers off the road this holiday, AAA is offering its “Topsy Tow” program. AAA will offer the service to drinking drivers from 6 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day to 6 a.m. Friday, November 23rd in Utah, Nevada and Northern California. Drivers, potential passengers, party hosts, bartenders, and restaurant managers can call 800-222-4357 (AAA-HELP) for a free tow home of up to five miles. Just tell the AAA operator, “I need a Topsy Tow,” and a truck will be on its way.

The service will provide a one-way ride for the driver and vehicle to the driver’s home. If there are additional passengers who need a ride, they will be taken to the driver’s home as long as there is sufficient room for them to be transported safely in the tow truck. You cannot make a reservation.

With so many people flying to their Thanksgiving destination this year, AAA is offering the following tips to help make air travel less of a hassle:

- **Know the limitations on your ticket:** The airline’s contract of carriage does not require it to provide passengers with any additional services when flights are delayed or canceled due to bad weather. This differs from delays caused by mechanical or other reasons.
- **Go online before you leave home:** Check airline website for delays and sign up for e-mail or text message alerts from your airline. Also, check with the Transportation Security Administration for the latest airport security rules at www.tsa.gov/travelers.
- **Pack defensively:** Come to the airport prepared for a delayed flight. Bring books, music or video games. In addition, make sure to carry prescriptions, credit cards, your travel itinerary with flight numbers, driver’s license and/or passport, glasses, various electronics chargers and toiletries in a carry-on bag. Remember the Transportation Security Administration’s carry-on policy: 3 ounce bottles or less; one quart-sized, clear plastic zip-top bag; one bag per passenger.

- **Don't show up hungry:** Eat before you go so you are not waiting in line at the limited airport eateries. Bring food you can carry on and eat in case you get stuck on the tarmac.
- **Use your cell phone to save time:** Program numbers of your airlines, hotel, car rental company or your travel agent into your cell phone. In case you need to change your flight, you can call the airline directly rather than wait in line at ticket counter.
- **Take the earliest flight:** Because of flight delays, early morning flights are usually less likely to be delayed. And if they are slightly delayed, you stand a better chance of catching a later flight to your destination.
- **Sometimes smaller airports are better:** You can get processed through security faster and have a much shorter walk to your gate due to smaller airports being easier to navigate, having fewer flights and travelers.
- **Know where to complain:** Travelers who have service issues with an airline should contact the Aviation Consumer Protection Division at 202-366-2220.

AAA's holiday travel figures are based on a national web survey of 2,200 adults by the Travel Industry Association of America, which conducts special research for AAA.

AAA Travel is the nation's largest travel organization. AAA Travel offers trips, cruises, tours and vacation packages throughout the world. Call (888) 937-5523 for more information or visit us at your local AAA Travel office or online at www.aaa.com/travel.

Medalist Huntgear Introduces New Cheyenne Series Apparel



READING, PA - Medalist, purveyors of the scent eliminating Silvermax™ apparel, is excited to introduce the new Cheyenne series for early to mid-season hunting.

The Cheyenne series consists of a shirt and pant that are quiet due to the micro-poly brushed knit tricot shell, which also provides protection against the wind. The Silvermax lining allows for undetected, scent-free protection. Each piece is also ideal to use for layering in the colder months.

Medalist Silvermax provides the most versatile scent elimination and thermo

temperature protection in mild to extreme conditions. Silvermax, powered by X-Static® is a high performance fiber with a 360-degree layer of pure silver - the world's most effective antimicrobial agent. Silvermax instantly inhibits growth of bacteria, while neutralizing ammonia and denatured proteins that cause odor, achieving all day scent protection.

As nature's most adaptive heat-regulating element, the silver in Silvermax reacts to your body conducting heat away from your skin when hot and reflecting it back when cold, thus ensuring lasting and adaptive comfort in mild to extreme conditions.



The Silvermax Cheyenne apparel is available in small to 3X with a suggested retail price ranging from \$59.99 to \$79.99. It is also available in the popular Mossy Oak® Break-Up® camo pattern. Break-Up features a realistic bark background, grey oak limbs and deep ghost shadows to create a 3-D illusion that hides the outline.

For more information on Medalist scent-eliminating apparel, log on to www.medalist.com.

GASOLINE PRICES RISING WITH A VENGEANCE

AAA Utah Reports Impact of Prices Doubled From Five Years Ago

SALT LAKE CITY, November 13, 2007 – The news is grim across the board. The latest report from AAA Utah finds gas prices are on a tear, rising 22 cents in just the past month, and new figures from the Oil Price Information Service (OPIS) find that Americans are now spending \$1.2 billion per day on gasoline, double the amount they were just five years ago.

Utah's current average price for regular, self-serve gasoline is \$3.03 a gallon. This is 22 cents higher than last month's report and 69 cents higher than a year ago. According to AAA, which tracks fuel prices as a service to the consumer, 14 states have average prices lower than Utah.

"Usually gas prices decrease in autumn," said Rolayne Fairclough, AAA Utah spokesperson. "This is not a typical year. The overall demand for gasoline has been

flat compared to last year, but prices have skyrocketed this fall principally because of the record-setting price of crude oil.”

The main market force driving the latest round of gasoline price increases is an enormous increase in the costs of crude oil, the raw material from which gas is made. Crude oil prices peaked last week at \$98.62, an all time high. That’s up from about \$55 per barrel at the beginning of the year. Many analysts have attributed rising oil prices to increased tensions in and around oil producing regions of the world that could threaten the reliable supply of crude.

The national average price is \$3.11. This is 35 cents higher than last month’s report on October 16 and 88 cents higher than a year ago. Forty states have average prices over \$3 a gallon. California, at \$3.39, has the highest average price. New Jersey, at \$2.91, has the lowest average price.

Prices for regular self-serve have skyrocketed throughout the Intermountain West. Idaho’s current average price is \$3.09, a 25-cent increase from last month’s report. Montana’s price has increased 23 cents to the current average, \$3.18. Wyoming’s current average price is \$3.03. This is 22-cents higher than last month. Colorado’s price has jumped 31 cents to the current average price of \$3.10. Arizona, one of the few states remaining with an average price under \$3 a gallon, reports a current average of \$2.99. This is 28 cents higher than last month. Nevada motorists are paying an average of \$3.15 a gallon. This is 23 cents higher than October’s report. California has the highest average price in the country. The current price in California is \$3.39, a 32-cent increase from last month.

The U.S. Department of Energy predicts gasoline prices will continue to climb, forecasting an additional 20 cent per gallon price increase by December if the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) does not increase production.

All of the seven Utah cities surveyed by AAA report huge price increases since last month’s report. Logan’s average price jumped 21 cents to the current \$3.04 a gallon. The average prices in Ogden and Salt Lake City are still below the \$3 mark. The average price in Ogden is \$2.98. This is 23 cents higher than last month. Salt Lake City’s price is \$2.98, a 24-cent increase from last month. Provo’s price jumped 23 cents to the current average of \$3.01. Vernal’s price increased 14 cents this past month. The current average price in Vernal is \$3.01. Moab’s motorists are paying an average of \$3.11 a gallon. This is 23 cents higher than last

month. St. George's average price is also \$3.11. This is 25 cents higher than October's report.

"Fuel costs are taking even more of a bite out of family's budgets because of the all-time high prices for diesel, heating oil and jet fuel," said Fairclough. "Because most commercial items are transported by truck, rail or airline, the high price of oil means a significant cost increase for these goods."

AAA's Fuel Finder can help motorists shop aggressively for the lowest prices on fuel. Located online at www.aaa.com/gasprices, the Fuel Finder has real time information on gas prices at more than 85,000 gas stations throughout the United States.

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

Britax Child Safety Inc. Offers Limited Edition Mossy Oak® Car Seat

CHARLOTTE, NC - Britax Child Safety Inc. is proud to offer a special limited edition convertible child seat featuring Mossy Oak Break-Up®.

The Britax Marathon™ is the number one selling Britax convertible child seat and is ideal for parents seeking premium comfort and a higher, forward-facing harnessed weight capacity (up to 65 pounds). The Marathon starts with the premium cover made from Microfibres® fabric that is washable and the ultimate in soft, plush comfort.

Unique features include the tangle-free, five-point harness with four harness heights for a snug and secure fit. Premium push-button LATCH connectors and convenient harness adjuster make it easy to ensure a quick, simple and tight installation.

The Marathon features the patented Versa-Tether® energy managing top tether, which anchors the child seat to the vehicle, reducing movement in the event of impact or a sudden stop. The Marathon is fully lined with expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam that gently cushions and distributes energy away from the child.



The Britax Marathon fits children rear facing from five to 33 pounds and children forward facing from at least one year old and 20 pounds, up to 65 pounds and is approved for aircraft use.

The Marathon featuring Mossy Oak Break-Up® is sold through select independent retailers nationwide. To find a retailer near you, log on to www.BritaxUSA.com and find out how you can own the Mossy Oak Break-Up limited

edition car seat.

Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 213 is a set of strict standards to which child restraint systems must adhere. To read more about the regulations, please visit www.nhtsa.gov.

Speak out for Utah's Wild and Scenic Rivers! - Four Bureau of Land Management Field Offices have released Draft plans in which they are making recommendations about which rivers in their jurisdiction should become Wild and Scenic Rivers. The public (YOU) can and should weigh in on these plans - by submitting comments, attending an open house, or both. The first deadline is approaching rapidly! The Moab Field Office is accepting comments until November 30th. To send in a letter visit our [Action Center](#) or for more information about their plan check [our webpage](#). You can also attend one of several open houses that are being held. For a complete list of the open houses, [click here](#) and download the Federal Review Update document.

Salt Lake City Planning Commission reviews stream setback ordinance. Wednesday, November 14, SLC Planning Commission held a public hearing to understand public perception regarding a proposed ordinance that would require no new development within 25 feet of creeks, including Emigration, Parley's and Red Butte. A large block of creek-side residents voiced their concerns about property rights, and several watershed scientists and Council staff voiced their support for the ordinance to protect city stream corridors. The Commission tabled the issue until November 28, when it will hold a second public hearing and make a decision whether to recommend the ordinance favorably to the City Council. To read Utah Rivers Council comments and recommendations to the ordinance, visit the "Trouble Spots" section of our [web site](#).

http://www.utahrivers.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=13&Itemid=18&a932e9c432ba7aacb8672ed5b36b8750=5814b776035543faa3d73d8666cf84a5

SNOWMOBILE ENTHUSIASTS RESPOND TO NEW YELLOWSTONE WINTER USE ROD

Earlier today, the Regional Office of the National Park Service in Denver issued its Record of Decision (ROD) on winter use in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. This is the latest action in the process of developing a long-term winter use plan for the Parks. The ROD is the final step from which the implementing rule will be developed. This must happen in the next 30 days for the Park to open to snowmobile access December 19, 2007. The ROD formalizes changes and restrictions in snowmobile access to the Parks.

Jack Welch, President of the BlueRibbon Coalition, stated, "We are not completely satisfied by the reduced levels of snowmobile access available only through commercial tour operators, but we appreciate the difficulty of the Park Service's management balance and are thankful that the agency has decided to allow for some level of continued snowmobile access to the Parks."

The final decision includes the following key components:

- * Reduced daily snowmobile entries to YNP from 720 to 540
- * Requirements for 100% BAT and 100% commercially guided snowmobile access
- * Snowmobile and snowcoach travel over Sylvan Pass will be allowed when full avalanche forecasting indicates travel through the pass is safe. The pass will be closed to all travel when full avalanche forecasting shows travel is unsafe, and will reopen to travel only when weather conditions improve and full avalanche forecasting indicates the danger has subsided. In addition, the Park Service will work with the State of Wyoming, Park County, Wyoming and the Town of Cody to seek a consensus approach to avalanche mitigation by June 1, 2008, to provide alternative ways for safe motorized oversnow access over Sylvan Pass.
- * Ceasing of maintenance of the Continental Divide Scenic Trail, but allow trailering of snowmobiles between Flagg Ranch and Moran Junction, and travel by non-BAT snowmobiles between Flagg Ranch and West Yellowstone via National Forest System trails.
- * Requirements for BAT snowmobiles for fishing access on Jackson Lake.

"We have some concerns, but note the news is not all bad," added Welch. "The Park Service has announced that a 'transition period' will occur in the upcoming

2007-2008 season. During the transition, none of the new restrictions will be implemented. We are also pleased that the Grassy Lakes Road remains accessible with non-BAT sleds from Idaho to Flagg Ranch, which is popular with some riders and essential to the continued operations of the Ranch." Other key aspects of management during the "transition period" are that all entrances, including Sylvan Pass, will be open, all snowmobiles will be BAT and commercially guided and total snowmobile entries will be capped at 720 per day.

Welch continued, "We continue to closely monitor this issue and will continue our efforts to defend reasonable snowmobile access to the Parks."

BlueRibbon encourages you to visit and enjoy these two treasures of the National Park System this winter. For continued updates, please continue to visit our dedicated Yellowstone website at www.saveyellowstonepark.com

Conservation Tip: Keep those showers short!



On a cold morning a long hot shower is mighty tempting. It's also mighty wasteful. Did you know the average shower uses up to ten gallons per minute. That's a lot of water down the drain. How long do you linger under that

steam and heat? Try cutting that time for some big savings - even reducing your shower by one or two minutes can save up to 700 gallons per month. In addition to shorter stays, try turning the water off while soaping up, reducing

the stream to a lighter spray, and consider installing a low consumption showerhead. Your pocket book will thank you, and so will Utah's rivers.

Refuge Association Launches 3rd Annual Refuge Photo Contest!

Washington, DC- The National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA) announces its 3rd annual digital photo contest showcasing America's national wildlife refuges. Entries for the 2008 Refuge Photo Contest can be submitted until December 15, 2007 with results to be announced in March 2008 in connection with the 105th anniversary of the establishment of the first national wildlife refuge.

³Images are critical to telling the Refuge System story,² said Evan Hirsche, president of NWRA. ³We know that there are terrific amateur and professional photographers capturing images throughout the System. This is an opportunity for avid photographers to show their work to a broader audience and to help capture the essence of our remarkable wildlife refuges.²



The National Wildlife Refuge System, comprised of over 546 refuges throughout the nation, protects both rare and common types of habitat everything from southwest desert to arctic tundra. Images submitted for the photo contest can be of birds, mammals, insects, fish, other animals, plants, people, or simply shots of refuge scenery.



This year, Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A. has generously donated the grand prize: a 2008 Toyota Highlander Hybrid. Other prizes include a class at the Art Wolfe Digital Photography Center, a Canon EOS 40D Camera, a pair of Steiner 8x42MM Peregrine Binoculars, a TrekPod Go!, and offerings from Barbara's

Bakery, Wild Bird Centers of America and Houghton Mifflin.

In addition, the winners¹ images will be highlighted on NWRA's website and future publications. At least 200 images will be selected for inclusion in the NWRA Refuge Image Library and every photographer submitting an entry will receive a complimentary one-year membership in the National Wildlife Refuge Association.



Also new this year is the addition of both a Senior and Junior Youth

Category. Young photographers from age 14 to 17 may enter as a Senior Youth for a chance to win and have their work recognized in future NWRA publications. Junior Youth, ages 13 and younger may enter to win too!

For photo contest details, requirements, and procedures, visit

<http://www.refugenet.org>, and click on ³2008 Refuge Photo

Contest.²

The National Wildlife Refuge Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, nationwide membership organization, established in 1975. The NWRA's mission is to protect, enhance, and expand the National Wildlife Refuge System, lands and waters set aside by the American people to protect our country's diverse wildlife heritage. For more information, visit <http://www.refugenet.org>.