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Western Outdoor Times TM

April-May 2011

Arizona
Boating & Watersports TM



Wake's Up!

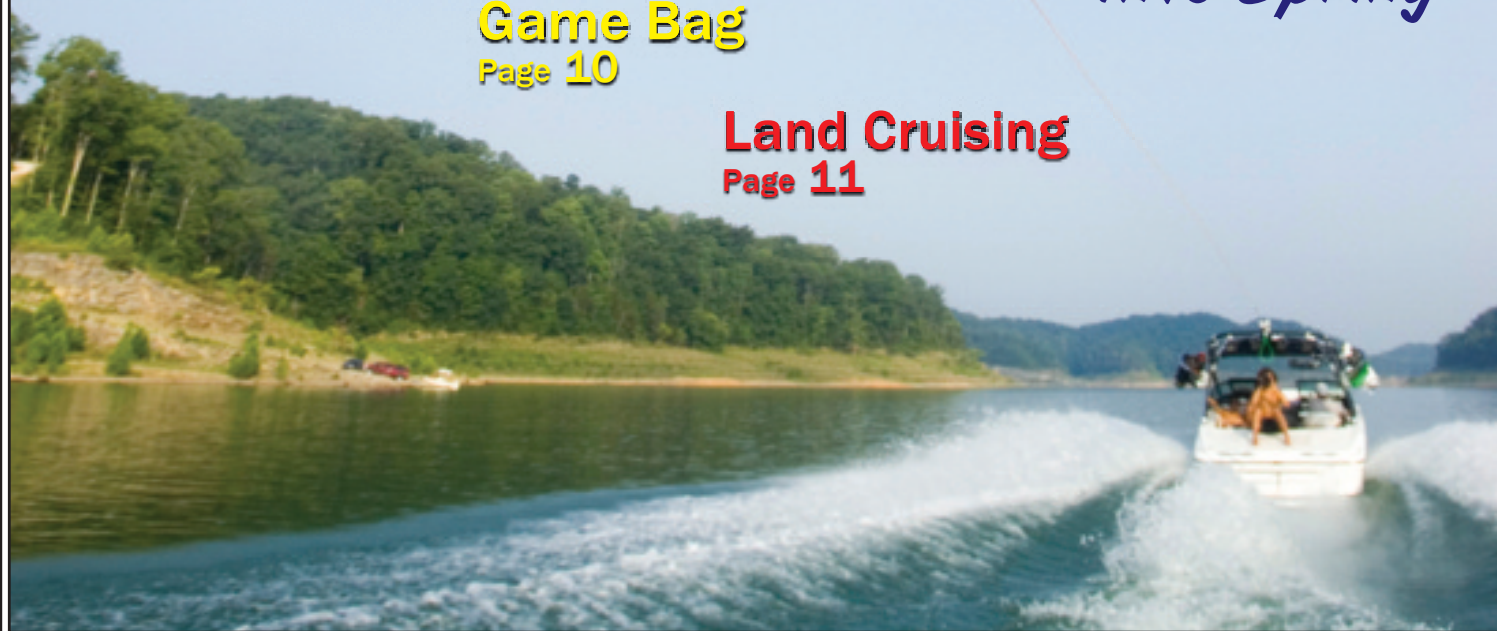
*Ride Safely
Into Spring*

Rock The Boat
Page 2

Tight Lines
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Game Bag
Page 10

Land Cruising
Page 11





Western Outdoor Times

Arizona Boating & Watersports

April - May 2011

Vol. 7, No. 3



'Water, Water Everywhere'

ON THE COVER

Alliance MultiMedia Publishing Supports, Promotes Wake Sports

From Rusty Manoff
Retail Development

The "contortionist" on this issue's cover is 17-year-old Josh Twelker from Northern California. Capturing him in mid air is the photographer from alliancewake.com/Cortese.

About Alliance MultiMedia

Alliance MultiMedia launched in 2000 as a small publishing company. Today Alliance produces high-quality content specifically focused on wakeboarding and wakeskating, in as many media platforms as we can think of — print, websites, videos, television, handhelds, etc.

Our core business is producing quality and compelling content, then creating an association with a brand by attaching their advertising to said content without diluting the authenticity of our content or the brand — rocket science basically.

Specifically, our founder/owner Bill McCaffray launched *Alliance Wakeboard Magazine* in November of 2000 then added a solid Web platform a year later. Both entities quickly became the most respected enthusiast-focused wakeboarding media entities in the world.

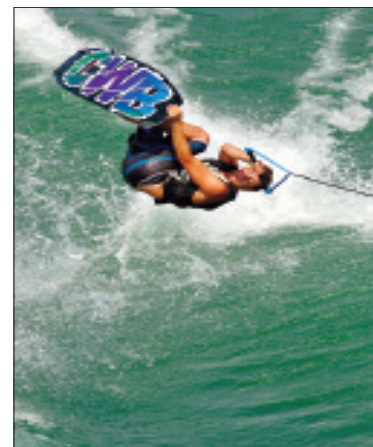
In 2002 we released the first video from Alliance Visual Experiences (A.V.E.) *Invisible Cinema* followed by *Pre Pop* in 2004. By 2005 we were producing *Pull*, by Alliance Wakeboard Magazine for Fuel TV and have since delivered over 50 television shows to Fuel TV. A.V.E. did not strictly shift to broadcast though and built two award-winning videos in 2009, *Rewritten* and *The Parks Bonifay Documentary*, the latter of which won Best Biography at X-Dance in 2010.

Today Alliance is on the forefront of new technology and has embraced new media and new content distribution techniques

See **WAKE SPORTS** on page 19



'EASY RIDER' — Athlete Bob Sichel makes riding look easy as he soars above the water. Sichel is photographed for alliancewake.com by Cortese. Founder/owner Bill McCaffray launched *Alliance Wakeboard Magazine* in November of 2000 then added a solid Web platform a year later. Both entities quickly became the most respected enthusiast-focused wakeboarding media entities in the world.



WAKE UP! — Derek Grasman shows the style of an expert rider as he defies gravity and is photographed by Cortese of alliancewake.com. Alliance MultiMedia focuses on wakeboarding and wakeskating on many media platforms, including print, Web sites, videos, television, handhelds, and more.

SPEED AHEAD!

Thrills In Store For Poker Run/Shootout

It's an annual event, but it never ceases to thrill both participants and spectators. Desert Storm 2011 Poker Run and Shootout is brewing for April 27 through 30 on Lake Havasu, Ariz.

LakeRacerLLC and Teague Custom Marine sponsor this exciting event each spring to the delight and benefit of the community, the participants, and the spectators.

At the host site, the Nautical Inn Resort, the parking lot is filled with vehicles and trailers sporting out-of-state license plates. What brings people to this event from far-flung East Coast sites? The weather? The uniqueness of this venue? These, of course, and the well-honed event itself.

Further, many boaters from colder climates have not yet been able to start their own boating season. So, this is it — their springboard to what they love doing on the water.

Locally, Lake Havasu City has benefited from this annual event; it is a major economic boost for the community that, as many others, has suffered from the recession.

And, besides the Make-A-Wish Foundation, local food banks and the youth pro-



PERFORMANCE PLUS — Vern Gilbert — eight times offshore racing champ and owner of West Coast Drive Service in Lake Havasu City — powers this Skater through Lake Havasu, Ariz. With speeds nearing 200 mph, performance boats will sear the waters during the 2011 Desert Storm Poker Run and Shootout.

grams are recipients of significant assistance from this event.

Wednesday, April 27 is "Puttin' On The Wish" with the Platinum Powerboat Club and the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Thursday, April 28 is the gala street party with the performance-boats stars on display. This is a huge event in downtown Havasu

See **POKER RUN** on page 19

WAKES AND WET SUITS

Arizona Is An Ideal Venue For Waterskiing

By Mary Syrett



With the smooth tug of a rope and a rapid rush of air, the waterskier is up. "After that," observes veteran Lake Pleasant waterskier Melvin Newton, "it's similar to walking on water." The delightful sensations of waterskiing lure many people to lakes around Arizona each year. Why has this sport, unknown 90 years ago, attracted so many enthusiasts?

Cutting through a wake at 20-plus miles per hour — the spray in your face and wind

See **WATERSKIING** on page 17

THANKS TO BARTLETT LAKE MARINA AND BARROWS

15th Annual 'Day On The Lake' Offers A Chance For Challenged To 'Ride The Waves'

The Day on the Lake program is the only adapted watersports program for those with physical and neurological disabilities offered in Arizona.

Summer 2011 will mark the 15th year of helping people who suffer from a neurological disability ride the waves at one of the most accessible waterside facilities in Arizona — Bartlett Lake Marina.



Registration begins on April 1. (Please call the Resource Link at 877-602-4211 to register or to sponsor a participant. Contact the Barrow Connection at 602-406-6280 with any questions.)

Day on the Lake 2011 will provide instruction and participation in the following activities:

Thursday, June 2: Waterskiing only (limit 30 water skiers)

Friday, June 3: waterskiing, jet-ski rides, fishing, kayaking, and boat rides

Saturday, June 4: waterskiing, jet ski rides, fishing, kayaking, and boat rides

The Day on the Lake program is offered to —

children ages 3-8 (fishing and boat ride

See **WAVES** on page 19

And Someone Asked Us:

Q Is Bartlett Lake a good place for skiing and wakeboarding?

A Absolutely! Bartlett Lake is considered by many to be the ideal lake in Arizona for these activities. Waterskiis and wakeboards are available for rent in their marina store. For details, visit <http://bartlettlake.com/content/faq.html>



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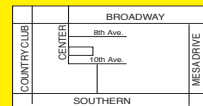
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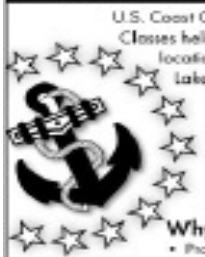
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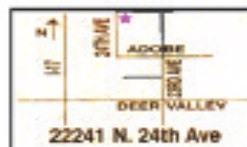


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Alcohol and Drugs

Arizona law prohibits anyone from operating a power-driven vessel while under the influence of alcohol or any drug that causes the person to be even slightly impaired. Alcohol and drugs cause impaired balance, blurred vision, poor coordination, impaired judgment, and slower reaction time. Alcohol contributes to about one-third of all fatal boating accidents nationwide.

- ◆ A person is considered to be operating under the influence (OUI) of alcohol if he or she has an alcohol concentration of 0.08% or greater as determined by a test of his or her breath, blood, or urine. "Extreme OUI" is blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.15% and higher
- ◆ If convicted of OUI or "Extreme OUI," a person can be fined up to \$2,500 and jailed for up to six months.
- ◆ By operating a vessel on Arizona Waters, you have consented to be tested for alcohol or drugs if arrested by a law enforcement officer for alleged violations under Arizona Watercraft Statutes.

*The best thing you can do for your safety and the safety of other boaters is simple...
Don't drink and boat!*



Statewide Boating Education Classes

April 2011

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
United States Power Squadron	April 16 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Los Lagos Clubhouse 6102 Lago Grande Dr. Fort Mohave	\$0	(928) 768-1522
Arizona Game and Fish Department	April 16 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Roosevelt Lake Patrol Sheriff's Substation 28449 N. Hwy 188 (at mile post 243) Roosevelt Lake	\$5 per family	(928) 467-2515
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	April 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	April 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max 1840 E. Broadway Road Tempe	\$30	(480) 899-3373

May 2011

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	May 7 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Arizona Game and Fish Regional Office 555 N. Greasewood Road Tucson	\$0	(520) 429-6106
Arizona Game and Fish Department	May 14 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Roosevelt Lake patrol Sheriff's Substation 28449 N. Hwy. 188 (at mile post 243) Roosevelt Lake	\$5 per family	(928) 467-2515
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	May 21 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Bass Pro Shop 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(602) 490-8076
Arizona Game and Fish Department	May 28 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max 1840 E. Broadway Road Tempe	\$8 per family	(623) 236-7235

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At no additional cost, you can renew your watercraft registration, pay online and change your address at azgfd.gov/watercraft.

After completing the online process, you can print a temporary certificate that will enable immediate use of your boat or personal watercraft.

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- Life Jacket trade in
- Courtesy vessel safety checks
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Life jacket trade-in:

- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Bring in your unsafe or outgrown life jackets
- New life jackets will be available (while supplies last)
- One per family



**Saturday,
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10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

London Bridge Beach Park
1340 McCulloch Blvd.,
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For more information:
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Boating & Watersports



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AZBW/WOT's editor has personal thank-yous this issue: to the doctors caring for her sister-in-law and brother in Washington State, to those caring for her daughter Christi at the University Medical Center in Tucson, and to Dr. William Stevens in Phoenix for herself. Thank you, all!

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Minimize Risk of Boating Accidents — Avoid Alcohol

From AZGFD Safe Boating Course

The effect of alcohol is increased by the natural stressors placed on your body

while boating. Also, alcohol causes dehydration of your body. It takes less alcohol, combined with stressors, to impair an op-



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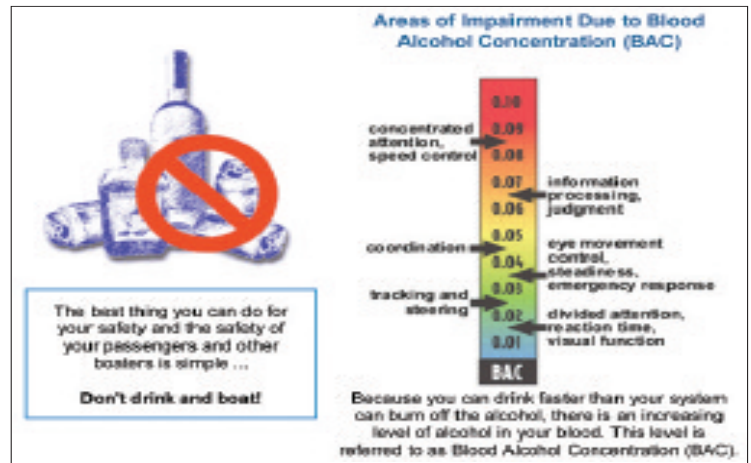
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erator's ability to operate safely.

Research has proven that one-third of the amount of alcohol that it takes to make a person legally intoxicated on land can make a boater equally intoxicated on the water.

Alcohol depresses the central nervous system, affects judgment, and slows physical reaction time. Most people become impaired after only one drink.

Alcohol makes it difficult for you to pay attention and perform multiple tasks. For example, it will be more difficult for you to keep track of two or more vessels operating in your area. This could become critical if you are placed in an emergency situation and must make a sudden decision.

Alcohol can reduce your ability to distinguish colors, especially red and green.

Alcohol impairment increases the likelihood of accidents — for both passengers and vessel operators.

Always designate non-drinking boaters to operate the vessel and to act as an observer if your group plans to consume alcohol. Do not allow your skipper to operate if he or she is drinking.

Alcohol is a major contributor to boating accidents and fatalities. Drinking while boating is a choice. The best way to minimize the risk of an accident is to make the wise choice: **Don't drink and boat!**



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Esparza Joins West Marine



WELCOME! — Ken Whitmer, manager of West Marine in Tempe, 1628 E. Southern Ave., would like to let everyone know in the boating community of hiring a new associate. Whitmer has tried for years to get this person to work for West Marine and has finally succeeded. He has hired

David Esparza, a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary for over 16 years, an avid boater on fresh, salt water and rivers for over 40 years. Esparza is a safety expert in power boating and a master instructor with the Coast Guard and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Esparza has earned many awards from the AZGFD, The Maricopa County Sheriffs Department, and the Coast Guard Auxiliary for his many missions of lifesaving and dedication to public education. He has also earned the Lifetime Achievement Award and Letter of Commendation from the National Water Safety Congress. Please stop by the store and welcome Dave Esparza to West Marine.

Earth
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66' DITTMAR DONALDSON SPORTFISHER

Complete refit has been completed with the hull & superstructure painted with 3 coats of AWL-GRIP. Four coats bottom paint (09). New 25kw Northern Lights generator '09. ECONOMICAL to operate 1.5 Gallons per mile @ 10 kts with a 1500 mile range. Built by Dittmar & Donaldson, in Costa Mesa, CA, well known for their quality craftsmanship. Additional features include an enclosed bridge, A/C, large fish hold, triple control stations, a huge cockpit, Sonar, & a large fuel capacity. Continuous maintenance & upgrades with additional new items being installed. Excellent economical long range fishing/cruising yacht. **\$350,000**



1983 50' HATTERAS CONVERTIBLE

Constructed on a wide beam modified-V hull with balsa coring from the waterline up and a long keel. The wide beam provides interior accommodations that are generous. This is the popular 3-stateroom layout with a deckhouse galley, two heads and showers. The Master stateroom has a queen size bed, one Guest cabin has a double bed and the second guest cabin has upper and lower twin berths. The 92 sq. ft. cockpit has a transom door, under-coaming air intakes, and direct engine room access. The flybridge is huge with bench seating for seven. **PRICE \$195,000.**



1982 72' PHILBROOKS LONG RANGE YACHTFISHER

This long range yachtfisher is powered with VERY economical twin CAT 3408E main engines: 1.3GPM, 3700 gallons of fuel capacity providing a 2500 mile range. The raised pilothouse has a full navigation station with twin Side helm seats plus a pilot berth. Accommodations are three large staterooms all with teak wood interior. Three heads and showers. The galley has Corian counter tops and polished stainless steel appliances. Flying bridge with boat deck aft, a huge tournament equipped fishing cockpit. New Awlgrip paint & complete upgrades. Located in San Diego. OFFERS ENCOURAGED! **\$795,000.**



60' CUSTOM HATTERAS SPORTFISHER

A personal inspection is the only way to really appreciate the upgrades that this yacht has received. This is a very Custom classic Hatteras 60' with a three foot extended upper bridge deck. This may be the finest sportfisher of this type on the market. Past years First place Winner of the Bibebe Black & Blue Marlin Tournament. Some of the Upgrades included Stewart Stevenson 12V82T 1075HP main engines, 2 Northern Light Generators, Stabilizers, Bow Thruster, upgraded electronics, Interior design by Nancy Walker. **\$350,000.**



1992 38' MEDITERRANEAN SPORTFISHER

An economy class west coast convertible that appeals to buyers looking for value. This twin diesel sportfisher features a fully enclosed flybridge and sleeping accommodations for 4 persons in a forward cabin and convertible salon couch. There is a full head with stall shower. The cockpit is shaded by the flybridge overhang. Molded bridge steps, wide side decks. Optional inside lower helm station. Needs some work but owner Must sell now. Offers encouraged. **Asking \$55,000.**

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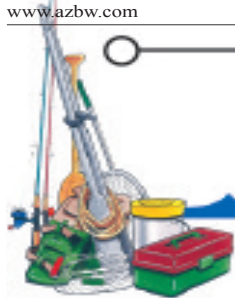












LIGHT LINES

FISHING IN ARIZONA AND BEYOND



FOR AN HONORED ARIZONA ANGLER

Help Provide An Honor Flight For This World War II Vet

He is a World War II veteran, and he has helped many young people learn to and love to fish. His name is Walter (Phil) Jordan, Jr.

One of his dreams is to visit Washington, D.C., and reflect at the memorials to the World War II veterans.

However, Jordan needs assistance to realize his dream. Donations are welcome; actually, they are thank-yous to this man who has served his country, his community, and the youth as he fostered their appreciation of Arizona outdoor activities, especially angling.

If you wish, contributions may be made via American Legion Post 97 Honor Flight at 270 E. Hunt Highway, Suite 116-14, San Tan Valley, Ariz., 85142.

About Honor Flight Network

Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. We transport our heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Top priority is given to World War II veterans.

Of all of the wars in recent memory, it was World War II that truly threatened our very existence as a nation — and as a cul-

See **FLIGHT** on page 14

LAKE POWELL REPORT

Superb Fishing Mid-April To Mid-May Predicted

By Wayne Gustaveson

The report this week finds most striper fishing success in the southern end of Lake Powell. Fishing upstream from Dangling Rope Marina has not started as quickly for most with striped bass being hard to catch.

Fish that are responding well right now are largemouth bass and crappie. Brush-lined coves from Good Hope Bay to Hite harbor good populations of crappie that are moving ever closer to spawning with each warm afternoon. Crappie have responded well to 2-inch pearl or white plastic grubs in thick brush. Largemouth bass and walleye are being caught on a regular basis now with smallmouth bass fishing improving every day.

The common theme over the entire lake is that murky water in the backs of the canyons warms more quickly than clear water. Searching for active fish visually by selecting stained water and with a thermometer to find the warmest water available are the most effective search patterns. These work until base water temperature exceeds 60F. Then clear water is just as good.

My weekly fish-sampling trip included a circuit of the striper spots near Wahweap. Anglers tied off to the barricade in front of the dam reported striper fishing to be outstanding beginning precisely as the first sun rays hit the water. That flurry of action

See **FISHING** on page 14



HOT HOOKING — Nob Wimmer, Clark Bench, Utah, caught a 7.5 pound striper trolling in the murky water in the back of Navajo Canyon. All fish are more active in stained water, which is warmer than clear water in April. Fishing in the southern lake is hot for stripers right now.



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San Diego Sportfishing Landings in Point Loma

It's All About San Diego Sportfishing



This is the 32nd year the San Diego Sportfishing Council has sponsored its special showcase of San Diego sportfishing. We hope you'll take this opportunity to join us and discover a bit more of what the Port of San Diego holds for you. Here's what's happening this year:

- Fishing Seminars
- Free Fishing for Kids
- Long Range Fishing Expo
- Catch & Cook Seafood Series
- Tackle Displays & Sale
- Free Parking & Free Shuttles
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Arizona Anglers Watching The Weather

By Rory Aikens

Arizona Game & Fish Department

Thanks to all of you who were patient waiting for the more fully updated report — still missing a couple of regions, but fortunately, with a few calls I was able to fill in the blanks. For those who weren't as patient or understanding, well, hopefully you'll get a chance to wet a line because fishing can teach patience and humility if you let it.

Here's a piece of great news — we surveyed Tempe Town Lake last week and guess what? IT'S BACK!

Our biologists are still crunching the numbers, but the survey showed lots of largemouth bass ranging up to 4 pounds, and the yellow bass were plentiful.

Even though the lake lost all of its water last summer when one of the inflatable dams broke, the water from SRP used

to fill it back up again last fall was apparently loaded with fish.

Striper Bite At Pleasant

My old friend Michael McFarland called Wednesday morning and said the largemouth bass were off the beds, but like me, he believes the striper bite at Pleasant won't be negatively impacted by the recent storm fronts, and might even get better. However, Pleasant can be scary when the wind is blowing.

Crappie Are Weather-Wary

Once a spring storm hits, crappie anglers might either hang up their poles, or put on some finesse baits for bass. Crappie don't like stormy weather, no matter who is singing it.

If a weather front doesn't change the equation, there should be a massive

spawning time for crappie, and a spawning surge for largemouth bass (maybe for stripers as well in some lakes) as early as mid-April.

All Precip Appreciated

But we really need the precipitation. Mark Hubble at SRP said the runoff so far is only about 40 percent of normal in the Salt and Verde watersheds. Fortunately, we went into winter with pretty full lakes. But, we were glad to see more weather come our way recently — all precip is appreciated at this juncture.

For fishing, that's not gloom and doom by any stretch of the imagination. We just had two back-to-back years of good runoff (2009 and 2010) with very-good-to-excellent spor-fish and forage fish spawns or productivity. Anglers are already reaping that bounty this year. We just won't



have that nutrient super-charging we've seen the previous two years.

More Good News

Here's some more good news. The road opened into Willow Springs and Black Canyon lakes. In early April, we reported that Blue Ridge and Long Lake were both open. Kaibab Lake near Williams is not only open, but also it has had back-to-back week stockings of trout totaling 20,000 fish. We are hoping to get trout into Dogtown and Whitehorse lakes soon, so stay tuned.

Access to Ashurst could open soon, but it will be northern pike time. No trout are scheduled for stocking until our Flagstaff region assess the situation.

Here's the latest from Big Lake, although I would call before going if snow is expected. At <http://www.biglakeaz.com/index.htm> they posted the following: "We are in the process of opening the store for the 2011 season. Highway 261 gates are still locked but you can access the lake via FS 249. We do have boats available for rent, but please call ahead to make a reservation."

To Receive Report

By the way, I have had a lot of people ask me recently how to get the weekly fishing report delivered directly to their computer each week. Here's the link <http://www.azgfd.gov/eservices/subscribe.shtml>.

It was my privilege to do a fishing seminar recently. Learned a new fishing technique called "flick shaking" that is typically used on lightweight spinning rods with quick-action tips. It's the latest technique to come out of Japan and might just get you lots of bass at times. Try this website: <http://www.urbanfishinghq.com/>.

Arizona Wildlife Views Wants Your Fishing Tips

Got a fishing tip? *Arizona Wildlife Views* magazine wants to publish "Arizona's best fishing tips" and they need to hear from the experts — readers of the "Weekly Fishing Report."

See WEATHER on page 14

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From AZGFD

Spring Catfish Stockings Get Off To Great Start

An excellent load of 1.5-4 pound channel catfish arrived safely in good health at the end of last month. Strong and hungry, the cats started biting right away. Bait choice didn't seem to matter much as the ravenous catfish readily took worms, hot dogs, shrimp and stink baits.

Daily limits are four catfish per person at Urban Lakes or two catfish per person at Urban Ponds (note regulations and park signage for Lake and Pond designations). Anglers are encouraged to call Operation Game Thief, any time of day, at 1-800-352-0700 to report any ongoing over-limit or license violations.

22,000 Bluegill Have Found Homes In Urban Lakes

Just in time for spring break, over 22,000 feisty, hard biting sunfish were successfully stocked into all Phoenix and Tucson area Urban waters at the end of March. Twice each year, the Department stocks 5-8 inch bluegill to replenish populations of this popular sport fish and offer some great fishing for young anglers.

You Can Still Help Arizona's Wildlife At State Income Tax Time

If you haven't yet filled out your tax returns, you can still help conserve our state's bald eagles, Apache trout, Mexican wolves, California condors, desert tortoises, and other wildlife by "making a mark" on your Arizona state income tax form.

The Arizona Wildlife Fund is a voluntary program that allows Arizona taxpayers to make a donation to help imperiled and endangered wildlife and other nongame species. Nongame wildlife are those animals that are neither hunted nor fished in a

Fishing is excellent for anglers using meal worms, worms or doughballs fished under small bobbers along the shorelines. Daily bag limits for bluegill/sunfish are 10 per day at Urban Lakes or 5 per day at Urban Ponds.

A Record 4,000 Kids Successful Catching Fish At AZGFD Expo

The immensely popular 2011 Game and Fish Department Outdoor Expo drew record numbers of families and kids. More than 4,250 children participated in the largest-ever kids' fishing tank experience.

After three days of fishing, more than 95 percent of the kids caught at least one bluegill. More than 80 percent caught and released their limit of two fish.

For many of the kids, it was the first fish they had ever caught. Shouts of glee kept erupting as the feisty sunfish were lifted from the tank and then released in a pattern that repeated itself thousands of times.

Cameras, smart phones and cell phones captured images of this fun and memorable family experience. Over the weekend, 60 department employees and volunteers worked in unison to assist the kids in catching fish and ensuring they had a great time. But, the 5,000 super-hungry bluegill were the stars of the Expo. At the end of the

traditional sense.

The fund has a tremendous impact on conserving one of Arizona's greatest natural treasures — its wildlife — which provides a variety of low-cost recreational opportunities for residents to enjoy and real economic benefits to local communities.

Arizona is one of 41 states that allow taxpayers to make a contribution to worthwhile causes. Since Arizona started the program more than 25 years ago, taxpayers have donated more than \$5 million to the

show, bluegill were delivered to Desert West, Encanto, Cortez and Riverview lakes.

Urban Fishing Report

The second catfish stocking of the spring season was April 4-9 at all Phoenix and Tucson area Urban waters. Cats from the March 24 season-opening date have been biting very well on worms, stink baits, hot dogs or shrimp fished on the bottom. Reports of 4 to 6 pound channel catfish have come in from a variety of lakes in Tucson, Phoenix, Chandler and Mesa.

Bluegill fishing is excellent at all Phoenix and Tucson area waters that were just stocked in early April. Best baits for the feisty, 5-8 inch bluegill are worms and mealworms fished under a small bobber in 3-6 foot depths.

Largemouth bass have been moving into the shallows for spawning off and on over the past few weeks. Please exercise catch and release for spawning bass and remember the minimum keepable size for bass is 13 inches.

At Green Valley lakes (Payson) fishing is good to excellent for trout. Try Power Bait, worms or salmon eggs off the bottom. Trout stockings at this higher elevation Urban lake will continue every two weeks until mid May.

conservation of nongame animals.

The Arizona Wildlife Fund box can be found on line "42" of the state's long income tax form, or line "38" of the short tax form.

For more information on the Arizona Wildlife Fund, visit www.azgfd.gov/makeamark. To learn more about the conservation and reintroduction efforts the fund supports, visit www.azgfd.gov/w_c/nongame_species.shtml.

Early Booking Best For Spring Yellowtail Derby

The Yellowtail Derby committee is recommending anglers planning to fish in the Derby, who do not have a boat, to book their open party trips early. It is especially important if the angler is planning on fishing with friends.

Here is the San Diego Bay Sportfishing Landings contact information:

Fisherman's Landing
619-221-8500
fishermanslanding.com

H&M Landing
619-222-1144
hmlanding.com

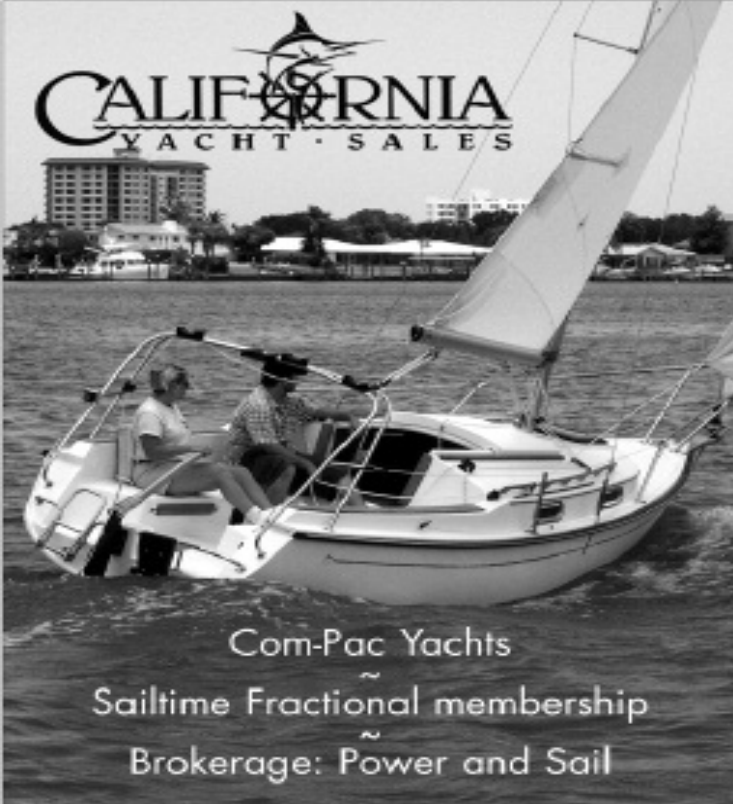
Point Loma Sportfishing
619-223-1627
pointlomasportfishing.com

The 1/2, 3/4 and full day trips only will be accepted for the Derby.

The Third Annual International Yellowtail Derby dates are from April 30 to May 21. There will be a skipper's meeting and party on April 28 at the Bali Hai Restaurant. The Awards Party will be on May 22 at the Bali Hai Restaurant. The winner with the largest Yellowtail will also be weighed-in to receive their weight in Yellowtail Pale Ale.

The Derby is sponsored and supported by the Port of San Diego, Sunroad Resort Marina, Sunroad San Diego Boat Show, the Maritime Institute, Seatow Services, West Marine, Ballast Point Brewery, San Diego Marine Exchange, CFB Marine Group, AFTCO, SportClips, The Bali Hai, Everingham Brothers Bait Co., Fisherman's Landing, H & M Landing, Point Loma Sportfishing, De-Fishing Soap, UniGoop, Angler's Choice Tackle, Angler's Arsenal, BlueSkyNews.com, Fisherman's Landing Tackle, Boyce Image, Fish

See DERBY on page 14



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Drawing Results For Elk, Pronghorn Hunts Available

Permits remaining issued first-come, first-served beginning April 25.

From AZGFD

The drawing results for Arizona's 2011 elk and pronghorn antelope big game hunts are now available. The more than 120,000 eager applicants can find out if they were drawn for the limited permits by visiting the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Web site at www.azgfd.gov/draw or by calling (602) 942-3000 and selecting option two.

Hunt permit-tags for successful applicants, and refunds for unsuccessful or rejected applicants/applications (less application fees), will be mailed out no later than April 22.

For those individuals who missed the draw deadline or were unsuccessful in getting a permit-tag, there are more than 600 leftover tags remaining. Remaining tags are available on a first-come, first-served basis and include more than 600 elk tags and four pronghorn antelope tags.

Leftover tags in Hopi hunt open areas are available to everyone (tribal members and non-tribal members) through the first-come, first-served process.

There are two methods to obtain a leftover tag. Applications will be accepted by mail only beginning at 8 a.m. (MST) on April 25. Starting on May 2 at 8 a.m.



(MST), hunters can purchase a leftover tag in person with an application at any of the seven Arizona Game and Fish Department offices.

For a detailed listing of leftover permits, the 2011 Pronghorn Antelope and Elk Hunt Draw Information booklet (see pages 8-12 for draw and first-come process), and other drawing-related information, visit www.azgfd.gov/draw.

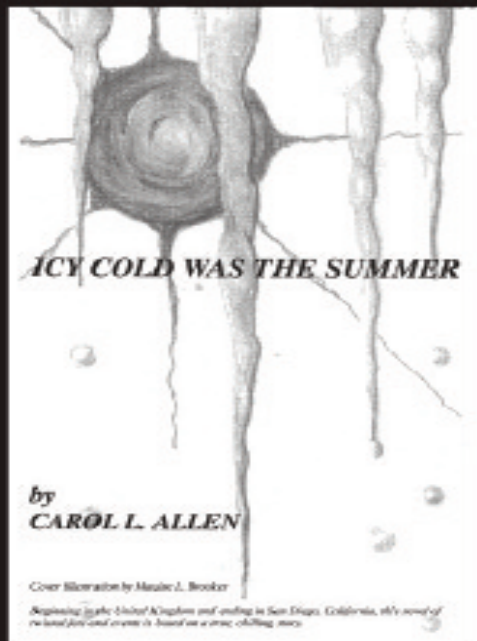
For those who qualify, there are military hunts available for Camp Navajo; call (928) 773-3274 for additional information.

Important information regarding 19B pronghorn antelope hunts: Hunters who applied for pronghorn antelope in Game Management Unit 19B, hunt number 2022 (50 general permits) and 2054 (15 archery-only permits), are reminded that the Arizona Game and Fish Commission has canceled all the 2011 antelope hunts in this unit due to the loss of public access onto the Chino Grande Ranch.

With the elimination of these two hunts, the draw program processed any choices with these hunt numbers as if all the tags had been issued and moved to the appli-

See PERMITS on page 14

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Arizona State Parks Land Conservation Fund Growing Smarter grant workshop will be May 4.

In November 1998, voters approved an annual appropriation of \$20 million to the Land Conservation Fund from the General Fund until FY 2011. These funds are used to assist eligible applicants in purchasing or leasing State Trust land that has been reclassified for conservation.

Political subdivisions of the state and non-profit organizations created with the purpose of preserving open space can all apply for these monies. There is approximately \$80 million remaining in the fund for distribution to successful grant applicants.

The FY2011 Growing Smarter State

See **FUND** on page 14

Maricopa Regional Trail Connects Past With Present

Residents in the North Valley are now one step closer to connecting with the early settlers and ranchers who once foraged the land for wild plants and grazed livestock on the *bajada* grassland.

The Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department proudly unveiled the newest segment of the Maricopa Regional Trail System, the Spear S Ranch Trailhead on April 9. The event was sponsored by the New River/Desert Hills Community Association, North Country Conservancy, and Desert Foothills Land Trust.

"Not only will this segment of the trail allow residents to travel back in time, it also brings them closer to the native wildlife found in the area," stated Maricopa County Supervisor Andy Kunasek, District 3. "The area is rich with wildlife so you never know when a mule deer might be observing you from the brush. If you look up, you might even catch a Red-tailed Hawk soaring overhead."

The featured speeches from Supervisor Kunasek, several local officials and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The Spear S Ranch Trailhead is located at 41799 N. New River Road in Phoenix.

The Maricopa Regional Trail System, once completed, will link Maricopa County's 10 regional parks together and create recreation corridors to connect people and open space. The trail system is expected to be approximately 1,521-miles long. The Maricopa Trail, the County's portion of the trail system, is approximately 312-miles.

For more information, visit www.maricopa.gov/parks, or phone (602) 506-2930.

It is our pleasure from time to time to present to our readers information about new products; however, the articles published in *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times* are for reader interest only and do not constitute endorsement. Further, we suggest that you check first with local marine, fishing, hunting, and RV dealers/suppliers to see if they have the products mentioned in our articles. Also, please remember that the prices given are those that were in effect at press time and may have changed.

Shurhold Debuts RV Cleaning App

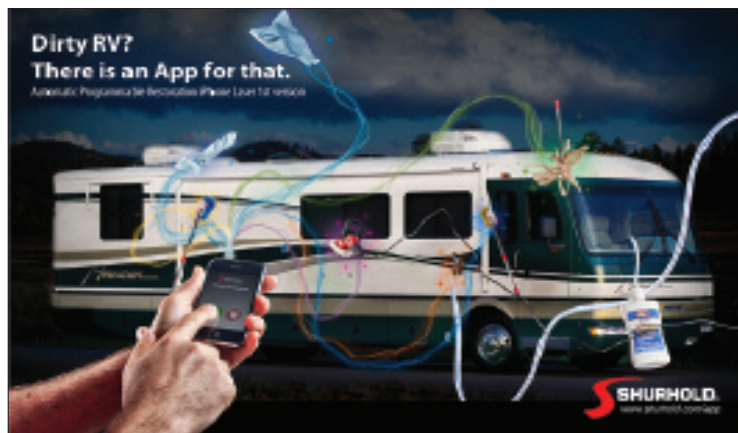
Dirty RV? There's now an app for that. With Shurhold Industries' new RV Cleaning App, owners can wash, wax and clean from any smart phone. This app magically brings Shurhold's high-quality detailing products to life.

Owners simply enter the parameters of their RV into the phone. Then, the app determines which products should be used and with what tools, based on availability. Users can then just sit back, relax and watch the gear dance around and clean the rig. An RV can now, literally, clean itself.

As an added convenience, the app is suitable for any and all vehicles. It features three settings, Wash Mode, Dry Mode and Wax Mode, so users can get their RV sparkling according to their needs.

For a video demonstration and more information, interested parties can visit www.shurhold.com/apl. As a special offer, Shurhold's RV Cleaning App has an introductory price of \$41.11. The app will have a retail price of \$99.98.

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IT'S FOR THE BIRDS

Margie Allen, *Birding Editor*



Bald Eagle Breeding Closure Areas Lifted On Some Arizona Lakes, Rivers

The Arizona Game and Fish Department and its partners are lifting some of the closures at lakes and rivers statewide that are put into place annually to help bald eagles during the breeding season.

The closures at the following five sites were removed March 31 because the bald eagles in these areas failed to produce young and will not breed this late in the spring:

- Lake Pleasant
- Verde River below Horseshoe Dam
- Verde River below Sycamore Canyon Wilderness

• Salt River below Stewart Mountain Dam downstream of the Bush Highway Bridge

- Salt River near Meddler Point

All other previously announced closures remain in effect because bald eagle



breeding activities are still continuing in those areas. The public should contact the local land management agency to ensure the area they are visiting is open for recreational use.

Each year, land and wildlife manage-

ment agencies close bald eagle breeding areas for part of the year, beginning in December, to protect the state's bald eagles. Outdoor recreationists are asked to help protect these important breeding areas by honoring the closures.

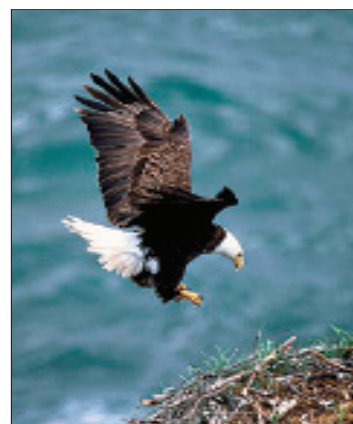
Bald eagles are particularly sensitive to human disturbance during the breeding season and public cooperation with the closures is an important part of helping to conserve the species. Human activity near active bald eagle nests can cause a breeding pair to leave its eggs uncovered, leading to a failed breeding attempt. Human presence can also cause a young bird to prematurely leave the nest.

Management of the bald eagle falls under the Arizona Game and Fish Department's program to recover species that are declining or that have been extirpated from

the state. Through its partnerships with other public agencies, non-profit organizations and the science community, the department's wildlife recovery program aims to prevent species from becoming endangered and conserve them in a more cost-effective manner.

State-level involvement provides closer oversight of wildlife species on a day-to-day basis. Specific emphasis is placed on identifying and managing the wildlife and habitat of greatest conservation need, or those species that are no longer abundant and facing increasing threats from habitat degradation, disease, introduction of non-native species and climate change.

Adaptive management of these species helps ensure their continued presence in Arizona and protects the delicate balance of the ecosystem for future generations.



The Elegant Bald Eagle Respected Internationally

The **Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is a bird of prey found in North America. It is the national bird and symbol of the United States of America.

This sea eagle has two known subspecies and forms a species pair with the White-tailed Eagle. Its range includes most of Canada and Alaska, all of the contiguous United States, and northern Mexico. It is found near large bodies of open water with an abundant food supply and old-growth trees for nesting.

In the late 20th century the Bald Eagle was on the brink of extirpation in the continental United States, while flourishing in much of Alaska and Canada. Populations recovered and stabilized, so the species was removed from the U.S. federal government's list of endangered species and

transferred to the list of threatened species on July 12, 1995, and it was removed from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in the Lower 48 States on June 28, 2007.

Bald Eagles are not actually bald, the name deriving from the older meaning of the word, "white headed".

Description

The plumage of an adult Bald Eagle is evenly brown with a white head and tail. The tail is moderately long and slightly wedge-shaped. Males and females are identical in plumage coloration, but sexual dimorphism is evident in the species in that females are 25 percent larger than males.

The beak, feet, and irises are bright yellow. The legs are feather-free, and the toes are short and powerful with large talons. The highly developed talon of the hind toe is used to pierce the vital areas of prey while it is held immobile by the front toes. The beak is large and hooked, with a yellow cere.

The plumage of the immature is brown, speckled with white until the fifth (rarely fourth, very rarely third) year, when it reaches sexual maturity. Immature Bald Eagles are distinguishable from the Golden Eagle in that the former has a more protruding head with a larger beak, straighter-edged wings which are held flat (not slightly raised) and with a stiffer wing beat, and feathers which do not completely cover the legs.

The Bald Eagle is a large bird, with a body length of 70–102 centimeters (28–40 in), a wingspan of between 1.68 m (66 in) and 2.44 m (96 in), and a mass of 2.5–7 kilograms (5.5–15 lb); females are about 25 percent larger than males, adult females averaging 5.8 kilograms (13 lb) and males averaging 4.1 kilograms (9.0 lb).

The size of the bird varies by location; the smallest specimens are those from Florida, where an adult male may barely exceed 2.3 kilograms (5.1 lb) and a wingspan of 1.8 m (5.9 ft). The largest are Alaskan birds, where large females may exceed 7.5 kilograms (17 lb) and have a wingspan of over 2.4 m (7.9 ft).

Its diet consists mainly of fish, but it is an opportunistic feeder. It hunts fish by swooping down and snatching the fish out of the water with its talons. It is sexually mature at four years or five years of age. In the wild, Bald Eagles can live up to thirty years, and often survive longer in captivity. The Bald Eagle builds the largest nest of any North American bird, up to 4 meters (13 ft) deep, 2.5 meters (8.2 ft) wide, and one metric ton (1.1 tons) in weight.

The call consists of weak chirping whistles, harsher and more shrill from young birds than adults.

The average lifespan of Bald Eagles in

the wild is around 20 years, with the oldest living to be about 30. In captivity, they often live somewhat longer. In one instance, a captive individual in New York lived for nearly 50 years. As with size, the average lifespan of an eagle population appears to be influenced by its location.

Habitat/Range

The Bald Eagle prefers habitats near seacoasts, rivers, large lakes, oceans, and other large bodies of open water with an abundance of fish. Studies have shown a preference for bodies of water with a circumference greater than 11 km (7 mi), and lakes with an area greater than 10 square kilometers (4 sq mi) are optimal for breeding Bald Eagles.

The Bald Eagle requires old-growth and mature stands of coniferous or hardwood trees for perching, roosting, and nesting. Selected trees must have good visibility, an open structure, and proximity to prey, but the height or species of tree is not as important as an abundance of comparatively large trees surrounding the body of water. Forests used for nesting should have a canopy cover of no more than 60 percent, and no less than 20 percent, and be in close proximity to water.

The Bald Eagle is extremely sensitive to human activity, and is found most commonly in areas free of human disturbance. It chooses sites more than 1.2 km (0.75 mi) from low-density human disturbance and more than 1.8 km (1.1 mi) from medium- to high-density human disturbance.

Occasionally Bald Eagles will venture into large estuaries or secluded groves within major cities, such as Hardack Island on the Willamette River in Portland, Ore. Despite this sensitivity, a family of Bald Eagles recently moved to the Harlem neighborhood of Manhattan in New York City.

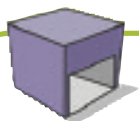
Bald Eagle's natural range covers most of North America, including most of Canada, all of the continental United States, and northern Mexico. It is the only sea eagle endemic to North America. Occupying varied habitats from the bayous of Louisiana to the Sonoran Desert and the eastern deciduous forests of Quebec and New England, northern birds are migratory, while southern birds are resident, remaining on their breeding territory all year.

At minimum population, in the 1950s, it was largely restricted to Alaska, the Aleutian Islands, northern and eastern Canada, and Florida.

It has occurred as a vagrant twice in Ireland; a juvenile was shot illegally in Fermanagh on January 11, 1973 (misidentified at first as a White-tailed Eagle), and an exhausted juvenile was captured in Kerry on November 15, 1987.

Bald Eagles will also congregate in

See **BALD EAGLE** on page 14



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4 MAIN PROBLEMS WITH E10 / ETHANOL FUEL

PROBLEM 1: DEBRIS IN FUEL

Gums rapidly form in the fuel tank and fuel delivery systems as ethanol fuels age. However, ethanol is also a powerful solvent that will strip away and disperse this build up back into the fuel as large, performance-robbing particles. This leads to clogged filters, injectors and carburetors.

STAR TRON® SOLUTION: Star Tron®'s enzymes break down debris into sub-micron sized particles that can be easily burned during the combustion process, restoring full performance.

PROBLEM 2: EXCESSIVE WATER IN THE FUEL AND PHASE SEPARATION

Ethanol attracts moisture from the atmosphere, forming an ethanol/water solution mixed in the gasoline. E-10 fuel will naturally hold .5% water in suspension, but when water levels exceed this threshold, or when the fuel cools significantly, the water/ethanol mix drops out of suspension. This is phase separation. Excessive water in the fuel tank causes engines to run rough, stall, and can lead to internal damage to engine components. Ethanol provides a significant amount of the fuel's octane, so when the ethanol/water solution separates and drops to the bottom of the tank, the remaining fuel is left without enough octane to properly operate the engine. Additionally, the ethanol/water solution can become partially combustible, which can lead to engine damage.

STAR TRON® SOLUTION: Star Tron®'s enzyme formula reduces interfacial surface tension between fuel and water. The molecular cluster size is greatly reduced, allowing more water to be dispersed throughout the fuel. These sub-micron sized droplets are safely eliminated as the engine operates. Star Tron® treated fuel helps prevent phase separation by allowing more water to be burned off than with untreated fuel, drying out the tank and preventing water buildup.

PROBLEM 3: ETHANOL FUELS BREAK DOWN QUICKLY

Over a short period of time ethanol fuel begins to break down. As ethanol and other components evaporate, the fuel loses octane and becomes "stale." This causes hard starts, pinging and engine knock, which robs your engine of power and can cause damage.

STAR TRON® SOLUTION: Star Tron® is a powerful fuel stabilizer which helps prevent fuel breakdown for up to two years. This results in easier starts and prevents pinging and knocking. Star Tron® improves octane levels of sub-standard, non-spec or old fuel and in many cases can rejuvenate stale fuel, restoring it to serviceable condition.

PROBLEM 4: ETHANOL CAUSES LOST POWER, PERFORMANCE AND DECREASED FUEL ECONOMY

Ethanol fuel does not produce as much energy as traditional fuel. This results in inefficient combustion, decreased performance, reduced throttle response and poor fuel economy.

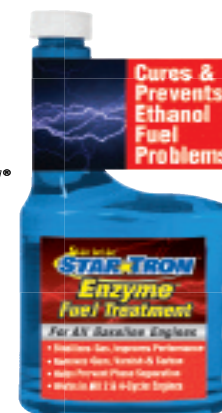
STAR TRON® SOLUTION: Star Tron®'s enzyme formula helps to break apart large clusters of fuel molecules, creating more surface area. This allows additional oxygen to react during combustion, which results in a more complete burn of the fuel, improved fuel economy, engine power, throttle response and reduced toxic emissions. Star Tron® removes carbon deposits, keeping your engine clean and operating at peak performance.

Star Tron® is a unique, multifunctional fuel additive that addresses all ethanol issues. Star Tron® has been solving fuel problems for boaters across the US since 2003. It will improve the performance of: boats, cars, trucks, motorcycles, snowmobiles, ATVs, PWCs, generators, lawn & garden equipment and all other gas-powered engines. Star Tron® is safe for use in all 2 and 4-cycle engines under all conditions, even in ethanol fuels. Star Tron® is an ideal all-season, all-purpose additive, and does all this at one of the lowest costs of any fuel additive.

Be careful of what additive you use – many contain alcohol. Adding more alcohol to ethanol fuels can lead to engine problems. Read the MSDS of any fuel additive before using it with ethanol fuel. Star Tron® does not contain any alcohol and is 100% safe for use in all ethanol blends. Star Tron® is easy to use, effective and cannot be overdosed.



Today's Fuels Demand New Additive Technology
To learn the entire Star Tron® story and to find the nearest retailer, log onto WWW.STARTRON.COM or call (800) 327-8583



PERMITS

Continued from page 10

cant's next choice for all drawing passes. Hunters are reminded, that while there are no pronghorn antelope permits allocated for Unit 19B, the unit remains open for all other hunting seasons; however, access, and areas to hunt may be limited due to the closure of the Chino Grande Ranch.

The details from the March 23 public commission meeting on this issue are available at <http://azgfd.net/artman/publish/NewsMedia/Arizona-Game-and-Fish-Commission-eliminates-pronghorn-hunts-in-19B-for-2011.shtml>. Fall draw and hunt recommendations.

The anticipated application deadline for remaining fall hunts (deer, bighorn sheep, fall buffalo and others) is the second Tuesday of June.

Hunting and angling are the cornerstones of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. These activities continue to be the primary source of funding for conservation efforts in North America.

Through a self-imposed excise tax on hunting, angling and shooting sports equipment, hunters and anglers have generated more than \$10 billion toward wildlife conservation since 1939. The Arizona Game and Fish Department does not receive any of the state's general funds to operate.

FUND

Continued from page 11

Trust Land Acquisition Grant Application Manual is available at <http://azstateparks.com/grants/index.html>.

The workshop will take place at the Arizona State Parks Board Room, 1300 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona, on Wednesday, May 4 at 10 a.m. The application deadline is June 30.

This instructional session is designed to provide attendees with a clear understanding of how to complete a Growing Smarter

DERBY

Continued from page 9

Shirts, *Pacific Coast Sportfishing Mag.*, *Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times*, *The Log Newspaper*, All Outdoors Radio, Lets Talk Hook Up.

BALD EAGLE

Continued from page 12

certain locations in winter. From November until February, one to two thousand birds winter in Squamish, British Columbia, about halfway between Vancouver and Whistler. The birds primarily gather along the Squamish and Cheakamus Rivers, attracted by the salmon spawning in the area.

Behavior

The Bald Eagle is a powerful flier, and soars on thermal convection currents. It reaches speeds of 56–70 kilometers per hour (35–43 mph) when gliding and flapping, and about 48 kilometers per hour (30 mph) while carrying fish.

BRIDAL

Continued from page 6

someday getting married on a Lake Havasu dock, then waterskiing away into the sunset. Tragically, she died of leukemia without realizing that dream.

In 2012, J's Bridals hopes to expand their line that would include distribution to

The Derby Headquarters is located at the Outboard Boating Club at the Trailer Boat Ramp on Shelter Island Dr. in San Diego. The Derby mailing address is 3960 W. Point Loma Blvd. Ste H347, San Diego 92110. For more information, visit www.InternationalYellowtailDerby.com

Its dive speed is between 120–160 kilometers per hour (75–99 mph), though it seldom dives vertically. It is partially migratory, depending on location. If its territory has access to open water, it remains there year-round, but if the body of water freezes during the winter, making it impossible to obtain food, it migrates to the south or to the coast.

The Bald Eagle selects migration routes which take advantage of thermals, updrafts, and food resources. During migration, it may ascend in a thermal and then glide down, or may ascend in updrafts created by the wind against a cliff or other terrain. Migration generally takes place during the daytime, when thermals are produced by the sun.

Story continued on www.azbw.com.

many bridal shops across the nation and abroad. Until then, J's Bridal Line 2011 will be available starting in May online and at the J's Bridals shop at 2036 McCulloch Blvd., Lake Havasu City.

For more information, log onto www.js-lakehasvu.com, call (928) 680 2655, or e-mail Nancy@Jscigarbar.com.

FLIGHT

Continued from page 7

terribly diverse, free society. Now, with hundreds of World War II veterans dying each day, our time to express our thanks to these brave men and women is running out.

We are the Arizona hub of Honor Flight, the 28th state to set up a hub. We are part of the national network that is flying WWII veterans to their monument in Washington, D.C. Our desire is to fly as many WWII veterans from Arizona to Washington, D.C. with no cost to them.

For more in-depth information and history of Honor Flight, please visit our "About Honor Flight" page or www.honorfliht.org.

WEATHER

Continued from page 8

The first 50 people to send in a qualifying entry get a free copy of "Arizona Fishin' Holes" for their trouble.

The magazine's editor wants nuggets of wisdom gleaned from your years on Arizona waters, words of advice you would share with your best fishing buddy. The idea is to keep it brief: Three sentences or fewer should cover it.

Also, be specific: Focus your tip on a particular species, situation, location, time of year or other fact. And yes, it's okay to identify gear you swear by.

The best tips received by April 21 will be published — along with the author's first name, last initial and hometown — in an upcoming issue of *Arizona Wildlife Views* magazine. Everyone whose tip is published gets a free copy of that issue.

And remember, the first 50 people who submit a complete entry will receive "Arizona Fishin' Holes," recently updated with GPS coordinates for each lake — an \$8 value!

Ready to share your best fishing tip? Send it by e-mail to topfishingtips@azgfd.gov before April 21. Be sure to include your full name and mailing address in the body of your message to be eligible to receive your free gift. Limit: one tip per person, please.

FISHING

Continued from page 7

lasted about 1.5 hours before slowing down.

Those at the barricade caught over 50 fish in the initial skirmish. The next flurry of catching was at midday and lasted for 2 hours with similar numbers of fish caught. I suspect an evening bite as well but did not document it.

Never trust fish to repeat a previous pattern but download the information that recently, fishing at the dam is good in streaks during first light and later at midday.

We then moved on to other likely striper spots beginning with Buoy 1. Two boats were fishing there. Later at the fish-cleaning station, we found that both groups collected 30 some stripers from this location.

We graphed at Buoy 3 but did not see fish traces so moved on to Antelope Canyon where we caught two stripers in 10 minutes. I did not heed my own advice, fishing only clear water where we could actually see stripers at 25 feet before catching them. There have been many more fish caught recently in the back of Antelope where water is stained.

Next stop was the Power Plant Intake. Two more fish were caught here in another 10-minute effort. But, I was anxious to fish dirty water so went quickly to Navajo Canyon.

The first point past the double islands was good for two more stripers in five minutes, but we didn't stay. We passed the big sand dune and saw water color change from clear to off-color. Around the next corner, color changed again, this time to murky.

We began to troll deep, diving Lucky Craft pointers in ghost color at 4.5 miles per hour and immediately began hooking stripers. As each fish was brought to the boat, we would spoon the bottom to catch trailing fish — with good results. We ended up with the same number of fish at the end of the day as those that were fishing bait, but I like to troll and use spoons better than bait.

There is a fishing technique to suit your individual desires working now. The bottom line is that striper fishing in the southern lake is red hot. It will get much better for stripers in the mid lake to Hite area in the near future.

Bass and crappie fishing is slightly better uplake, but warming water will make fishing success superb from mid-April to May 15, weather permitting.

At press time, lake elevation was 3,609 and water temperature, 51–57F.

Advisory: Castle Rock Cut near Wahweap is now closed due to low water. It is necessary to go through the main channel for uplake travel. Antelope Point launch ramp is open and provides time savings for those heading uplake.

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DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid-April



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3RD ANNUAL WEST MARINE CHALLENGED AMERICA REGATTA & DINNER: June 10-11

CABO MARINE SHOW 2011: April 21-23 — Cabo San Lucas, Mexico; sales@cabomarineshow.com.

YELLOWTAIL DERBY: April 30-May 21 — San Diego, www.InternationalYellowtailDerby.com

BOATING

BARROW'S DAY ON THE LAKE: June 2-4 — Bartlett Lake Marina

ARIZONA YACHT CLUB'S TALL CACTUS REGATTA AND SIESTA: April 30 — Azexpedition@gmail.com

US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY COURTESY MARINE EXAM: May 14, 15 — West Marine in Tempe at 1628 E Southern or the West Marine in Phoenix at 4239 W. Bell Road; no appointment necessary; also receive a 10 percent discount on any safety items needed for your boat.

CONQUEST BOATS REGATTA: May 13, 14 — www.conquestboats.com; (928) 680-1400 Candy Adragna

8TH ANNUAL ARIZONA SAFE BOATING CELEBRATION: May TBA — Morristown; Lake Pleasant Regional Park, free vessel inspections, sailboat demonstration, wakeboarding demonstration scheduled swimmer rescue demonstration, kayak and canoe demonstrations, navigational buoy display, drawings for prizes, 8 a.m.-noon, www.azsafeboating.org

CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA: May TBA — Lake Havasu City; Rotary Park, 9 a.m.; (928) 208-8315 or <http://golakehavasu.com>

LUCAS OIL MAYFEST DRAG BOATS: May 27-29 — Chandler; Firebird International Raceway; the lightning-quick liquid quarter mile plays host to the first of two visits from the Lucas Oil Drag Boat Series; (800) 929-0077 or 602-268-0200 or www.firebirdraceway.com

WATERLESS BOAT RACES: May 7 — Lake Havasu City; one part stock car racing, one part demolition derby, one part boat racing; features cars pulling boats (without trailers) around the Havasu 95 Stock Car Speedway; the object is to finish the race with as much boat left as you can; (928) 716-6300 or <http://www.havasu95speedway.com>

13TH ANNUAL DESERT STORM POKER RUN & SHOOTOUT: April 27-30 — Lake Havasu City; see some of the fastest, most impressive boats to grace the wave, the events include a show and shine on Main Street, view the boats up close and take a look at the massive motors putting out thousands of horsepower, talk to the drivers, (602) 578-5975 or www.lakercracerllc.com

SCSC SPRING POWER BOAT CLASSIC: April 16-17, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. — Blue Water Resort & Casino, GN boats, tunnel boats, mini boats compete for points and cash prizes, (928) 669-6511 or <http://parkrareatourism.com>.

12TH ANNUAL ROTARY RIVER RALLY: April 16 — Tempe Town Lake, featuring the Great Cardboard Boat Regatta with teams of up to 8 people paddling a 200-yard race course in home-made boats of cardboard, teams compete for best dressed, most spirited, best design, most sought-after, and Titanic award for the most spectacular sinking, benefits the Rotary Clubs of Tempe, free, Fri. preview 4-8 pm, Sat. 9 am - 3 pm, 480-905-5944 or www.rotaryriverrally.com

DESERT BELLE WYATT EARP DRAMA ON BOARD: April 16, 6-8 p.m. — Saguaro Lake Marina: (480) 984-2425 or (877) 749-2848; www.desertbelle.com.

AZ YACHT CLUB MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of every month 7 p.m. — 19th Tee, Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Ave., Tempe; www.arizonayachtclub.org

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

For more information on camping, RVing, outdoor activities, see "Land Cruising" in each issue of AZBW/WOT.

SMARTER GRANT WORKSHOP: May 4 — Arizona State Parks; (602) 542-4174

PROTECT-A-PARK: Ongoing — Boaters, anglers, divers needed to adopt Lake Pleasant's shoreline areas and coves for regular litter removal in 2009; (602) 372-7460, ext. 200

CLASSES/SEMINARS

AZGFD, CG AUXILIARY, PHOENIX POWER SQUADRON BOATING CLASSES: Ongoing (See page 3 of this issue.)



COMMUNITY

FLAGSTAFF EARTH DAY 2011: April 16 — City Hall South Lawn, live bands, local food, free bike valet, vendors and exhibitors, free, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., (928) 213-3612 or <http://www.flagstaffaz.gov/index.aspx?nid=1439>

FISHING

COMMENT PERIOD ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF AZ SPORTFISH STOCKING PROGRAM: until May 11 — The draft EA is available online at www.azgfd.gov/fishea or at http://www.fws.gov/southwest/federal_assistance/. Hard copies of the draft EA may be viewed at the AGFD Phoenix Headquarters or regional field offices across the state. For a list of addresses, visit www.azgfd.gov/offices

NATIONAL BASS WEST OPEN PRO TEAM FISHING TOURNAMENT: May 13-15 (tentative dates) — (760) 497-8238 Lynne Peterson; www.nationalbasswest.com

28TH ANNUAL WESTERN OUTDOOR NEWS LAKE HAVASU STRIPER DERBY: May 14-15 — Lake Havasu City; Nautical Inn Resort, 2-person teams, \$100,000 in prizes, the largest of its kind anywhere in the west, perfect for novice and family teams; entry includes event shirt and hat, team goodie bag; Sat. BBQ & beach part and Sunday awards ceremony; (714) 546-4370 or www.golakehavasu.com or www.wonews.com

ARIZONA FLYCASTERS CLUB MEETINGS: Second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. — Sunnyside Community Center; <http://www.azflycasters.org>

SRT BASS PHOENIX CHAPTER MEETINGS: Ongoing — Shake, Rattle & Troll Bass Club; volunteers needed; new members (boaters and non-boaters), families, children, friends are welcome; (623) 221-7655

HUNTING

APPLY FOR REMAINING ELK AND PRONGHORN ANTELOPE PERMITS: By April 25 — First-come, first-served; www.azgfd.gov/deaw

WATERSPORTS

Diving:
SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS: Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake Open Water Certification Dives, San Carlos, Mexico; Lake Pleasant, and more; Saguaro can plan your diving vacation for small groups or just one person. How about Grand Cayman, Curacao, Cozumel, Belize, Roatan, Bonaire, Turks & Caicos? Contact Saguaro Diving & Sports, 908 E. Impala Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204; (480) 507-3988 or sales@saguarosports.com

Frozen:
8TH ANNUAL DESERT ICE BONSPIEL: Through April 17 — Alltel Ice Den, 24 curling teams from Canada and the U.S. will participate in the tournament, www.coyotescurling.com

Swimming:
TRIBAL SPRINT TRIATHLON PRESENTED BY TRIBE MULTISPORT: May TBA — Lake Pleasant, swim 1000m, bike 23k, run 5k, four aid stations, \$75-125, 6:15 am, www.dcbadventures.com

TEMPE INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON: May 15 — Tempe Town Lake, Olympic Distance: swim 1500 meters, bike 40 km, run 10 km, USAT sanctioned, www.trifind.net

ARIZONA OPEN WATER SWIM SERIES 2: May 14 — Peoria; Lake Pleasant — Pleasant Harbor Marina, 1000, 2000 or 4000 meter open water swim distances or combine the 1000 and 4000 to compete in this year's 5K distance (times will be added together), four divisions including wetsuit and non-wetsuit, every finisher earns a commemorative award, \$40-50, 8:30 am, <http://www.dcbadventures.com>

Tubing:
PARKER TUBE FLOAT: June 4, 7 a.m. — Patria Flats, Parker, Ariz.; Parker Area Tourism

WILDLIFE-RELATED

LEARN YOUR LIZARDS: May TBA — Superior; Boyce Thompson Arboretum, educates participants how to identify common species such as Western whiptails, Tree Lizards, Side-blotched and Greater Earless, family-friendly walk, meet at the visitor center, \$3-7.50, 8:30 a.m., (520) 689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

BUTTERFLY WALK: May TBA — Superior; Boyce Thompson Arboretum, learn

to identify them on this guided walk by Education Coordinator Chris Kline and Arizona State Parks volunteer naturalists, a few butterflies are netted for a short while to give kids a close up look, \$3-7.50, 9:30 a.m., (520) 689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

DRAGONFLY WALK: May TBA — Superior; Boyce Thompson Arboretum, parents and kids can learn to identify colorful dragonfly species during a one-hour walk; \$3-7.50, 9:30 a.m.; (520) 689-2811 or <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY SPRING FESTIVAL: May TBA — Sierra Vista; San Pedro House, (9800 Hwy 90), by the Friends of the San Pedro River, the Sonoran Joint Venture, US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management includes interpretive walks, guided bird walks, workshops, displays, demonstrations and hummingbird banding, free, (520) 459-2555

11TH ANNUAL FIESTA DE LAS AVES: May TBA — Bisbee; annual birding festival held in celebration of International Migratory Bird Day, includes birding tours in Southeastern Arizona and Northern Sonora, Mexico, birding seminars and birding vendors, owl prowls, lake walks, 520-432-1388 or www.sabo.org

4TH ANNUAL CELEBRATE WILDLIFE DAY: May TBA — Grand Canyon; Shrine of the Ages, learn about regional wildlife and the work of wildlife biologists, indoor and outdoor programs about wildlife and wildlife studies, exhibits, touch tables, informal activities, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., (928) 638-7958 or www.nps.gov/grca/naturescience/wildlife-day.htm

16TH ANNUAL PAYSON WILDLIFE FAIR: May 7 — Green Valley Park, wildlife-based activities, parents and kids can fish, play games and get a close-up look at wildlife, coop between the Arizona Game and Fish Dept., Mogollon Sporting Assn, US Forest Service & Parks & Rec., free, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., (928) 947-5242 ext 7 or www.paysonparks.com or <http://www.paysonrimcountry.com>

MIGRATORY BIRD DAY CELEBRATION: May 7 — Wickenburg; Has-sayampa River Preserve, (49614 Hwy 60, 85390), celebrate the journey of migratory birds between their wintering grounds to the south and their breeding grounds in North America, docent led bird walk, hourly bird band demonstrations, reservations required, \$5 fee includes trail access all day, 12 and under free, 8 a.m.-noon, (928) 684-2772

ZOOFEET: May 7 — Window Rock; Navajo Nation Zoological and Botanical Park, (Highway 264, 86515), at the only tribal zoo in the U.S., learn about animals and plants native to the Navajo Nation, tour a Hogan, purchase handmade arts and crafts, for the kids: face-painting, zoo games, inflatable games, door prize, free, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., (928) 871-6574 or www.navajofishandwildlife.org/nznzoo.htm

VERDE VALLEY NATURE & BIRDING FESTIVAL: April 28-May 1 — Cottonwood, Dead Horse Ranch State Park, field trips, local tours, workshops & seminars, educational activities for kids, exhibits, key-note speaker, entertainment, \$10+, 5:30 a.m. - 9 p.m., (928) 282-2202 or www.birdyverde.org

Editor's Note: Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to editor@azbw.com. To guarantee placement, as room allows, items must be received by the 10th of the month prior to publication. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but we assume no responsibility for print errors or omissions. We also reserve the right to edit each item. Please include the name of the event, the date and time, the location, the organization, and contact information.



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WATERSKIING

Continued from page 1

in your hair — it's easy to see why waterskiers describe their sport using such terms as ecstasy and exhilaration. Sensational waterski shows, water-skiing competitions and ski tournaments, as well as television spectacles, all publicize the fact that waterskiing is fun, clean and immensely popular.

Long after you have passed beyond the novice stage, it's still fun to cross the wake of your own towboat on an Arizona lake without taking a tumble. Every maneuver produces its own distinct, animated feeling.

While young people in particular have embraced waterskiing, the sport actually has no age limits. It's a family sport; everyone from the youngest to the oldest member can learn how to waterski. Most beginners master the techniques of starting, turning, crossing the wake, and stopping after only an hour or two of practice — and even the practice sessions are fun.

History

In Europe

In Europe, waterskiing between the world wars spread from the French Riviera around the Mediterranean through the lakes of Switzerland and on to the Thames River in England. The sport today is popular in Singapore, Sweden, South Africa, Australia and South America. Enthusiasts have skied past (over) crocodiles on the Zambezi River in Africa and through the locks of the Panama Canal.

In North America

Waterskiing in this country began on a summer day in 1924 on Long Island Sound. Before then, people had sometimes ridden on towed planks called aquaplanes, but now a newsreel cameraman named Fred Waller needed an excuse for photographing young women in bathing suits. He hitched together a pair of snow skis and put a young maiden on them. Success was instantaneous. Waterskiing not only had novelty, but also looked vaguely dangerous. The sport quickly worked its way around the country, including Arizona.

Perhaps the biggest single boost to waterskiing was the starring role Florida's Cypress

Gardens played in the first Cinerama motion picture production in 1952. On a huge screen, millions of people saw young women gliding by beneath moss-laden cypress trees, and athletic young men hurtling through thin air on skis. Curiously, the man who invented the Cinerama photographic process — Fred Waller — was the same man who, years earlier, assembled the first pair of water-skis.

At first, the sport was limited to the yacht-club and polo-pony class of people, since it required the use of an expensive inboard speedboat to reach the minimum towing speed of 20 miles per hour. Shortly after World War II, commercially produced skis came on the market at a reasonable price.

Great Arizona Ski Lakes

Around that same time, boats with outboard motors began appearing on Arizona waterways. Skiers have been splashing happily behind them ever since, including on Martinez Lake near Yuma.

Other fun places in the state to waterski include Bartlett Lake near Carefree, Patagonia Lake near Nogales, south of Tucson; Lake Havasu, Canyon Lake near Tortilla Flat east of Phoenix, Saguaro Lake, located within the Tonto National Forest, 20 minutes from Mesa, Arizona, and Apache Lake, which is surrounded by the Superstition Wilderness and the Three Bar Wildlife Area east of Phoenix.

Some Advice For Beginners

Virtually everyone with access to a boat powered by an outboard motor can learn to get up on a pair of water-skis in an afternoon. Proper posture — back and arms straight, knees bent — will help you keep your balance and maneuver on the water successfully, without undue strain.

Don't worry about falling. All water-skiers fall occasionally. If you feel a fall coming, throw the tow bar away from you. Then, try to fall backwards, or slide down into the water. Some beginners ski the first time they try to get up out of the water, but most people average several tries before succeeding.

Pull Power/Driver Ed

It takes motor power to lift a person out of the water and skim over the surface. Most ski buffs prefer outboard motors in the 50, 60, 70,

or 100-hp range. It's true, as manufacturers claim, that you can ski with a motor as low-powered as 30 hp, but use then must be limited to a light boat, with a light-to-medium-weight person in tow. If you plan to buy an outboard motor essentially for skiing, think at least 60 horsepower.

It takes patience and understanding to be a good towboat driver. Driving a ski boat on a crowded lake has been likened to "driving through a shopping mall parking lot the week before Christmas." Know the distance it takes for your boat to come to a stop, and be aware of all other vessels and markers in your field of vision. A sharp-eyed observer should always be in the boat.

Never forget a waterskier is depending on you to steer him or her safely through congested areas. The skier is concentrating on turns and is not always aware of other boat traffic. It is up to the driver and observer to bring the skier back to shore safe and happy, preferably in one piece.

Before starting out, explain to the skier what path the boat will be taking, how far up the lake you'll go, whether you will be making right or left turns, and where any hazards are located. Driving a ski boat is more than recreation. It's an activity to be taken seriously.

Most people think of waterskiing in Arizona only during the warm months, but the sport can be enjoyed year-round if you follow certain tips for cool-weather skiing:

Ski Safely

- **Master the dock start.** The only time chilly water stings is when you let go of the rope.

- **Wear a wetsuit.** You might consider putting on a suit similar to what divers wear, one that's constructed especially for cold-water activity.

- **When it's really cold,** it's best to wait until the middle of the day to get in the water. While water temperatures may not warm up much, the air temperature will, and the sun definitely helps you feel warmer.

- **Don't rule out** a cloudy day for waterskiing. You might think the sun's rays provide the most heat, but cloud cover also insulates the earth.

- **Protect your hands** with latex gloves,

See **WATERSKIING** on page 19

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Continued from page 1

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Continued from page 1

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WAVES

Continued from page 1

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Editor's Note: Mary Syrett is a freelance writer, photographer and avid outdoor water sports enthusiast: msyrett@earthlink.net




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