



Western Outdoor Times

FREE

Arizona Boating & Watersports



January - February 2011

BOATING | CAMPING | FISHING | HUNTING | RVING | WATERSPORTS | WILDLIFE

A 2011 Resolution

Enjoy The Outdoors!



Tight Lines
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Game Bag
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Land Cruising
Pages 11

CATCH THE COMMOTION

www.rtboat.com

ROCK THE BOAT



New Year's News

Outdoor Events Begin!

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

Becoming An Outdoors Woman Deluxe Scheduled At Scenic Saguaro Lake Ranch

In January

How about a different type of girls' weekend? Do you have a wild side?

Then join us at the Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Workshop Jan. 28-30. Scenic Saguaro Lake Ranch is the venue for a weekend of Sonoran Desert fun. Learn about the plants and animals that thrive in this unique desert habitat.

Experience some of the fun stuff to do here in the desert. Do it all in the comfort of one of Arizona's hidden treasures for \$375. Cost includes meals, lodging and class materials. www.azwildlife.org

And Another BOW In April

Registration will be open in early February for the 16th year of the popular

BOW program. The Arizona Wildlife Federation in partnership with the Arizona Game and Fish Department sponsors the Becoming An Outdoors Woman Workshop; this year's dates are April 1-3.

Classes include horsemanship, outdoor photography, birding and hiking. Archery, fly-fishing, Dutch-oven cooking, shotgun, rifle, and pistol shooting are also offered. There are over 30 different classes from which participants may choose.

The workshop introduces women to outdoors skills in an enjoyable, non-threatening environment with expert instructors. Classes are held during the day, and the evenings are filled with fun

See **OUTDOORS** on page 14



A GREAT START — to the new year is the first Becoming An Outdoors Woman workshop of 2011. Scheduled for Jan. 28-30, the event will be held at the scenic Saguaro Lake Ranch, Ariz.



ISE, Feb. 24-27

Escape To The Outdoors In Feb.

The fun, fabulous ISE comes back To Phoenix.

Don't miss your once-a-year chance to celebrate the outdoors with family and friends, capture show-priced bargains, and meet face-to-face with guides and lodge owners from nearby and around the world.

Now opening on Thursday, the Southwest's largest gathering for fishing, hunting and outdoor enthusiasts includes new features, seminars, contests and special events.

See **ESCAPE** on page 19

Lake Havasu Initiates 'Designated Operator' Boater-Safety Campaign



DESIGNATED DRIVER — In a concentrated effort to reduce the frightening statistic of boating deaths that are alcohol-related, Lake Havasu City is confronting an age-old boating safety problem. The 2011 boating season has begun, and so has the Designated Operator boater-safety campaign, which is supported by many safety-conscious individuals, organizations, businesses, media, and others.

Reducing OUIs, accidents are the goals for 2011 boating season.

LAKE HAVASU CITY, Ariz. — One of the nation's premier fresh-water boating destinations, Lake Havasu City, Ariz., is confronting an age-old boating-safety problem head-on: operating a recreational pleasure boat under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance.

In marine-law enforcement parlance, the offense is known as OUI, operating under the influence. In Arizona, the maximum legal limit is .08 percent blood alcohol concentration for boat operators, the same as it is for driving an automobile.

"We're determined to significantly reduce the number of intoxicated boaters on Lake Havasu," commented Jim Salscheider, executive director of the Lake Havasu Marine Association, the organization that is spearheading the new "carry-a-designated-operator" campaign.

"All we're asking is that every boat [skipper] designate one on-board person to

be responsible for operating the boat on that day, one who is not going to consume an alcoholic beverage or ingest a controlled substance while on the water.

"It's a campaign that has been successful in reducing the number of highway accidents; now it's time for the boating community to embrace the same philosophy."

A Frightening Statistic

According to recent U.S. Coast Guard statistics, approximately one-third of all fatal recreational boating accidents nationwide are alcohol related. Kevin Bergersen, Law Enforcement Programs coordinator and State Boating Law administrator for Arizona Game and Fish said, "Boaters operating a vessel under the influence is an ongoing safety issue with all-too-often tragic consequences."

"Drunk boating is drunk driving. This grass-roots effort [among] state law enforcement agencies, the Lake Havasu boating community and business supporters will help boat operators understand that the Arizona penalties of watercraft operation and driving a vehicle while impaired are al-

See **CAMPAIGN** on page 14

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

AZGFD Outdoor Expo Is March 26-27

Make sure you save March 26-27 on your calendar for the Arizona Game and Fish Department's FREE Outdoor Expo at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix.

This crowd-pleasing, family friendly event offers dozens of exciting, hands-on outdoor recreational activities:

- Test your skill at archery.
- Take your kids to the huge catch-and-release fishing tank.
- See live wildlife demonstrations (hawks, owls, snakes, more).
- Hike a nature trail/field course.
- Try target shooting with different firearms on the range.
- Learn about outdoor skills, firearm safety and more.

See **EXPO** on page 14

COMING TO A LAKE NEAR YOU

Pocket Cruisers Converge On Havasu

The Havasu Pocket Cruisers are thrilled to announce that preparations are in full swing for the 2011 Havasu Pocket Cruisers Convention, to be held Feb. 14 through 21, at the London Bridge Resort and Convention Center in Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

The 2011 event promises to be the biggest and best yet with well over 100 pocket cruiser sailboats/crews from across the country participating.

So, What Is A Pocket Cruiser?

What is a Pocket Cruiser? Event organizer Sean Mulligan answers, "A pocket cruiser is a small, trailerable sailboat that is an extremely capable craft [that can house and provide] for its crew for extended explorations. Accommodations range from sparse, to downright comfortable, depending on the owner's preference. The boats themselves are capable of some impressive feats."

Although the Havasu event finds the Pocket Cruisers sailing the benign

See **POCKET CRUISERS** on page 14



SMALL BOATS/BIG EVENT

At press time, well over 130 pocket cruiser sailboats/crews from across the country were ready to gather in Lake Havasu City, Ariz., for the 2011 Pocket Cruisers Convention to be held at the London Bridge Resort and Convention Center.

CATCH THE COMMOTION

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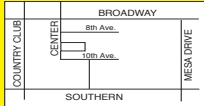
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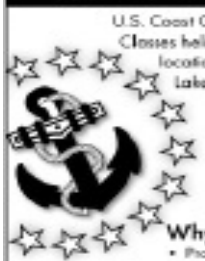


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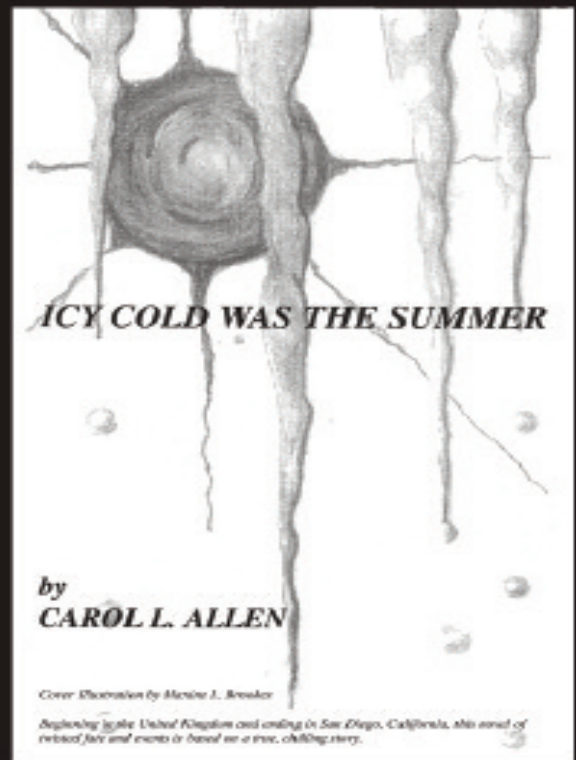
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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

Filing a Float Plan

Before going out on a vessel, it is always a good idea to leave a float plan with a relative or friend, or at least with a local marina.

- ◆ A float plan should:
 - Describe the vessel, including its registration number, length, make, horsepower, and engine type.
 - State where you are going, the detailed route, and your expected return time.
 - Give the name, address, and telephone number of each person on board and an emergency contact.
 - Include the description and license plate of the tow vehicle and trailer, and tell where they will be located.
- ◆ Notify the person who has your float plan when you return or if you decide to extend your time on the water.

Statewide Boating Education Classes

March 2011

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	Mar. 5 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Roosevelt Lake Patrol Sheriff's Substation 28499 N. Hwy 188 (at mile post 243) Roosevelt	\$5 per family	(928) 467-2515
Arizona Game and Fish Department	Mar. 26 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max NE corner of McClintock and Broadway Tempe	\$8 per family	(623) 236-7235

BE A SAFE BOATER, GO ONLINE

Boat Safe, Boat Smart, Boat Sober and take a boating safety class online at your convenience. Visit www.azgfd.gov/boat-ed



Enforcement of Arizona Boating Laws

The boating laws of Arizona are enforced by Arizona Game and Fish Department officers, county deputy sheriffs, municipal officers, park rangers, and any other state-commissioned law enforcement officers. The officers have the authority to stop and board vessels to check for compliance with state laws. The U.S. Coast Guard has federal enforcement authority on all federally controlled waters.

- ◆ When hailed by an officer, the operator of a vessel must immediately stop and maneuver in such a way as to permit the officer to come alongside.
- ◆ Failure to obey an order to comply with an officer will result in

an enforcement action up to and including arrest.

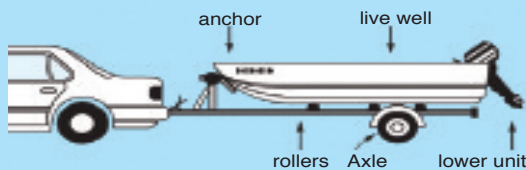
- ◆ Officers may issue citations and may order operator of a vessel back to shore to correct a violation. Some Arizona waterways — like the Colorado River — are shared with other states. One these shared waterways, laws from these other states apply — as well as federal regulations. To ensure that you are obeying all applicable laws, make sure you are knowledgeable about all the laws and regulations for the specific waterways you are using.
- ◆ Officers also may establish checkpoints on the waterways to ensure public safety.

Trailering Your Vessel Safely

- ◆ **Before leaving home:**
 - Secure all gear in the vessel and arrange it so that the weight is evenly distributed in the vessel.
 - Properly secure the vessel with several tie-down straps and/or safety lines to prevent it from shifting.
 - Tilt and secure the engine to increase clearance.
 - Crisscross the safety chains when attaching them to the towing vehicle.
 - Make sure the trailer brakes and lights are working.
- ◆ **On the road:**
 - Think farther ahead on the road than usual: anticipate changes in traffic flow in advance; make wider turns at corners and curves; allow extra time and distance for stopping and for passing other vehicles; and remember the length added by your trailer.
 - Be aware that there may be lower speed limits for vehicles with trailers.
 - After 5 to 10 miles of travel at highway speed, stop for a walk-around inspection of the vehicle and trailer. Check tires, lights, coupler, etc.; and feel the trailer hubs. Excessively hot hubs may indicate a problem. On extended trips, make periodic stops to do a walk-around inspection.
- ◆ **Launching your vessel from a trailer:**
 - Prepare your vessel well away from the boat ramp.
 - Back the vessel into the water until the lower unit of the engine can be submerged while on the trailer.
 - Once the engine is warmed up, back the trailer further until the vessel floats. Then back slowly off the trailer.
- ◆ **Retrieving your vessel:**
 - Back the trailer into the water so that approximately two-thirds of the rollers or bunks are submerged.
 - Move the vessel onto the trailer far enough to attach the winch line to the bow eye of the vessel. Finish pulling it onto the trailer by cranking the winch.
 - Tow the vessel off the ramp out of the way of others.
 - While at the ramp area, remove all weeds from the vessel, remove the drain plug, and drain live wells.

ATTENTION BOATERS...Don't Pick Up Hitchhikers!

What can you do? Inspect your boat



Inspecting — Thoroughly inspect your boat's hull, outdrive, trim plates, trolling plates, prop guards, transducers, and trailer. If you see any "hitchhikers," remove them. Remove aquatic plants and plant fragments clinging to the trailer frame, axles, wheel, hitch, motor's lower unit, and interior boat spaces. Spray down your boat and trailer

before leaving any lake or stream or at home before setting out for a new boating

Draining — Drain all bilge water, live wells, and bait buckets before leaving any waterway. Leftover bait should not be released or transported.

Stop the spread of aquatic pests!

Giant salvinia, quagga mussels, crayfish, and mud snails most often spread between waterways by hitchhiking a ride on vessels and trailers. When transplanted into new waters, these organisms proliferate, displacing native species and damaging the water resource and your vessel

This information brought to you by:
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Arizona Boating & Watersports/Western Outdoor Times sincerely thanks Bryan and Eric Church of Bartlett Lake Marina, Ed Hale of Hale's Marine, and Scott Samuelson of Swim Platforms, Inc. for their recent invaluable contributions to the Rock The Boat project.

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Arizona Boating & Watersports is published monthly.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Jim Allen, 1030 East Baseline Road, PMB 105-901, Tempe, AZ 85283.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$25 for 12 issues; single copies are \$2.50 prepaid. Subscriptions are transferable, non refundable.

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TWO SAFETY CONCERNS

Especially During Colder Weather, Boaters Beware

From AZGFD

Of Hypothermia

Do not let the temperature outside fool you. Cold water immersion and hypothermia can occur in water as cool as 70 degrees at any time of the year, even on a warm and sunny day.

Arizona winters are mild, and recreational boating is popular year-round, but an unexpected immersion into cold water can cause hypothermia and even lead to a life-threatening situation.

Entering extremely cold water causes an immediate gasp reflex that can fill the lungs with water. After (and before) falling overboard or entering the water, it is important to do the following:

- Wear a life jacket, which will help keep your head above water or bring your body to the surface;
- Stay calm and move slowly;
- Don't try to take off clothing in the water (a common misconception is that heavy clothing or waders weigh down your body when in fact can trap air and help keep your body afloat).

Of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide poisoning is also known as the "silent killer." It is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that is very toxic even in small quantities.

It is produced when a carbon fuel, such as gasoline or diesel is burned.

Carbon monoxide disperses freely through the air and will travel readily throughout a boat. It is discharged as engine, generator, or appliance exhaust may re-enter your boat through any opening.

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are throbbing temples, inattentiveness of lack of concentration, inability to think coherently, ringing in the ears, tightness across the chest, headache, drowsiness, nausea, dizziness, fatigue, vomiting, collapse, and convulsions.

Protect yourself from the silent killer and download and take with you the carbon monoxide brochure.



Make a New Year's Resolution That Really Makes A Difference

Check out the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

WASHINGTON — If your New Year's resolution includes finding a meaningful volunteer position, learning new skills and making new friends, you may find a perfect fit with the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the uniformed civilian volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard, is actively looking for volunteers interested in serving their country and their community.

There are many places in the Coast Guard Auxiliary where you can make a difference and find a sense of belonging. The Auxiliary works on the water, in the air and on land.

It conducts safety patrols and search and rescue missions, assists the Coast

Guard with homeland security duties, teaches boating safety classes, conducts free boat safety checks and many other activities. People who have talents in Web design, information technology, public affairs and other administrative roles are also needed.

Training opportunities include marine safety and environmental protection, recreational boating safety, outreach, boat crew and coxswain. Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen, at least 17 years old, and pass a background check.

Interested? Go to www.join.cgaux.org

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is a uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard created by an Act of Congress in 1939. The Auxiliary, America's Volunteer Guardians, supports the Coast Guard in nearly all of the service's missions.

BACK TO BASICS

— such as which vehicle should enter the water first during a launch? How about classes such as Common Sense 101 or Think! 101 for this would-be boater? Seriously, for most boaters, the New Year is an excellent time to refresh their knowledge of boating safety and all that goes into good seamanship on the various types of waterways.



There Is No Better Time Than Now

Learn and refresh your knowledge of boating safety as 2011 begins.

Go Back to School

Now that the New Year is here, let's get busy with those resolutions. Did you say you wanted to go back to school? If you love the water and boating, the Coast Guard Auxiliary has just what you want. Some of the courses we offer are —

- Communications (AUXCOM)
- Navigation (AUXNAV)
- Patrols (AUXPAT)
- Search Coordination & Execution (AUXSC&E)
- Seamanship (AUXSEA)
- Weather (AUXWEA)

We'll make you a better sailor. If you are interested in any of these courses and more, join the Coast Guard Auxiliary by contacting your local Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla at <http://www.cgaux.org/units.php>.

Refresh Boating Skills During Winter Season

Your boat may be out of the water and properly winterized, but you don't have to

wait until spring to begin planning for the next season of enjoyment on the water. Why not take advantage of the winter lull to refresh your boating skills — or learn new ones — in courses conducted by the local flotilla of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary?

Coast Guard Auxiliary flotillas throughout the country conduct a variety of courses to help keep you knowledgeable and safe while operating your boat on the nation's lakes and rivers — and offshore as well.

Typical courses are as follows:

About Boating Safety — an eight-hour, in-depth boating safety course necessary to obtain a boat license of safety certification in many states.

GPS for Mariners — a modern learning experience that focuses on the GPS equipment typically owned by recreational boaters and helps an individual learn how to use a GPS for practical recreational boating.

How to Read a Nautical Chart — a course designed for use at sea to provide the navigator with the knowledge to interpret a chart's contents, navigate to a destination and return safely to port.

See TIME on page 17



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Jim Paxon Joins AZGFD As New Public Information Chief

Jim Paxon, who became familiar to millions of people as the face and voice of the firefighters who valiantly battled the Rodeo-Chediski Fire that ravaged Arizona's northern forests in 2002, has joined the Arizona Game and Fish Department as chief of public information.



Jim Paxon

Born and raised in Lubbock, Texas, Paxon has had a long-standing passion for the outdoors and its natural resources. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 33 years — the last 22 as a district ranger in Colorado and New Mexico.

During much of that time, he served on the Southwest Interagency Incident Management Team that manages major fires and other crises, serving as lead information officer on both the Rodeo-Chediski Fire and the 2000 Cerro Grande Fire in Los Alamos, N.M. In that capacity, he was in charge of public information and coordination of information with all involved

See PAXON on page 6

Wake Zone™

Local Rocky Point, Mexico Business Invites You Back

Editor,

We hope you and your family had a great holiday season.

Due to the slow economy, I've closed my office but we are "still in business." I've moved everything but our boats, of course, to our home and am now making all reservations via Internet/phone.

This really works better for both parties: I'm able to respond to inquiries more quickly.

Our boats are in the water ready to roll and Capt. Pancho has been bringing in some nice-sized pinto bass. Dale is busy getting his big boat geared up for both fishing and Bird Island tours so we're excited about that. Also, the boat will have more room and be more comfortable.

So, guys, despite the false, negative news about Rocky Point, it truly remains a safe and fun tourist destination. We live here year 'round so we know firsthand what's going on.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Caballo Del Mar



El Tigre



Home Run



The Joker

We'd like to encourage you, your family, and friends to return to this beachfront community for some more great memories.

For more information, esther@santagoceanservices.com or phone AZ (602) 324-9558 (This number rings into Rocky Point) or Mexico # 011-52-

638-(388-5318).

Esther Johnson (and Dale)
Rocky Point, Sonora, Mexico

P.S. The map on my Web page is incorrect; please call or e-mail for directions to our boats.



MARINE-ENGINE MAINTENANCE — As Ron and Rose Werner of the Phoenix Sail & Power Squadron, District 28, point out: "This is one of those classes that most people might wonder what good is the information, given that [a majority] get their work done by a mechanic." However, as students go through the maintenance class, they usually discover they have more knowledge than they realized. Most still use their favored mechanic, but they gain enough knowledge to be more able to participate in repairs. A valuable skill learned is how to diagnose (and often fix) an issue that occurs when out on the water. The Marine-Engine Maintenance class, one of the most popular offered by the PSPS, is an example of many different classes of varying difficulty that are available. However, all contribute in one way or another to boating safety.

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News From BoatUS

BoatUS Grassroots Grants Program Makes Big Changes For 2011

April 1 is application deadline; public will vote on proposals.

The BoatUS Foundation's Grassroots Grants Program, which provides funding for local projects that educate boaters on boating safety and clean-boating topics, kicks off today with some changes designed to identify new, innovative grant proposals. The program also now gives the public a vote in who receives funding.

"After more than 20 years and providing over \$1 million in funding, we're making significant changes to find the most

creative project ideas and to make our grant program more interactive for applicants and the boating public," said Program Manager Alanna Keating. "We hope our new approach will give us a chance to see what new types of ideas organizations have to reach boaters and what boaters think of these ideas."

Traditional boating organizations as well as local groups, clubs, school and college nonprofit organizations are eligible for grants for up to \$4,000. The application deadline is April 1. Interested groups may apply at BoatUS.com/Foundation/Grants and a total of \$50,000 is available for the 2011 Grassroots Grant cycle.

New to the grant program this year, applicants are encouraged to upload photos

and videos showcasing their proposed project ideas or anything else that will convey their vision. Once the grant applications are received in early April, the Foundation will post the most creative applications online where the public will vote to decide which projects receive funding later this spring.

Groups interested in applying for one or more grants may go to BoatUS.com/Foundation/Grants to view photos of previous grant projects, review official guidelines and learn more about the program. You can follow the Foundation on Facebook - Facebook.com/BoatUSFoundation to be notified when voting begins.

BoatUS Reports Top Three Items Stolen From Boats Over The Winter

Boats stored over the winter can be easy targets for thieves. Many boat owners don't find out they have been victims of theft until long after, often when spring preparations are being made. To help boaters, anglers and sailors deal with this consistent problem, the folks at [BoatUS Marine Insurance](http://BoatUS.com/MarineInsurance) have these tips for storing your boat this winter.

The top three most common items stolen from boats over the winter are —

Electronics: To avoid a theft, it is worth your time and energy to remove electronics and store them at home. If they are permanently installed, record ownership information including model and serial numbers. Photos may also assist with a potential recovery or insurance claim.

Outboards: Small outboards should always be removed and stored in a secure location, such as your locked garage or basement. Larger outboards should have a lock installed.

Outdrives: Again, the best way to avoid this type of theft is to remove the unit and store in a safe location and ensure

Don't forget that four-legged "bandits," such as raccoons and other critters, will enjoy your boat as much as spring breakers hitting the beach, so ensure winter covers are tight and remain securely attached. Don't store your boat in a place that makes it easier for animals to get aboard, such as near trees or building overhangs. Cover large exhaust ports. Don't leave a ladder affixed to the boat.

the serial number is recorded. If it will not be removed, install an **outdrive lock**.

The name of the game in preventing theft is deterrence — anything to make your boat or equipment less attractive to thieves is the goal. Here are some general tips:

If you are storing your boat away from home, ensure the yard or marina is secure with fencing and cameras.

If you are storing your trailerable boat at home, if possible, don't leave the trailer tongue facing the street. Block the trailer and remove the tires, storing them inside, or add wheel locks. Put a lock on the hitch receiver.

Adding personalized markings to equipment can help identify and recover stolen items. By making them obvious, it also makes the items less "marketable."

Don't leave your dinghy on your club's or marina's rack unlocked or for long periods of time.

Make periodic visits to your boat over the winter. If you can't get to it, get a friend or yard worker to make a monthly visit.

Don't leave liquor out in the open where it can be seen.

Leaving a "for sale" sign posted all winter attracts the wrong kind of attention and gives someone an excuse to get aboard and look around.

BoatUS members can benefit from the [BoatUS Theft Protection Program](http://BoatUS.com/TheftProtectionProgram).

What's the most common type of boat stolen each year? Personal watercraft.

Don't forget that four-legged "bandits," such as raccoons and other critters, will enjoy your boat as much as spring breakers hitting the beach, so ensure winter covers are tight and remain securely attached. Don't store your boat in a place that makes it easier for animals to get aboard, such as near trees or building overhangs. Cover large exhaust ports. Don't leave a ladder affixed to the boat.

For more information on preventing a boat theft, review the BoatUS blog: "[Love Your Boat? So Does Someone Else!](http://www.boatus.com/blog)" For more information on boat insurance, call the BoatUS Marine Insurance Department at 800-283-2883. Or, to get a free quote online, go to www.BoatUS.com/insurance.

Design A Better Life Jacket And Win \$5,000

The BoatUS Foundation's "Innovation in Life Jacket Design Competition" is once again calling for out-of-the-box life jacket design entries.

Five years ago, the Innovation in Life Jacket Design Competition resulted with the introduction of several new and innovative life jacket designs to the public, the US Coast Guard and recreational boating industry. Since then, the interest in new, more comfortable designs has not faded. While current models of life jackets save lives every day, many are still bulky and uncomfortable, leaving boaters reluctant to wear them.

So the BoatUS Foundation, along with Underwriters Laboratories and the Personal Floatation Device Manufacturer's Association, decided another competition was necessary to keep the momentum going to seek out the newest technologies and design innovations that could rethink a 100-year-old design.

Entries that embrace new technologies and non-traditional thinking are being encouraged from armchair inventors to high school science clubs and collegiate design programs. There are no rules regarding types of materials to be used or whether the design meets any current US standards. The deadline to enter is February 1, 2011.

The entries will be judged based on four criteria: wearability, reliability, cost and innovation. "Wearability" relates to the level of comfort. "Reliability" will take into account the chances for potential failure, while "cost" will look at the affordability of the design. "Innovation" will take into account originality or the employment of new technologies.

In early February, video of all entries will be posted online at the [BoatUS](http://BoatUS.com) Foundation's channel at YouTube.com, and the public will be asked to select a group of finalists. The finalist entries will then be reviewed by a special panel of judges convened at the International Boating and Water Safety Summit in Savannah, Georgia, on March 6-9, 2011, and the winner announced. A \$5,000 cash award goes to the winning designer.

"We believe that out-of-the-box thinking may lead to the next generation of life-saving devices," said BoatUS Foundation President Ruth Wood. "We anticipate designs that will be creative and unconventional."

To enter, video footage of an actual working prototype must be submitted by providing a URL link to the video (no actual prototypes are submitted). The video must clearly demonstrate how the design floats a person in the water. For more information on how to enter and for contest rules, visit www.BoatUS.com/Foundation/Lifejacketdesign, or call 703-823-9550, x8356.

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PAXON

Continued from page 5

agencies, including the White House.

Paxon remained involved in natural-resources work after retiring from the Forest Service in 2003, continuing to train firefighters as a founding member of the Arizona Wildfire Academy, and serving as a consultant working with Northern Arizona University's Ecological Restoration Institute, KPNX-TV Channel 12, and the *Arizona Republic*. He also worked with forest communities, residents and businesses to reduce fire risks through the Firewise program.

"Jim brings extensive experience in natural resources management and public information work," said Game and Fish Director Larry Voyles. "A number of our staff worked with him during his tenure with the Forest Service, particularly during the outstanding service he performed for Arizona citizens during the Rodeo-Chediski fire."

"We look forward to Jim putting his skills and his passion for the outdoors to work for Arizona and its wildlife."

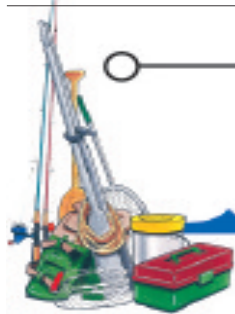
Paxon fills the position previously held by Bob Miles, who retired Dec. 30 after 26 years of service with Game and Fish.

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LIGHT LINES

FISHING IN ARIZONA AND BEYOND



Urban Lakes Receive Incentive Trout Stockings

To kick off the new year in a big way, the Urban Fishing Program has been stocking incentive size trout at all 21 program waters since the second week of January.

In addition to the usual 11- to 12-inch rainbows, incentive stockings include bigger fish and up to 25 percent more fish. Many of the more than 9,000 rainbow trout measure from 13-18 inches, with some even larger ones (up to and possibly

over 5 pounds) in the mix.

"Hooking into a large trout is an exciting and memorable experience," said Urban Fishing Program Manager Eric Swanson. "Remember to be patient in reeling in these lunkers and to adjust the drag on your reel, or else you may be talking about the big one that got away."

If you are looking for bragging rights to your big catch, don't forget to get your fish weighed at a Game and Fish office

and fill out the application for Big Fish-of-the-Year recognition.

Daily trout limits are four fish at Urban Lakes and two fish at urban ponds.

A 2011 Urban fishing license is required and don't forget to bring along a landing net to help lift that lunker trout out of the lake!

For details about the Urban Fishing Program and big fish of the year, visit www.azgfd.gov/urbanfishing.



2011 Fishing Regulations Now Available At AZGFD

It's time to get your Arizona 2011-12 Fishing Regulations. The latest regulations are now available at all seven Arizona Game and Fish Department offices and should also be available from license dealers — especially sporting goods stores — throughout the state.

"2011 is shaping up to be a terrific fishing year," advises Fisheries Chief Kirk Young. "Last year most of our interior lakes filled, and the sport-fish and bait-fish spawns were terrific. This coming year we'll be catching the dividends of that natural bounty."

See **REGULATIONS** on page 17

After 49-Year Wait, Rainbows Return To Watson Lake

The Arizona Game and Fish Department stocked more than 2,000 rainbow trout at Watson Lake on Jan. 14 — the first time in nearly 50 years that rainbows have been stocked in this beautiful lake in Prescott.

Some of the trout were raised for the lake in state hatcheries and some came from Fain Lake in Prescott Valley. The fish average 9 inches in length. The stockings will take place only in the winter months and will be based on availability of trout. The trout are not expected to survive the summer water temperatures.

When going after the trout, best baits include spinners, marshmallows, or soft, manufactured floating baits, such as Power Bait.



Watson Lake



Trout Stocking

"We're thrilled to finally have a chance to provide this opportunity to anglers of Arizona," said Andy Clark, fisheries program manager for the Game and Fish re-

gion 3 office in Kingman. "Rainbows are a popular sport fish. We have wanted to stock rainbow trout and warm-water fish in Watson since 2000."

Native Fish Restoration Partnership Receives Important National Award

Fish biologists from the Arizona Game and Fish Department were recently recognized with a national award for their partnership efforts to conserve and restore native fish species to Arizona's landscape. The Secretary of the Interior's Partners in Conservation Award was presented by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Director Bob Abbey to the Arizona Native Fish Conservation and Restoration Partnership.

Partners in the collaborative effort include Game and Fish, BLM, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, City of Saford, Desert Fishes Council, Desert Fish Habitat Partnership, University of Arizona, Arizona State University, U.S. Forest Service, and numerous individuals. These partners have worked together for the past several years to protect and enhance native fish populations, particularly on public lands.

The Partners in Conservation Awards



Desert Pupfish

honor partnerships that promote the conservation of America's cherished landscapes, preserve natural and cultural resources, bring innovative approaches to resource management, and engage diverse entities, including youth.

Through the Native Fish Conservation and Restoration Partnership, critical aquatic habitats have been restored and in-

See **FISH** on page 17



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TIGHT LINES™

Your Greatest Trophy: Leaving The Legacy

Psych 101 taught me an important lesson about fishing.

By Doug Wallace

Anyone who has ever seen me try to get my wife or kids to do something they didn't want to do will find it very easy to believe that I slept through most of my freshman Psychology 101 class.

Besides a passing grade (barely!), I really only took one other thing from that class: Abraham Maslow's theory called "The Hierarchy of Needs." For you poor souls whose life has been a total disaster because your curriculum didn't include Psych 101, let me explain Maslow's theory.

Think of a pyramid made up of different layers. The bottom layer represents basic physical needs (air, water, Snickers bars, going #1, etc.); the next layer represents safety needs, then belonging needs (Warning! It is best not to explore this need with your hunting buddies on cold mornings in a duck blind) and so on up the pyramid layers until you reach the top, which represents self actualization.

As Much As You Want

Reaching this level means that basically all your other needs are met, so you can go fishing as much as you want. (Disclaimer: In some circles, this interpretation may be disputed.)

As I have thought about Abraham's theory, it has struck me that the maturing of fishermen follows Maslow's model pretty closely. For beginning fishermen,

the emphasis is on catching anything, even if it is just the bait!

As we start maturing in our sporting experience and improve our success, we are no longer satisfied with catching little fish; now we want to catch lots of fish. Next, it is only cool to catch big fish, then only big fish with artificial lures — and so on until only fishing for trophies using obscure methods and ultra-thin fishing lines will meet our need. (Can anyone say fly fishing for billfish?)

Leave A Legacy

My belief is that the ultimate expression of self-actualization in the fishing world is to leave a legacy. It is also my belief that "passing along" our sport to the next generation is the greatest legacy that any of us can leave. So this month's article is dedicated to leaving your own legacy



READY, SET, GO —fishing! Someone (is it his grandad?) took the time to start this little guy fishing, and it's a sure bet he will continue to love the sport because of the "legacy" Doug Wallace discusses in his article. Just be sure, he says, that you don't have to eat the carp!

by mentoring your kids or some other "non-fisherperson" in the great sport of fishing.

K.I.S.S — Keep it simple stupid!

That is the motto of the self-actualized fishing mentor. Fight the urge to bring all your cool stuff. Remember the beginner usually just wants to catch something — anything — so in almost all instances, the simplest approach is usually best. Here are some considerations:

Rods And Reels

Bait-casting reels and spinning reels can be frustrating for beginners. A push-button "closed-face" reel is best for youngsters. Zebco reels have probably caught more fish than all other reels put together and are an excellent choice for beginners.

For rods, shorter is usually best, especially if you are in a boat. Kids can be really hard on gear so you might not want them to use your new Orvis rod on their first trip out. My own personal "beginner" rod/reel combinations are 5-foot telescoping style rods with a Zebco 202 reel. They are easy to pack, store, use and darn-near indestructible.

Lures Or Bait?

Your choice here is going to be dictated by what puts the largest number of fish on the line for your kids. The emphasis is on success, and success for beginners is usually defined by quantity.

In the high mountain lakes I fish, you can usually catch fish in about three different ways at any given time. With the kids, I always choose the method that provides the fastest action. They would much rather catch an 11-inch trout every 15 minutes than one 4-pound trout after eight hours of fishing.

So, if the cutthroats are hitting hard on a trolled fly, we troll. If the fast action is bait fishing for the rainbows, we anchor off and huck a blob of cheese off the side. Once again, go for the numbers.

Even if the fish seem too small to you, as long as your little girl squeals with joy every time she flings that little fish in your face so you can take it off her line, you are doing alright.

Comfort

If you are anything like me, you would be just fine fishing barefoot for a week in a blizzard in shorts and tee shirt with nothing to eat but one bag of corn chips and some green chili salsa. However, your beginner fisherperson may find this experience less than enjoyable.

Making the overall fishing experience a positive one means; make everyone comfortable for the duration of the trip. You should be prepared for hot, cold, rain, wind, sunburn, frostbite, mosquitoes,

See LEGACY on page 9

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Because Anglers Have Choices, Here Are Some Gaff Guidelines

Gaffs come in a number of sizes and types. Choosing the proper gaff will depend on the type and weight of a catch, as well as the height of the freeboard on the boat.

The gape of the hook is critical. This is the distance between the shank or handle of the gaff and the business end of this tool. These run from 3" for bottom fishing or dolphin in the 10 lbs. class up to an 18" designed for bluefin tuna or marlin. Too large of a gape will miss a sleek-bodied fish, while too small of a gape will tear the gaff free.

Small, Hand Gaffs

These gaffs are usually about a foot long with a wrist strap attached to its end. The lower lip of the fish is the target of this tool. Anglers should simply ease the hand gaff under the lower jaw while steadying the fish by holding the leader.

Then, the gaff should be raised with a steady pressure to find the sweet spot between the jawbones. A hand gaff is best used for fish under 30" and/or 20 lbs.



GAFF CHOICES — Gaffs come in a number of sizes and types. Choosing the proper gaff will depend on the type and weight of a catch, as well as the height of the freeboard on the boat.

Large fish can do serious damage to wrists.

Long-Handled Gaffs

Larger gaffs come in lengths from about 3' to over 12', and they have a super-sharp stainless steel hook on the business end. When gaffing a fish on a long-handled gaff, anglers should align the fish head forward into the current parallel to the freeboard of the boat.

Then, they should calmly lower the

head below the fish as far forward as possible, but still behind the bony gill plates. The gaff should be raised with a strong yet steady pressure and anglers should never slash or stab at a fish.

Flying Gaff

Fishermen who target large marlin, shark or tuna use a flying gaff. This specialized version has a long rope tied to the base on the end of the gaff. When the fish is struck, a quick jerk on the pole separates the gaff hook, leaving the angler with what is now essentially a hand line.

Gaffing Tips

Anglers must make sure the gaff hook is facing down and toward the boat as the fish is brought alongside.

Anglers should always aim for the top of the fish toward the head for more control and to protect the meat.

Once a fish is on the gaff, the angler should back off on the drag or disengage the reel with the clicker on.

Fishermen should never attempt to gaff

a fish that is too deep and beyond reach. They should be patient and wait for a clean shot.

While waiting for the gaff, the angler should never lift the fish's head out of the water.

Anglers must purchase a high quality gaff. This is no place to compromise.

Shurhold offers a stainless steel gaff hook as an attachment to its Fishing Series Handles. This gaff is cast out of one piece and includes a safety spring guard to cover the sharp point when not in use. It retails for \$37.98.

Dedicated to educating boat owners, Shurhold provides key tips for boat value preservation at www.shurhold.com. Inventor of the One Handle Does It All system, Shurhold manufactures specialty care items and accessories to clean, polish and detail.

Contact local dealers or Shurhold, 3119 SW 42nd Ave., Palm City, FL 34990. 800-962-6241; Fax: 772-286-9620. www.shurhold.com.

Fish Seeker Precisely Sets Trolling Depth

Trolling no longer has to be a drag. The versatile Fish Seeker from Davis Instruments makes it easy to accurately control lure depth from 5' to 80' without a heavy lead ball sinker or downrigger.

Compatible with both live bait and lures, the Fish Seeker is perfect for salmon, steelhead, walleye, crappie, trout and striper. It's designed for use in salt or fresh water with a 6-25 lb. test line.

Employing a simple chart, anglers choose the right setting and holes for the desired depth. They just attach the rod line to one of the lettered holes at the front the Fish Seeker and the leader line to a numbered hole at the back using snap

swivels.

Once the specified amount of line is released, the Fish Seeker dives to the correct depth and stays there to help lure in the catch. With each strike, it flips over so anglers fight only the fish, not the gear.

Available in clear, hot pink or chartreuse, the innovative Fish Seeker from Davis Instruments retails for just \$7.99. It's not meant for use with deep diving lures.

Contact local dealers or Davis Instruments, 3465 Diablo Ave., Hayward, CA 94545. 510-732-9229; Fax: 510-732-9188. info@davisnet.com; www.davis-net.com.



DEEP DOWN — or shallow: Trolling no longer has to be a drag. The versatile Fish Seeker from Davis Instruments makes it easy to accurately control lure depth from 5' to 80' without a heavy lead ball sinker or downrigger.

LEGACY

Continued from page 8

10 zillion bugs that don't bite, famine, drought, and sleep deprivation.

You should be prepared for the possibility that if the fish aren't cooperating, your fishing trip may turn into a swimming trip. You should be prepared to stay both longer than you had planned or shorter than you had hoped. The real emphasis here is to make sure your little fisherpersons have a GREAT time.

Throw in a little extra food (especially junk food!), and a few extra cloths. If you are fishing from the shore, a complete change of clothes and about 14 pairs of shoes are a must.

Requirements also include bug repellent (my kids prefer lotions over the spray-on type) and sun-block with a SPF factor of about a gazillion. Consider letting your kids invite friends with whom they can share the experience (especially if you can talk a friend's mom into providing brownies for the trip). Just remember, this trip is about fun, and hopefully some fish, but primarily about building a fun memory.

Catch And Re-Heat

I know you purists are going to cringe, but be prepared to eat what you catch. For most beginning fisherman, the idea of actually getting to eat a fish they catch is the crowning achievement to the overall experience.

If you don't want to eat a carp, sucker or turtle, talk to your fishing buddy before

you get to the water about what game fish you will be going after and about any "undesirable" fish you may catch.

I learned this lesson on a quail hunt with my young son. Prior to going out, we talked about the fact that it was legal and okay to shoot a rabbit if he wanted to. I forgot, however, to explain the difference between a cotton tail rabbit and a jack rabbit.

I come from the "you killed it; you eat it" hunting tradition so let me just say that there is good reason why we don't eat jack rabbits!

So, learn from me. Tell your beginner BEFORE you get on the water what is and is not eatable before the first line is in the water. After a few successful trips, you can start talking to them about the catch-and-release ethic, benefits of the two-party political system, Maslow's theories or any other critical life skills.

That's all there is to it! So, go buy those Twinkies and nacho chips and set a date to go fishing with your child, grandchild, or that bratty kid next door. "Passing it along" is about leaving a legacy.

It will require a little more work. It will take some self discipline to make sure that it is not just another trip for you, but a memory-building experience for your novice.

It will also be worth it when, years from now, those you took fishing look back on their early trips and think of you and smile.

See ya on the water, Doug



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Elk, Antelope Regulations Now At AZGFD Offices

Deadline to apply for 2011 hunts is Feb. 8; there is no online system.

They're here. Printed versions of "Arizona's 2011 Pronghorn Antelope and Elk Hunt Draw Information" booklets are now available at all seven Arizona Game and Fish Department offices.

Deliveries of the regulations to more than 300 license dealers are underway.

The deadline to submit an application is Tuesday, Feb. 8 by 7 p.m. (MST). Postmarks do not count. There is no online application process.

All applications must be submitted either by U.S. mail to P.O. Box 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052, or hand-delivered to any Game and Fish office. There are Game and Fish offices in Pinetop, Flagstaff, Kingman, Yuma, Tucson, Mesa and Phoenix. For contact information and directions, visit www.azgfd.gov/offices.

Drawing odds from 2010 for elk and pronghorn antelope are not listed in the reg-



ulations, but are available for viewing and printing from the department's Web site. For 2009 and older information, refer to the "Hunt Arizona 2010: Survey, Harvest and Draw Data" on the right side of the page

under "Hunting, Trapping & Fishing Regulations, Season Dates & Draw Information," at www.azgfd.gov/draw.

Also available is an editable PDF application form that allows applicants to enter their information using a computer for better legibility and consistency. The form must be printed, signed, and then mailed or hand delivered to Game and Fish. The form can also be printed and filled out using an ink pen and submitted the same way.

Hunters are reminded they will need a 2011 hunting license to apply. Licenses can be purchased through the application process, at Game and Fish offices and Web site, or at more than 300 license dealers

statewide.

Go Hunting Now

There are still plenty of leftover spring javelina and turkey hunting permits remaining, including juniors-only opportunities, issued on a first-come, first-served basis. Permits can be obtained at any Game and Fish office. For a listing of available hunts, visit www.azgfd.gov/draw under the link "List of Leftover Tags for Spring 2011 Javelina, Turkey, and Bear Hunts."

The Arizona Game and Fish Department does not receive any of the state's general funds to operate. Wildlife conservation and management of the state's game animals, which also benefits many non-game species, is made possible through the direct sale of hunting and fishing licenses, big game tags, and matching funds from the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, a federal excise tax that sportsmen pay on certain related equipment.

January Offers Extensive Hunting Opportunities

Deer, javelina, quail, duck and rabbit are all in season.

Now that we're into the new year, the Arizona Game and Fish Department wants to remind sportsmen and women that January offers a wide variety of hunting opportunities.

Getting back into the field can help you burn off some of those holiday treats as

well.

The recent winter cold fronts provide the perfect conditions for hunting deer, javelina, ducks, geese, quail and rabbits.

Deer: Archery-only deer season runs through Jan. 31 with open areas throughout the state allowing the harvest of any antlered mule or white-tailed deer. Non-permit-tags are required and can be purchased over-the-counter from Game and Fish or any license dealer.

Javelina: Archery-only javelina season runs through Jan. 20 and hunters have two



WORTH THE WALK — Open through Feb. 6, Gambel's quail populations are healthy in many of their traditional areas. Now is the time of the year when smaller family groups gather into larger coveys. Finding these coveys might take some extra walking, but the reward should be worth it.

options for a tag. Non-permit-tags for metro and outlying units are available for purchase over-the-counter from Game and Fish and any license dealer. Additionally, leftover permit tags for a number of surrounding units around the state are avail-

See HUNTING on page 17

NORTHERN ARIZONA SHOOTING RANGE

Volunteers Sought For Fence Removal Project

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking volunteers to remove old barbed wire fencing from the recently acquired 160-acre Foster Ranch property near Flagstaff in preparation of developing the Northern Arizona Shooting Range.

The two-day project is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 22-23. Volunteers are not required to work both days and are free to come for any length of time they are available during the weekend. Volunteers may camp on site or commute daily as needed.

Directions: The site is approximately 15 miles east of Flagstaff. Take I-40 to the Winona exit (exit 211), go south on the main road (FS 82) for 1.5 miles, turn right onto FS 128 and go 4.1 miles, turn left onto FS 128A and go 0.4 miles to the site. Note: The last five miles are unimproved dirt road and weather can cause muddy and high-clearance conditions.

Bring: A supply of tools will be available. However, please bring fence pliers, wire side cutters, small bolt cutters, and work gloves. Be sure to wear old clothes, bring appropriate hats, long-sleeve shirts, sun block, other items required for outdoor

See VOLUMTEERS on page 17

Lake Havasu Travel Management Plan Would Affect Hunters

From NRA

The Bureau of Land Management is developing a Travel Management Plan (TMP) to designate the routes that will remain open to the use of motorized vehicles by the public.

The Federal lands involved in the TMP are located below I-40 in Arizona and California, north, east, and south of Lake Havasu City, including parts of the California shoreline and south within 5-7 miles of the Bill Williams River.

The public comment period on the TMP closes Feb. 28. Comments may be emailed to Lake_Havasu@blm.gov or by filling out the comment form on BLM's Arizona State Web site at www.blm.gov/az. Click on Lake Havasu. For further information you may call Myron McCoy at (928) 505-1216 or write to Myron_mccoy@blm.gov.

The TMP lays out four alternatives for motorized access:

Alternative A: No Action. Alternative A describes the current management of BLM-administered public lands in the planning area. The current management would continue to occur if no new decisions are made to alter them.

Alternative B: Protection. Alternative B emphasizes minimal human use and influence, and enhanced protection of remoteness and primitive recreation.

Alternative C: Proposed. Alternative C would provide an optimal balance between authorized resource use and the protection and long-term sustainability of sensitive resources within the planning area.

Alternative D: Access. Alternative D places an emphasis on maximum resource use and a more flexible, permissive resource-management approach.

In addition to the effects the TMP will have on recreational access, the BLM does not intend to allow the use of vehicles for game retrieval off designated routes. If you hunt or enjoy other recreational activities on these lands, it is important that you review the maps and comment on how the alternatives will affect your access and ability to retrieve downed game.

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Daniel Schwen

CONCERNED COMMENTS — The Arizona Game and Fish Department provided a presentation to the Flagstaff City Council on Jan. 18 about the selection and purchase of the private Foster Ranch property for the development of the Northern Arizona Shooting Range, which is located in Coconino County, to the southeast of Walnut Canyon National Monument. Although the property is not within the city limits, the council invited Game and Fish to give a presentation due to recent public comments regarding concerns of potential effects of a shooting range located near Walnut Canyon. (A Walnut Canyon cliff dwelling is shown here.)



ARIZONA'S WINTER WONDERLAND

Come Ski, Board, Play In The High Country

From 'My Flagstaff —
Active In The Outdoors'

At an elevation of 7,000 feet, Flagstaff truly is a winter wonderland this time of year. Winter storms traditionally bring more than 100 inches of the white stuff to the surrounding forests. Nearby ski areas offer formal settings for Nordic and alpine skiing as well as several designated snow-play areas.

Planning ahead, and driving patiently and cautiously are the keys to enjoying all that Flagstaff has to offer in the winter months. Snow enthusiasts flock to the slopes, trails and sledding hills to play in the powder.



Sedona: A Winter-Escape Day Trip From Flagstaff

As the hub of activity in northern Arizona, Flagstaff is also ideally situated for visitors to head south for the day and take in the warmer Sedona air.

Flagstaff and Sedona are connected by the awe-inspiring Highway 89A through beautiful Oak Creek Canyon. The Sedona-Oak Creek Canyon Scenic Road winds down for 14.5 miles, dropping 1,900 feet in elevation along the way.



The Ponderosa pine trees of Flagstaff give way to the junipers and sycamores as you approach the famed red rocks of Sedona. The drive itself is worth the trip, but there is much more to explore in Sedona.

The red-rock backdrop practically begs visitors to explore its grandeur. Whether on foot, mountain bike, in a jeep or perched in a hot air balloon, the beauty will surely take your breath away. The best part about a day trip to Sedona is that after warming up in the magnificent red rocks,



you can be back to Flagstaff in time to enjoy dinner and drinks in one of the many establishments in historic downtown.

Upcoming Event

Feb. 25 is the annual Flagstaff Winterfest. The Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce presents this month-long festival of events accenting the joy of the winter season. Locations and times vary. Call for information (928) 774-4505 or visit flagstaffchamber.com.

Game And Fish Reminds OHV Operators To Ride Safely, Responsibly In 2011

If you're an off-highway vehicle enthusiast, one of the best New Year's resolutions you can make is to continue operating your vehicle in a safe and responsible manner over the coming year.

One of the first things you should do is make sure you're in compliance with the law. All OHVs in Arizona need a title. A title can be obtained at any Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) office, any third-party service provider, or online at www.servicearizona.com.

If You've Not Had A Title

If your OHV has never had a title before, you'll need to take it to an MVD office for an initial inspection. Title plates are denoted with the letters "RV" on the plate.

In Arizona, you may also make the choice to register an OHV for street-legal use. To make an OHV street-legal, you will need to add a license plate light, a horn audible to at least 200 feet, proper insurance (you'll be riding on the road like a truck or car), and in some areas of the state, you'll need to have your vehicle emissions tested.

Street-legal registration is obtained from MVD offices, third-party service providers,

or online at www.servicearizona.com.

If your OHV is made for use over unimproved terrain (i.e., designed primarily for off-highway use) and weighs 1,800 pounds or less, then you are required by law to obtain an OHV decal from MVD.

The OHV Decal

The OHV decal is needed for both title-only and street-legal registered vehicles if they meet the two requirements listed above (made for use over unimproved terrain and weighing 1,800 pounds or less). If your vehicle weighs more than 1,800 pounds and is not a vehicle made for street use, then all you need is a title to operate in Arizona.

If your vehicle is below 49cc, then it is considered a toy classification by MVD and you will not be able to participate in any of these programs.

Note: The dates of renewal for your registration and for your OHV Decal are most likely different. This is very common for OHV users in Arizona. Game and Fish is working with MVD to create a renewal reminder program in 2011, but for now, it is your responsibility to make sure your vehicle is up-to-date.

Tip: If you are renewing online at www.servicearizona.com, always make sure to renew your OHV decal first, then renew your registration. If you purchase your registration without an up-to-date OHV decal, you will be required to pay full vehicle registration and vehicle license tax (VLT).

This is the case even if you have signed paperwork to get the reduced registration benefit. Update the OHV decal first!

Reminder: Kids under the age of 18 are required by law in Arizona to wear a properly fitted and fastened USDOT-approved helmet when riding on an OHV. If they are in a side-by-side, Razor or some other type of UTV, they are not required to wear a helmet, but one is recommended for safety.

Required Extras

Eye protection is required in vehicles without a windshield. Goggles are preferred, but sunglasses or other glasses are considered eye protection.

Seats and footrests are needed for the operator and the passenger if the vehicle is designed to carry a passenger. The long seat on a one-person OHV is designed for

the rider to be "rider-active" when riding, not for carrying passengers.

Rider-active means that the rider becomes part of the vehicle when underway. Riders need to lean into corners when turning and stand or lean uphill when traveling up or down a hill.

A passenger on a one-person machine can inhibit you from being rider-active and can cause you and the vehicle to lose balance, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remember: Nature rules! Stay on roads and trails.

For more information, go to the Game and Fish Web site at www.azgfd.gov/ohv.

RV Owners Can Benefit From Top Six Cleaning Tips

Giving an RV a proper external cleaning can be simple and quick. The following six tips enable any owner to establish an effortless maintenance routine.

1. Owners should always rinse down the area to be cleaned prior to washing. This helps remove any loose surface grime, so owners don't scrub it into the finish.

2. Rain can leave black streaks, which should be washed off immediately. The sooner the streaks are removed, the easier they are to clean.

3. Less is more when it comes to mixing soap with water. Too much soap will make the RV hard to rinse, leaving soap scum.

4. Owners should wash their rig early or late in the day. Avoiding intense sunlight will make it easier to clean because the areas being worked on won't dry too quickly.

5. Once everything has been washed, the RV should be waxed or polished to make the next cleaning easier. Owners who keep up this routine will recoup the



QUICK AND CLEAN — Giving an RV a proper external cleaning can be simple and quick. Six basic tips enable any owner to establish an effortless maintenance routine.

cost of all cleaning, polishing and waxing products used in their investment's resale value.

Pro Polish is scientifically formulated to protect against the harsh effects of the sun, salt water and environmental fallout. It repels water and provides a deep, high-gloss shine. Better than an old-fashioned wax, Pro Polish is a polymer-based for-

mula with cosmetic-grade ingredients and contains no fillers or talc.

6. To help prevent corrosion, seals, hinges, snaps and zippers should be coated with water-resistant lubricant. Owners should take caution when applying liquid or spray lubricants.

Some are petroleum-based and drips or overspray may harm a gel coat or clear coat, upholstery and fabric. A simple alternative to fighting with snaps or zippers is a quick dab of Shurhold's water-resistant Snap-Stick lubricant, which comes in a handy tube.

Shurhold's Snap Stick retails for \$6.48, while a 16 oz. bottle of Pro Polish costs \$22.98. Shurhold is dedicated to educating owners on RV value preservation. Inventor of the One Handle Does It All system, Shurhold manufactures specialty care items and accessories to clean, polish and detail.

Contact a local dealer or Shurhold, 3119 SW 42nd Ave., Palm City, FL 34990; 800-962-6241; Fax: 772-286-9620. www.shurhold.com/rv.

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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.



IT'S FOR THE BIRDS

Margie Allen, Birding Editor



Christmas Bird Count Documents 120 Species At Havasu NWR

Volunteers, species consistent, but overall numbers down.

A good Christmas gift for birding enthusiasts is wrapped in feathers.

Such was the case at the annual Christmas Bird Count, where 33 birding-enthusiast volunteers spotted 120 different species and 14,110 total birds during the count in and around the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge.

The count was substantially lower than the 43,792 birds (121 species) 36 volunteers counted in 2009, but higher than the 10,954 and 112 species documented in 2008.

The discrepancy lies with the American coot. Over 27,000 of this waterfowl species were counted in 2009, compared to 3,697 in 2010, and three fewer volunteers could have also played a factor.

"I wouldn't read too much into the overall numbers," said Jeff Pebworth, wildlife program manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Kingman regional office. "The number of species documented is more valuable."

"The overall numbers can be influenced by weather, migration patterns, and data collection techniques. And, they counted virtually the same number of species as in 2009."

DeeDee DeLorenzo, the event coordi-



Killdeer

nator for the Audubon Society, credits the success of the annual count to the volunteers. While they had three fewer than in 2009, it was still higher than the 28 in 2008.

"We had great participation again this year," DeLorenzo said. "The more eyes we can have in the field, the more thoroughly we can canvass the refuge. It was just a wonderful effort and I can't thank all the volunteers enough for their time."

"We can't do this without volunteers. They all did a great job of documenting the different species and keeping an accurate count of the overall numbers."

The most common sighting during the Dec. 28 count was the snow goose, with a count of 4,685 individuals followed by the American coot with 3,697. Some other common sightings included the red-winged blackbird at 624, the rock pigeon at 469, the yellow-rumped warbler at 319,

and the great-tailed grackle at 297.

In addition, two juvenile bald eagles were spotted as well as eight species never before documented at this effort: solitary sandpiper, neotropic cormorant, gray flycatcher, Tennessee warbler, Lucy's warbler, black-throated gray warbler, cackling goose, and lark sparrow.

"It was also a good year for raptors," DeLorenzo said. "We saw quite a few species this year, including a red-shouldered hawk."

Participants paid a \$5 fee to help offset the cost of publishing the results and maintaining the Christmas Bird Count Web site: www.audubon.org/bird/cbc.

As for the purpose of the counts, DeLorenzo said it is vital in monitoring the status of resident and migratory birds across the western hemisphere.

"This effort will evaluate the status of bird species in both the breeding and non-breeding seasons," DeLorenzo said. "The Christmas Bird Count analysis will also focus on how birds may be reacting to global climate change."

For more information on these events, contact DeLorenzo at (928) 758-2707 for information regarding the backyard bird count later this year. For birding enthusiasts, visit www.birdyverde.org for information regarding the April Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival in Cottonwood.

For anyone interested in information

regarding the 2011 Havasu CBC, contact DeLorenzo at the number above or e-mail poncho@citilink.net.

California Condor Subject Of Upcoming Talk In Flagstaff

Can't stomach your office break room much longer? Why not stop in and catch a talk at the Lunchtime Speaker Series hosted by the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Flagstaff regional office located at 3500 S. Lake Mary Road.

Game and Fish is hosting talks from noon until 1 p.m. on the second Friday of every month from January through May. Department experts will deliver talks on a variety of topics that are of interest to the general public.

Included in the upcoming talks is this one of interest especially to birders:

April 8 — "Is it a bird or is it a plane? No, it's a California condor!" This talk will present some fascinating facts about these soaring birds and the condor-recovery program in Arizona.

"We encourage the public to take advantage of the speaker series to learn more about Arizona's unique wildlife and outdoor recreation during their lunch hour," says Shelly Shepherd, public information officer for Game and Fish. "The talks are informal, and we know participants will enjoy them."

For more information, call the Flagstaff office at (928) 774-5045.

March Is A Very Good Month For Arizona Birders



Turkey Vulture (Buzzard)

Three great events celebrate state's wildlife.

One of the favorite outdoor events in Arizona is the annual Tres Rios Nature Festival, this year set for March 5-6 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Estrella Mountain Regional Park in Goodyear, Ariz.

Those interested especially in birds can go on one of the canoe trips, looking for birds and other wildlife.

Celebrate the natural history and heritage of the valley, discover watchable wildlife opportunities, enjoy tours of historic areas, and visit the children's area. Just for the kids are hands-on crafts, live animals, and storytelling. This family friendly festival is free.

For more information, call (623) 204-2130 or www.tresriosnaturefestival.com

In Mid-March

They're back! Come welcome the local flock of turkey vultures as they return to

their roosts in the eucalyptus grove on March 19 (their usual return date). The annual Welcome Back Buzzards will be at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Superior from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Join in the celebration and go on the bird-watching tour that follows buzzard viewing. The cost is minimal: \$3-7.50.

For more information, call (520) 689-2811 or visit <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>.

As March Ends

Rounding out the March events of special interest to wildlife aficionados, especially birders, is the annual Feathered Friends Festival on March 26 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Visitors to the Gilbert Riparian Preserve will find more than 60 activities and exhibits centering on amphibians, reptiles, insects, wildlife, birds, and more. There will be interactive exhibits, educational activities, crafts, games, hands-on learning, and nature walks. Although the festival is free, a \$2 donation is requested.

For more information, call (480) 503-6744 or visit www.riparianinstitute.org

Brown Flycatcher Has A Very Unique Call

The **Brown-crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) is a passerine bird in the tyrant flycatcher family. It breeds in open woodland from southern California, southern Nevada, central Arizona, and southern Texas southward to Argentina and Bolivia, and on Trinidad and Tobago.

It is resident in most of its range, but individuals breeding in the United States retreat to Mexico or southern Florida in winter.

Adult Brown-crested Flycatchers are 20.3 cm long and weigh 30 g, and have

This Flycatcher Is A Favorite Of Birders

The **Vermilion Flycatcher**, *Pyrocephalus rubinus*, is a small passerine bird that can be found in the southwestern United States, Central America, and northern and central South America, and southwards to central Argentina; also in the Galapagos Islands. This is the only species in the genus *Pyrocephalus*.

The species grows to about seven inches in length, and is strongly dimorphic; males are bright red in color, with dark brown plumage. Females have a peach-colored belly with a dark grey upperside, and are somewhat similar to Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*).

These tyrant flycatchers feed mostly on insects such as flies, grasshoppers and beetles. These are usually taken from mid-air, after a short sally flight from a perch

The Vermilion Flycatcher is a favorite among birders, but not generally kept by



Vermilion Flycatcher (Female)

aviculturists, as males tend to lose their bright colors when taken from the wild and kept in cages. Most flycatchers are rather drab in color, but the Vermilion Flycatcher is an exception and is very striking.

They lay two to three whitish eggs in a nest made out of twigs, stems and roots

Gilded Flicker Nests In Saguaro

The **Gilded Flicker** (*Colaptes chrysoides*) is a large-sized woodpecker (mean length of 29 cm (11 inches)) of the Sonoran, Yuma, and eastern Colorado

Desert regions of the southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico, including all of the Baja Peninsula except the extreme northwestern region.

Golden yellow underwings distinguish the Gilded Flicker from the Northern Flicker — found within the same region — which have red underwings.

The Gilded Flicker most frequently builds its nest hole in a majestic saguaro cactus. Northern Flickers, on the other hand, nest in riparian trees and very rarely inhabit saguaro.

Gilded Flickers occasionally hybridize with Northern Flickers in the narrow zones where their range and habitat overlap.



Glenn Seplak, Tucson



Vermilion Flycatcher (Male)

lined with hair. The eggs are incubated for around two weeks by the female bird and the young are ready to leave the nest after 15 days of hatching.



ETHANOL 101

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT E10 / ETHANOL FUEL

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.

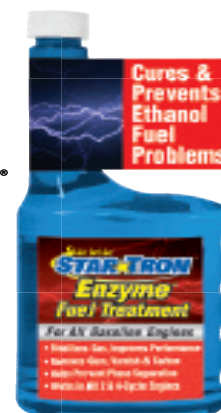
STAR TRON® SOLUTION: Star Tron®'s enzyme formula helps to break apart large clusters of fuel molecules, creating more surface area. This allows additional oxygen to react during combustion, which results in a more complete burn of the fuel, improved fuel economy, engine power, throttle response and reduced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



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To learn the entire Star Tron® story and to find the nearest retailer, log onto WWW.STARTRON.COM or call (800) 327-8583



OUTDOORS

Continued from page 1

and entertainment like night hikes, fly tying, and motivational speakers.

It's All About Learning

"BOW is about much more than hunting and fishing or even camping and paddling," says Linda Dightmon, coordinator for the program. "It is all about learning to appreciate our wild lands and wildlife and how to help conserve them. It is all about learning a new skill or conquering an old fear. It is all about meeting like-minded women and making new friends. It could be all about learning a lot more about you."

Participants stay in rustic cabins, but there are showers and bathrooms in each cabin. One great thing about this camp is that a woman can try a new sport without buying all of the equipment. The only thing the participant needs to bring is her personal stuff, a good attitude and a willingness to learn.

Class materials, food and lodging are all included in the \$245 registration fee. For more information, a schedule of classes, and a registration form, call the Arizona Wildlife Federation office at (480) 644-0077 or e-mail: awf@azwildlife.org; more information is at www.azwildlife.org.

POCKET CRUISERS

Continued from page 1

waters of Lake Havasu, often these little craft and their owners venture out into bigger waters. Many of the participating crew and boats have made journeys to places like Catalina Island, The Channel Islands, the San Juan Islands of Washington State, The Gulf Islands of British Columbia and every coastal and inland waterway in between.

Actually, that's the beauty of the Pocket Cruisers. Because they are trailerable, they're easy to load behind the family car or truck and take to new places to explore. While it would take a large sailboat owner weeks or more to sail from San

CAMPAIGN

Continued from page 1

most the same."

The first awareness of this new safety campaign has already begun. Six-foot by four-foot "carry-a-designated-operator" signs have been posted at several prominent public launch ramps around Lake Havasu.

"Our first sign just went up at Windsor Beach launch ramp," said Salscheider, "and will be followed by several more at other key boating ramps and facilities. The initial phase of this campaign is to create some recognition and get people thinking about being more responsible when boating."

'It's Worth Saving A Life'

"We don't want to spoil anybody's fun on the water, but operating a boat while impaired is a serious safety hazard. It doesn't seem like too great a sacrifice to ask just one person on-board to forego alcohol for a one day. It's certainly worth saving a life."

The "carry-a-designated operator" campaign will continue to accelerate as the 2011 boating season approaches. In addition to signage at major launch ramps, the program will be supported with an aggressive marketing strategy including articles, ads and press releases in prominent boating publications, local radio PSAs, consumer boat show exposure, e-mail blasts

to known boaters, Web site links and social networking, and support from waterfront restaurants and bars.

"I'm very gratified by all the support this campaign has received in such a short period of time," remarked Salscheider. "Funding for this effort has initially come from private business."

Support, Cooperation From Many

"Hall of Champions boat racer, three-time World Offshore Champion and safety advocate Bob Teague of Teague Custom Marine, has graciously agreed to be our spokesperson, lending significant credibility to what we are trying to accomplish. And the cooperation by all facets of law enforcement have only strengthened our resolve to make a difference in creating a safer Lake Havasu for all boaters."

The Lake Havasu "carry-a-designated-operator" campaign is co-sponsored by Romer Beverage Company of Lake Havasu and Teague Custom Marine, Valencia, Calif.

Supporting agencies include Arizona Game and Fish, Arizona State Parks, Mohave County Sheriff, Lake Havasu City Police, and San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner Department. Participating restaurants/bars include Pirate Cove Resort and the Turtle Grille/Nautical Beachfront Resort.

Arizona Boating & Watersports/West-

ern Outdoor Times enthusiastically supports this program and will provide updates as they become available.

"Carry a designated operator" was founded by the Lake Havasu Marine Association and is responsible for its implementation.

For more information, contact Lake Havasu Marine Association Executive Director Jim Salscheider at (928) 208-2442, jims@lhema.com or visit www.lhema.com.

EXPO

Continued from page 1

- View exciting shooting demonstrations by the cowboy mounted shooters, cowboy action shooters and more.
- Attend informative workshops on fishing, hunting, wildlife conservation.
- See off-highway vehicle and boating exhibits.

• Visit with more than 100 exhibitors — sportsmen's organizations, conservation groups, shooting clubs, wildlife agencies, and commercial vendors and exhibitors of outdoor products and services.

This is a great event to experience or learn more about the amazing outdoor recreational opportunities in Arizona. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 26 and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 27. Admission and parking are free.

Diego to Washington State to go explore the Puget Sound, Pocket Cruisers can just hook up the trailer and are there in a few days to explore the faraway islands and waterways.

A Wonderful Way To Explore

It is a wonderful way to explore beautiful new places only accessible by boat and to meet new people. Often cruisers travel in groups, making the social aspect of traveling by pocket cruiser a major attraction.

"You'll find that the majority of these folks are not sailing these 'pocket' boats because that's all they can afford," says Mulligan. "Rather, they enjoy that the boats open up an unlimited number of sail-

ing venues to them by being able to travel down the highway at 65mph to get to a new cruising spot.

"Some enjoy the solitude of sailing solo and being the only boat anchored in a secluded cove or harbor, while others join up for organized group cruises that often extend for multiple weeks."

Sean and Mair Jo Mulligan, organizers of the event, started living the Pocket Cruiser lifestyle about five years ago. Through their summer travels with their boat *Dauntless* in tow, they've made friends up and down the West Coast.

Over the last five years, *Dauntless* has been seen sailing out of San Diego, Long Beach, Marina del Rey, Catalina Island, The Channel Islands, Ventura, Washington's San Juan Islands, and the Canadian Gulf Islands. In the winter, the Mulligans keep *Dauntless* in a slip just minutes from home on Lake Havasu.

Sail In Wintertime: Really?

"We kept meeting folks [who] were

amazed that our sailing season at our home lake was actually winter time. Most folks we met had to cover their boats up for the winter and wait for spring to get in a good sail. That's where the idea for the winter time gathering in Arizona began."

It started with 13 boats, all friends, just getting together for some winter sailing in Arizona. Word spread about the gathering and things just took off. Last year the event was officially made into the Havasu Pocket Cruiser Convention, and moved to the London Bridge Resort and Convention Center.

Crew and boats attending arrived from nine western states. In addition to daytime sailing activities in which 70 boats participated, crews enjoyed seminars by well-known sailmaker Harry Pattison of Elliot/Pattison Sailmakers, Stan Sussman of Interlux/Awlgrip, Jerry Montgomery of the newly formed Sage Marine, builders of the brand new Sage 17 pocket cruisers, and a Celestial Navigation Seminar hosted by Jonathan Olenick.

Seminars, Fun, Lasting Friendships

Along with the seminars were some fun evening events like the Ugly Hawaiian Shirt Contest and a North vs. South "Grudge Match" for a Perpetual Trophy. On-the-water events included a fun race, photographic poker run, and an on-the-water boat show open to the public.

All this took place in the London Bridge Resort, and the Waterfront Convention Center was turned into Pocket Cruiser Headquarters for the four-day event.

The Pocket Cruiser lifestyle crosses all ages and professions Mulligan says. "Participants come from every walk of life. From artists to fireman, linemen to the cable guy, professors to corporate executives — we've got 'em all! Everyone is brought together by the common love of sailing."

"One of the biggest successes of the event are the lasting friendships that are formed. It's really an awe-inspiring thing to see 70 boatloads of strangers show up and 70 boatloads of friends go home. That's what it's all about," says Mulligan. "I can't even tell you how many wonderful friends we've made strictly because of our boat and this lifestyle. It really has been life changing."

Once again, the London Bridge Resort will host the event. Over 130 Pocket Cruisers and 150 crews from across the country and beyond are expected to converge on Lake Havasu City to attend the event, which is being lengthened to a full seven days' duration.

The event is open to any trailerable sailboat and crew. Information, updates, a list of boats already registered, and the participants' message board can all be found at www.sailhavasu.com

DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid-Jan.

BEYOND ARIZONA

SEAWORLD FUN CARD: until the end of 2011 — When guests purchase a full-priced single day admission ticket (\$69.99 adults/\$61.99 for children 3-9), they'll get to return with their *Fun Card* until the end of 2011 again and again! All seasonal events are included with park admission. For more information visit www.seaworld-sandiego.com or call (800) 25-SHAMU.

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

BOATING

7TH ANNUAL DESERT SPRINTS REGATTA: March 5 — Tempe Town Lake. www.tempe.gov/boating/

WHITEWATER RAFTING TRIPS: March 1-June 1 — Upper Salt River, the Highway 60 Bridge between Globe and Show Low, 1, 2, 3 & 5-day world-class whitewater rafting trips in one of America's most pristine river canyons. www.azroa.org

ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL SAILING CHAMPIONSHIP: April 16 — george@tingom.com

HAVASU POCKET CRUISERS: Feb. 14 through 21 — London Bridge Resort and Convention Center; www.sailhavasu.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.

BECOMING AN OUTDOORS WOMAN: Jan. 28-30 — Saguaro Lake Ranch, offers adventure and life skills, for women age 18 and older to learn to camp, fish, rappel, hike, cook with Dutch ovens, photograph wildlife & a range of outdoor recreation skills, "hawk talks" and nature hikes, \$420 includes meals, lodging and classes, 480-644-0077 or www.azwildlife.org

ANOTHER BOW APRIL 1-3: early Feb. registration — Arizona Wildlife Federation and Arizona Game and Fish Department sponsor the Becoming an Outdoors Woman Workshop; (480) 644-0077.

NEEDLE ROCK AREA CLOSED: until Feb. 24 — Cave Creek Ranger District officials of the Tonto National Forest announced a construction project at the Needle Rock Recreation Area will finish in early January 2011; beach and campground closed; Forest Road 20 may have travel restrictions and delays: (480) 595-3370

CLASSES/SEMINARS

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

COMMUNITY

PHOENIX-HIMEJI TEACH ABROAD: one year duration — This unique Teach Abroad experience gives college graduates the opportunity to travel to Japan and teach English for a year. Complete application must be submitted to Phoenix Sister Cities at 17 South 2nd Ave, 4th floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003

YUMA CROSSING RIVER DAZE ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL: Feb. 11-13 — Historic North End; celebrate the river and its role in Yuma's story, and the amazing engineering feats that made this thirsty desert bloom, (928) 783-0071 or (800) 293-0071 or www.visitjuma.com

POWER PAWS ASSISTANCE DOGS ANNUAL WALK 'N ROLL DOG WALK + SILENT AUCTION: Jan. 29 — Tempe Town Lake, www.walknroll-dogwalk.org.

FISHING

For more information on fishing, please see "Tight Lines" in each issue of AZBW/WOT.

ARIZONA FLYCASTERS CLUB MEETINGS: Second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. — Sunnyslope 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

FLW ENTRY DEADLINE: Jan. 26 — Call John for more information: (928) 479-2901

HUNTING

For more information on hunting, please see "Game Bag: Write On Target" in each issue of AZBW/WOT.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Jan. 22-23 — The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking volunteers to remove old barbed wire fencing from the recently acquired 160-acre Foster Ranch property near Flagstaff in preparation of developing the Northern Arizona Shooting Range. If you plan on attending, please contact Troy Christensen, public access coordinator, at (623) 236-7492 or tchristensen@azgfd.gov.

COMMENTS NEEDED ON TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN: Feb. 28 — The Bureau of Land Management is developing a Travel Management Plan (TMP) to designate the routes that will remain open to the use of motorized vehicles by the public. Comments may be emailed to Lake_Havasus@blm.gov or by filling out the comment form on BLM's Arizona State Web site at www.blm.gov/az. Click on Lake Havasu. For further information you may call Myron McCoy at (928) 505-1216 or write to Myron_mccoy@blm.gov.

DEADLINE FOR HUNT APPLICATIONS: Feb. 8 — The deadline to submit an application is Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2011 by 7 p.m. (MST) — postmarks do not count. There is no online application process. All applications must be submitted either by U.S. mail to P.O. Box 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052, or hand-delivered to any Game and Fish office. There are Game and Fish offices in Pinetop, Flagstaff, Kingman, Yuma, Tucson, Mesa and Phoenix. For contact information and directions, visit www.azgfd.gov/offices.

SHOWS/EXPOS

ARIZONA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT OUTDOOR EXPO: March 26-27 — Phoenix: Ben Avery Shooting Facility, hands-on activities, demonstrations and exhibits on hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, archery, off-highway vehicle (OHV) and watercraft recreation, conservation and wildlife education, camping and other outdoor elements, free, Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 9 a.m.-4 pm; (602) 942-3000 or www.azgfd.gov/expo

INTERNATIONAL SPORTSMENS' EXPO: Feb. 24-27 — University of Phoenix Stadium, Glendale, Ariz., 300 ex-

hibitors, the latest in adventure trips, hunting accessories, fishing gear and family fun, camping equipment, info about lodges, resorts, boating, seminars, contests and hands-on features, \$7-15 and youth 12 and under are free, Fri.-Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; (800) 545-6100 or <http://phoenix.sportsexpos.com> or (480) 947-6219 or jim@azbw.com

29TH ANNUAL SPORTS, VACATION & RV SHOW: Jan. 22-30 — Quartzsite; RVs, supplies, camping equipment, food, entertainment, free, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., (928) 927-6888 or 800-969-5464 or www.quartzsitevshow.com

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 Diving & Sports, 908 E. Impala Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204; (480) 507-3988 or sales@saguarosports.com

Frozen: **ARIZONA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:** March 26-27 — Arizona Snow-bowl, Flagstaff; ski & snowboard races open to all levels, \$15 per race, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm, 928-773-9707 or www.flagstaff-skiclub.org

ARIZONA CUP FREESTYLE/SKATE-SKI RACE: Feb. 27, 9 a.m. — Flagstaff Nordic Center, 15K skate (freestyle) ski race on groomed ski trails, all-day trail pass included; (928) 600-0385 or www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com

FULL MOON SKI: Feb. 16 — Flagstaff Nordic Center, 928-600-0385 or www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com

EAT, DRINK, AND SKI MERRY: Feb. 13, 1 p.m. — Flagstaff Nordic Center, a three-course meal and wines while skiing and snowshoeing along scenic, groomed trails, pre-register, \$65 single, \$115 couple, (928) 220-0550 or www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com

ARIZONA CUP CLASSIC STYLE SKI RACE: Jan. 30 — Flagstaff Nordic Center, 15K classic (Diagonal-stride) style ski race, on the well groomed trails, race both classic and freestyle to compete for the Arizona Cup, Arizona's only cross country ski race series, 9 a.m., (928) 600-0385 or www.FlagstaffNordicCenter.com

Swimming:

ANNUAL USAT COLLEGIATE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIATHLON & 5TH ANNUAL LAKE HAVASU TRIATHLON: March 19, 6:45 a.m. — includes swim 1500 meters; \$75, www.tucsonracing.com

Water Skiing:

26TH ANNIVERSARY PARKER INTERNATIONAL MARATHON IWSRA SKI RACES: March 12-13 — Blue Water Casino, Parker; (928) 669-6511 or <http://parkerareatourism.com>

WILDLIFE-RELATED

TRES RIOS NATURE FESTIVAL: March 5-6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. — Estrella Mountain Regional Park, Goodyear; celebrate the natural history and heritage of the valley, discover watchable wildlife opportunities, canoe trips looking for wildlife & birds, tours of historic areas, children's area with hands-on crafts, live animals, storytelling, free; (623) 204-2130 or www.tresriosnaturefestival.com

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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ARIZONA YACHT CLUB — Interested in the Arizona Yacht Club? Attend the monthly membership meeting held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the 19th Tee, at the Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe. E-mail membership@arizonayachtclub.org.

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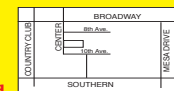
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FLYCATCHER

Continued from page 12

heavy bills. The upperparts are olive brown, with a darker head and short crest. The breast is grey and the belly is lemon yellow. The brown tail feathers have rufous inner webs, the remiges have rufous outer webs, and there are two dull wing bars. The sexes are similar.

The Brown-crested Flycatcher is best separated from other confusingly similar *Myiarchus* species by its call, a rough, loud "come HERE, come HERE" or "whit-will-do, whit-will-do".

This species is a rather skulking insectivore, which catches its prey by flycatching amongst the undergrowth. It sometimes eats fruit. The nest is built in a tree cavity or similar natural or man-made hole, and the normal clutch is two or three purple-marked cream eggs.

HUNTING

Continued from page 10

able from Game and Fish offices on a first-come, first-served basis.

Quail: Open through Feb. 6, Gambel's quail populations are healthy in many of their traditional areas. Now is the time of the year when smaller family groups gather into larger coveys. Finding these coveys might take some extra walking, but the reward should be worth it.

Ducks: The mountain zone closed Jan.

16, but desert-zone hunters have through Jan. 30. With the recent cold snaps, this is the time to get after ducks.

Mapping out your quail-hunting trips around tanks, water holes, streams, and river corridors can be very productive. To get the full duck-hunting experience, put on some waders, throw out a dozen decoys and watch the skies for ducks on cupped wings.

Rabbits: The year-long season is good for cottontail rabbits and jackrabbits.

Hunting for these wary creatures is fun, challenging, and provides never-ending excitement — not to mention they are both good in the cook pot.

Start the New Year off getting some exercise and taking part in an American tradition — go hunting.

For big game hunting information on deer and javelina, visit www.azgfd.gov/ draw.

For quail, rabbit and duck hunting information, visit www.azgfd.gov/hunting.

TIME

Continued from page 4

Weekend Navigator — a comprehensive course designed for both experienced and novice powerboat and sailboat operators to help the boating enthusiast learn of hone the skills required for a safe voyage on a variety of waters and under a variety of conditions.

Not all courses are conducted by all Auxiliary flotillas, so be sure to check with your local flotilla to find out what is being offered in your area.

Editor's Note: Also, check page 3 of this issue for courses offered by the Arizona Game & Fish Department and Phoenix Sail & Power Squadron.

REGULATIONS

Continued from page 7

Keep in mind that for the outdoor enthusiast in the family, the fishing regulations, along with a 2011 fishing license, make a great gift idea for the coming year.

There are some fishing regulation changes for 2011-2012 all you anglers will want to know. For instance, the protected slot limit has been removed from Roosevelt Lake, so you can catch bass of any size and the statewide bag limits apply.

Also, the temporary protected slot limits at Saguaro, Canyon and Apache lakes have all been removed as well.

Do you plan to catch some of those wild fish at Lees Ferry this coming year? Well, the upper size limit for trout has been increased to 14 inches for rainbow trout, and there is no limit on other sport fish.

"Like the regulations point out, the memories are always bigger than the fish — don't let one get away," Young says.

FISH

Continued from page 7

digenous fish protected. Efforts include the construction of fish barriers, removal of invasive species, reintroduction of native species, and monitoring populations.

Four major native fish project sites were recognized:

Bonita Creek, within the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area, is habitat for nine native fish species. In late 2008, a fish barrier was constructed to prevent non-native fish in the Gila River from migrating upstream into habitat occupied by native fish.

An interagency team that included Game and Fish temporarily removed native fish and turtles in Bonita Creek before non-native fish were eradicated. The five native fish species were later returned to their habitat along with four other native species.

Aravaipa Creek in Graham and Pinal

counties currently has seven native fish species. To enhance native fish populations in the Aravaipa area, an interagency team completed the re-introduction of 150 desert pupfish and 150 Gila top minnows into three remote springs near Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness.

Along the border of Graham and Cochise counties, the Muleshoe Ranch Cooperative Management Area includes seven perennial streams. In addition to the construction of a fish barrier at Hot Springs Canyon, a large-scale reintroduction of four native fish species took place.

An interagency team continues to monitor these populations and remove non-native species that are found.

The San Simon Valley southeast of Safford has several springs and seeps capable of providing habitat for native fish. An important step in the restoration of the endangered desert pupfish was taken when Game and Fish placed nearly 250 fish in a pond southeast of Safford.

VOLUNTEERS

Continued from page 10

working conditions. Be prepared for cold weather.

Contact: If you plan on attending, please contact Troy Christensen, public access coordinator, at (623) 236-7492 or tchristensen@azgfd.gov.

Shooting Range Discussed At Flagstaff City Council

The Arizona Game and Fish Department provided a presentation to the Flagstaff City Council on Jan. 18 about the selection and purchase of the private Foster Ranch property for the development of the Northern Arizona Shooting Range, which is located in Coconino County, to the southeast of Walnut Canyon National Monument.

Although the property is not within the city limits, the council invited Game and Fish to give a presentation due to recent

public comments regarding concerns of potential effects of a shooting range located near Walnut Canyon.

At this stage, the property is owned by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, the baseline sound study is in compliance with A.R.S. § 17-601, and the final range-design process incorporating public input is underway.

Because Game and Fish receives no tax dollars from the state's general fund, the property purchase came at no expense to taxpayers, state or local. Funding for the 160-acre property came from a surcharge collected from the sale of licenses to hunters and anglers.

To learn more about the Northern Arizona Shooting Range, visit www.azgfd.gov/nazsr. Additionally, interested parties can get the latest information e-mailed to them by subscribing at www.azgfd.gov/signup and select the "shooting sports news" and the "wildlife news" e-newsletters.



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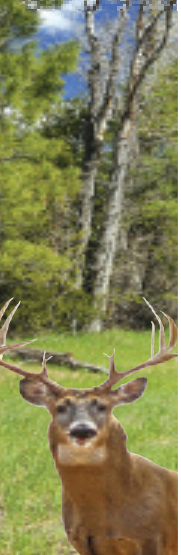
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ESCAPE

Continued from page 1

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Here's a look at what's new along with some of the ISE Phoenix show favorites:

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• **DockDogs Jumping Contest**

• **Rifle & Gear Raffle**, presented by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

• **3D Pop-Up Archery Range and Contest**

• **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Great Elk Tour**

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