



# Western Outdoor Times

FREE

## Arizona Boating & Watersports



March - April 2013

[www.azbw.com](http://www.azbw.com)

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

*It's Time To*

# SPRING Into Action

**Tackle &  
Target**

Pages 7-9

**Western  
Wildlife**

Page 10

**Land  
Cruising**

Page 11-12



## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

MANAGING TODAY FOR WILDLIFE TOMORROW

[www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)





## Seasonal Favorites Take Center Stage

### Don't Miss This Premier Event From AZGFD

Outdoor enthusiasts won't want to miss the Arizona Game and Fish Department Outdoor Expo on Saturday, March 23, and Sunday, March 24, at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix.

The family friendly Expo offers loads of activities, presentations and exhibits for everyone ranging from novices to seasoned outdoor recreationists. Best of all, admission and parking are free.

Activities and attractions include educational live wildlife exhibits (raptors, reptiles, small mammals, more), the huge catch-and-release fishing tanks for kids, target archery, camping demos, the opportunity to try out tar-



get shooting and specialty shooting disciplines on the range, off-highway vehicle exhibits and rock crawler demonstrations, field courses, boating safety exhibits, hunting dog

demonstrations, exciting cowboy mounted shooting competition, presentations on wildlife and outdoor recreation, tips from local experts, and the chance to visit with more than 150 exhibitors, including outdoor organizations, government agencies, and vendors of outdoor products and services.

Although admission and parking are free, you might want to bring a little cash to purchase food and beverages from the variety of concessionaires who will be on the Expo grounds, or if you are interested in purchasing outdoor-related products from the vendors

See EXPO on page 17

## Havasu Gets 'Hot And Heavy'

From Jim Nichols  
LakeRacer, LLC

Desert Storm has over 50 boats signed up as of press time. I have uploaded the list of participants to the LakeRacer Web site; you can click there to see who is coming. It really

will be a great event and I know you'll be bummed if you miss it.

My special thanks to each of the sponsors who have made this event possible, especially Teague Custom Marine! Please check out the event poster to see all of the sponsors!

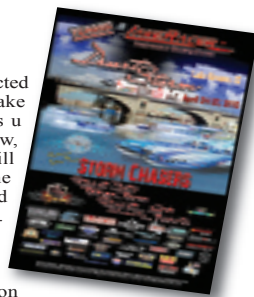
Many people have been calling to make their Nautical Resort reservations for this year's event and, of course, I have already blocked the rooms for our participants. LakeRacer's online DS2013 registration is available and once you have registered for the event, the Nautical Resort is notified that you are eligible to reserve rooms at the hotel.

### Connected To Boat Show

For 2013, Desert Storm will once again

be connected to the Lake Havasu Boat Show, which will run the weekend before. Our activities will begin on Wednesday, April 24 with the second annual "Krusin for Kids Event."

For those available to come out early and take these special-needs children and adults for their "Memory of a Lifetime"



See STORM on page 17



THEY'RE HERE!

## It's Time To Bag Some Bass

It's on now, this weekend! The 15th Annual Bill Luke Bass Days are set for March 15 through 17 at Lake Pleasant, Ariz.

This year promises to be the best version ever with —

- Six weigh-ins daily, plus
- Seven pay-outs per hour, plus
- Military displays, plus
- Cornhole tournament, plus
- Carp bow fishing, plus
- Kids' events daily, plus
- Wildlife exhibits, plus, plus, plus!
- Over \$50,000 in cash prizes!

### Amazing Prizes

The biggest overall bass wins \$10,000; the daily biggest bass wins

See BASS on page 8



### ON THE COVER

## Sure Signs Of Spring

The season that begins with expos, fishing, boating events and shows is here. Outdoor enthusiasts can look forward to Bill Luke Bass Days, the AZGFD Expo, Desert Storm, the Lake Havasu Boat Show, and two big angling events coming soon in California: Day at the Docks and the Yellowtail Derby. Celebrate spring in style with any or all of these fantastic opportunities!



### Y'ALL COME!

## San Diego Spotlights Sportfishing April 21

The Port of San Diego's 34th Annual Day at the Docks — a free West Coast public celebration and official start of Southern California's spring saltwater fishing season — is set for April 21, announced Catherine Miller, event director.

The 2013 Day at the Dock's theme of "Hook-to-Table" features the world's largest state-of-the-art sportfishing fleet

See DOCKS on page 14

## All's Ready To Bring On The Boats

The 22nd Annual Lake Havasu Boat Show is just ahead. This is one of the premier boat shows in the entire Southwest with over 50 different brands including family runabouts, pontoons, fishing boats, wakeboard/ski boats, deckboats, cruisers, PWCs and featuring the cream of the custom high performance sportboat market.

At the Lake Havasu State Park special-event area, there will be food, beverages and a beer garden on-site (no off-site alcoholic beverages or glass containers allowed). Dogs on a leash are okay.

The presenting sponsor is Teague Custom Marine, Valencia, Calif. Co-sponsor is Pirate Cove RV Resort and Marina, Needles, Calif., and the beverage and co-sponsor is Romer Beverage Company, Kingman/Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

This premier event runs Friday, April 19 through Sunday, April 21 with a special "Demo Day" (by appointment only) on Monday, April 22. Hours are Friday, noon-6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission for adults is \$3; kids 10 and under are free, and there is no charge for on-site parking.



### But Wait; There's More

The Legends by the Lake Car Show will be on Saturday and Sunday on the greenbelt at the Lake Havasu State Park special-event area.

On Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. is the NWSRA Water Ski Racing at the special-event beach, Lake Havasu State Park.

Also on Saturday and Sunday is the ICS-Sanctioned Chili Cook-Off & Salsa

See LAKE HAVASU on page 17

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### Land Cruising

## State Parks Feature Family Campouts

Arizona State Parks invite families to share in outdoor experiences. See story Page 6.



### Tackle & Target

## Yellowtail Derby 2013 Begins May 5

After 35 days of Derby fishing, winners will be crowned on June 9. See story Page 7.







# Beat the Heat!

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- On Site Security



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# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## Update your boating safety knowledge

### Diver-Down Flags

- ◆ Scuba divers and snorkelers must display a diver-down flag to mark their diving area. The flag must be displayed whenever someone is diving below the surface.
- ◆ A vessel should stay as far away from a diver-down flag as is reasonable and prudent for the circumstances. The suggested safe distance from a flag is 100 yards.



A rectangular red flag with a white diagonal stripe is used on inland waters, including the Colorado River and Lake Systems.



A blue and white International Code Flag A (or Alfa flag) is used on international waters.

### 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 Safety Education Classes

### March 2013

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	March 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Arizona Game and Fish Dept. Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game and Fish Department	March 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max 1840 East Broadway Road Tempe	\$8	(623) 236-7219

### April 2013

Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game and Fish Department	April 13 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Arizona Game and Fish Dept. Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game and Fish Department	April 20 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Marine Max 1840 East Broadway Road Tempe	\$15	(480) 822-7855

## Renew Online. It's Easy!

Renew your watercraft registration online at [www.azgfd.gov/watercraft](http://www.azgfd.gov/watercraft), and use your watercraft the same day. It's simple and convenient.

### Unlawful and Dangerous Operation

Arizona law designates these dangerous operating practices as illegal.

- ◆ **Negligent or Reckless Operation** of a vessel is operating in a manner that causes danger to others or their property, such as:
  - Operating in a restricted area, such as a marked swimming area
  - Operating while passenger(s) are positioned in the bow such that the operator's view is obstructed
  - Weaving through congested waterway traffic
  - Chasing, harassing, or disturbing wildlife
  - Teak surfing or platform dragging

**No Wake or Wakeless** speed means a speed that does not create a wake and is never in excess of five miles per hour.

- ◆ **Speed Restrictions** require the operator to maintain a proper speed while operating a vessel. Specifically, it is illegal to:
  - Operate a vessel at speeds greater than are reasonable or proper given the existing waterway traffic, persons in the water, and weather conditions.
  - Exceed any posted speed limits.
  - Operate a vessel at greater than wakeless speed in a posted no wake zone.
  - Operate a vessel as speeds that may cause injury or damage to any other person, another vessel, or the property of others. This includes causing damage or danger from the wake of your vessel
- ◆ **Riding on the Bow or Gunwales** is allowing passengers to ride where there may be a chance of falling overboard while underway at greater than "no wake speed" on a powerboat. Specifically, this means allowing passengers to ride on the covered bow, transom, swim step, or gunwales unless these are designed for carrying passengers at all speeds.

- ◆ **Overloading** is loading the vessel beyond its safe carrying capacity or the recommended capacity shown on the capacity plate. Take into consideration when determining if the vessel is overloaded.
- ◆ **Failure To Follow Navigational Rules** is operating a vessel in violation of the navigational rules of Arizona waters.
  - Specifically, operators of vessels:
    - Must follow the navigational rules shown on pages 12-13 of the Arizona Boater's Guide.
    - **Must follow a counter-clockwise traffic flow.**
    - Leaving shore must give way to approaching vessels.
  - An exception to these rules is waterways where power-driven vessels are prohibited

**Remember — it is your responsibility to know the law.**

On waterways shared with other states, such as the Colorado River, other states' laws and federal regulations apply. Always know all applicable boating laws and regulations

## 10th Annual Tri-State Boating Safety Fair



**Go Boating Safely!**

### Events for the whole family:

- Giveaways
- Information booths
- Life jacket trade-in
- Courtesy vessel safety checks
- ...and a lot more!

### Life jacket trade-in:

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

## Saturday May 18th

London Bridge Beach Park  
1340 McCulloch Blvd.  
Along the Bridgewater Channel

For more information:  
[www.BoatColoradoRiver.com](http://www.BoatColoradoRiver.com)



This information brought to you by:  
Arizona Game & Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086  
623-236-7219 [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)







# Western Outdoor Times

## Arizona Boating & Watersports



### THE CREW

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Jim Allen  
**Editor**  
Carol L. Allen  
**Production Manager**  
Angela Ogden  
**Marketing/Sales**  
Glenn Cate  
**Outdoors Editor**  
Mike Wallace  
**Birding Editor**  
The Late Margie Allen  
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Leslie Manes  
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ASU Bass Team  
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Wayne Gustavson

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From The Maritime Institute  
[www.MaritimeInstitute.com](http://www.MaritimeInstitute.com)

### First of all, who has to have a Captain's License?

Captain's licenses are first and foremost required in order to legally carry passengers for hire. They are also a requirement in many commercial, law enforcement, transportation, charter, fishing, sailing instruction; merchant marine, and large yacht vessel operations.

All kinds of new and used boats, yachts and vessels frequently have to be moved around for many reasons, and insurance companies frequently require a licensed Captain to make offshore vessel deliveries, which also adds to the demand for licensed captains.

### O.K. - What are the main personal reasons a person would want to earn a Captain's License?

There are three main personal reasons one strives to become a licensed Captain - Career advancement; maritime education for vessel operation skills and safety; and

prestige. Another reason is that having a Captain's License often can dramatically reduce insurance costs.

### Are there different kinds of Captain's Licenses?

Yes. There are three basic types of Captain's Licenses - OUPV/6-Pack (Operator of Uninspected Vessel); Master; and Mate - and there are sub-categories within each of those license categories. We will talk about that much more later on.

### How old do you have to be to apply for a Captain's License?

To apply for a U.S. Coast Guard approved OUPV Captain's License you must be at least 18 years old; for Master or Mate you must be at least 19 years old.

### Do you need a lot of vessel experience to qualify to apply for a Captain's License?

Yes, but let's talk about that in some depth, because many people look at the "sea time" requirements and rule themselves out as contenders for a Captain's License because they don't realize how much applicable experience they actually have.

It is a fact that even to obtain a U.S. Coast Guard approved OUPV Captain's License you will need to be able to document at least 360 "days" of vessel experience; 90 "days" of which will have to be within the previous 3 year period; and 90 "days" of which will have to have been on near coastal or open ocean waters. Otherwise, your license could be limited to inland waters.

But before you automatically rule yourself out because you don't think you have

the required experience, consider that you may have never have driven, navigated, or captained a vessel and you still might have the required hours of experience.

How can that be? Well, first, depending on the specific license you're seeking, you can count your experience all the way back to age 18 or 19.

Secondly, it takes only 4 hours of "sea time" to qualify for a "day" of sea time. (You can't count multiple 4 hour periods at sea on the same physical day as multiple "sea days" though).

The concept here is that one's experience performing all sorts of deck, operations, and vessel handling duties has added to your personal knowledge of what it takes to be skillful and safe on the water, and so you have an appreciation for the material you would have to learn to be a licensed captain. (Sorry - sipping martinis on that cruise ship voyage and that Windjammer sail in the Caribbean doesn't count - none of your sea time can be as a paying passenger).

So think hard on this one. Do you now have a recreational boat or yacht or did you drive a recreational boat when you were young? Do you go out often with friends who have vessels and assist with the lines? Are you or were you part of ship's company at sea during your military service? Are you were you a deck hand for law enforcement; sport fishing; marine transportation, charter vessels; merchant marine, and large yacht vessel operations? It can add up!

Please visit [www.westernoutdoortimes.com](http://www.westernoutdoortimes.com) to read the full story.



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**RIVER RIDE** — Jill and Tim Russell, shown here with Jill's brother Mark, chose Arizona River Rafters for their professionally guided river trip. The couple went in June 2012 on a three-day trip that started in Las Vegas, moved to the Bar Ten Ranch where they spent the night in covered wagons, rode horses and ATVs, along with other activities. They then took a helicopter down into the Grand Canyon to begin the river-rafting portion of their adventure. The Russells spent almost two days on the river and slept under the stars. They tell of being amazed at the brightness of the stars and of the different views and hues of the Canyon as they rafted along.

By the way, both the Russells are avid tennis players, and you may have seen Maestro Tim directing the music for productions such as "The Nutcracker" for Ballet Arizona. Dr. Russell is Professor of Music and the Orchestra Conductor at ASU.

## HEAR THE RIVER ROAR!

# Rafting The Colorado Is Adventure Of A Lifetime

Each year the Colorado River calls some adventurers to experience the thrilling beauty of a river rafting trip through the majesty of the Grand Canyon.

Already, though, applications for non-commercial river-trip permits are at a premium, at press time, probably all taken. For the calendar year 2014, a total of 450 permits have been available for 12-to-25-day river trips.

However, even though the main lottery for next year's launch dates is completed, there are follow-up lotteries held as needed throughout the remainder of the year to re-assign canceled and/or left-over river trips. Public notifications for these follow-up lotteries are made through e-mail, an RSS feed, and Twitter (twitter.com/GCRiverPermits).

The weighted lottery Web site can be accessed year-round to create or modify an account and to sign-up to receive e-mail

notifications. Individuals who are interested in a future non-commercial river permit are strongly encouraged to create an account. Lottery applications are accepted through the weighted lottery Web site only when lotteries are open.

For more information about the 2014 weighted lottery, please visit the Grand Canyon National Park Website at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/whitewater-rafting.htm>, contact the River Permits Office at 1-800-959-9164 or 928-638-7884, or e-mail [grca\\_riv@nps.gov](mailto:grca_riv@nps.gov).

Individuals interested in professionally guided river trips should not apply through the lottery, but instead request space on a commercial trip. A list of commercial companies offering guided trips can be found by visiting [www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca), selecting "River Trips/Permits", then "3 to 18 Day Commercial Trips."

## THE OUTDOOR CALLS

# State Parks Invites Families To Camp

*Family Campout Program will teach families about camping, outdoors.*

Arizona State Parks' Arizona Family Campout Program is designed for families who have little or no experience camping. The program is intended to introduce families to the great experiences that can be shared with their family and inspire them to continue to explore the great outdoors.

The State Parks that are participating in this program and have the following dates remaining: Lost Dutchman in Apache Junction (April 13 and 14), Dead Horse Ranch in Cottonwood (March 23 and 24), Kartchner Caverns in Benson (April 6-7 and April 27-28), Patagonia Lake in Patagonia (April 13-14 and April 27-28) and Catalina near Tucson (April 20-21).

The activities families will experience will include desert survival, mountain biking, hiking, fishing, astronomy, bats, archery, and more. Families should bring sleeping bags or any available bedding, pillows, clothing, sturdy shoes and personal items including toothpaste, towels, soap, etc.

However, the following will be provided: tents, sleeping mats, camp chairs, lanterns, flashlights, GPS units, water bottles, first aid kits, equipment for activities, water, lemonade, coffee and all food including two lunches, one dinner, one breakfast, daily snacks and campfire treats.

The registration fee is \$65 for a family of four and any additional family member is \$5 for each person. Children 5 years and younger and pets cannot attend this program. To register or for more information, visit [AZStateParks.com/family](http://AZStateParks.com/family).



Typical Camping Equipment

The Arizona Family Campout Program is made possible by an AmeriCorps grant through the Arizona Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism. AmeriCorps is a National Service initiative, promoted and supported by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The program is also supported by a generous donation of equipment by LowerGear Backpacking Center.

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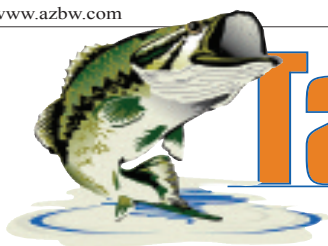
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# Tackle & Target



## Time To Hook Up With The 5th Annual International Yellowtail Derby

**Count them: There are 35 fishing days in the 2013 Yellowtail Derby!**

The 2013 Yellowtail Derby will begin on, Sunday, May 5. The winners of the largest yellowtail, white seabass and albacore will be crowned on June 9.

The Derby can be fished on private,

open party boats and kayaks. It will run for 35 days: May 5 to June 9. The Awards Party on June 9 at the Bali Hai Restaurant, 2 to 4 p.m., will have exciting prizes and fun.

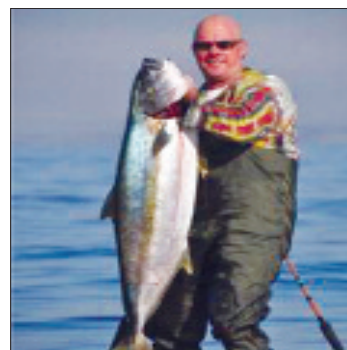
The Ballast Point weigh-in of the winning angler will win cash and prizes and their weight in Pale Ale, which has become highly anticipated each year.

The 2013 International Yellowtail Derby is sponsored and supported by the

Port of San Diego, The Bali Hai Restaurant, Boyce Image, Maritime Institute, West Marine, Everingham Bros, Fisherman's Landing, H&M Landing, Point Loma Sportfishing, Pacific Beach Fish Shop, Angler's Arsenal, Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant, Silverfish Press, SportClips, 976 Bite, TerraFin, UniButter, Ramona Cafe, Angler's Choice Tackle, Fisherman's Landing Tackle, Ballyhood "Top Gun" Int'l., Western Plastics, Viejas Casino, Western Outdoor Times/Arizona Boating & Watersports, Sycuan Casino, Sunroad San Diego Boat Show, Lets Talk Hook UP radio, Rod and Reel Radio, Shake Rattle & Troll radio.

The Derby headquarters is located at

See **DERBY** on page 9



**BIG BULLFROG STRIPER** — Early in the year, a lucky 13-year-old from Denver, Colo., was trolling with leaded line near Forgotten Canyon just upstream from Bullfrog Marina. As Wayne Gustaveson reported, "We are still trying to talk with Jessie Pond to find out exactly what lure he was using and how he was holding his mouth, what he had for breakfast and other important details." Jessie and his dad brought the big fish to Bullfrog Marina after hours and were able to get it weighed at the Bullfrog Post Office. The length was 43 inches and weight was 27.5 pounds. Gustaveson said that when there is more information, it will be sent out; stay tuned to [www.wayneswords.com](http://www.wayneswords.com). We know that there is a big fish contest going on at Lake Powell in 2013 sponsored by Wild Hare Baits. If entered, this fish could win some very nice prizes.

### LAKE POWELL FISH REPORT

## Here Are Some Angling Pointers

*Declining water levels require special techniques for spring fishing.*

By Wayne Gustaveson  
<http://www.wayneswords.com>

Declining lake level will have a huge impact on spring fishing. Current lake level is now at the projected low of 3600 and it will likely decline another foot before spring runoff reverses the lake level.

That is great news for boaters using the southern lake as it will allow the construction crew currently deepening the Castle Rock Cut to remove one more foot of soil and make the pass last a bit longer in future low-water situations.

But, fish care more about the water level as it relates to forage and cover. This current generation of fish has been displaced from living in the luxurious brush zone where cover and forage have been abundant.

Now brush is 4 feet out of the water on dry land. Fish habitat has reverted to rocks, shelves and boulders. Shad have left clear water for the added security of murky water where sight-feeding predators are not quite as efficient. Crayfish are now the prime targets for many predators.

Welcome to the new (old) Lake Powell. These are the conditions prevalent in the 1980s after the lake filled and water-level fluctuation eliminated brush. Fishing strategy must be altered to match the new conditions.

Critical factors for successful anglers begin with water color and temperature. Expect shad to be in colored water and to avoid clear water. Predators will follow.

See **POINTERS** on page 9

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# Tackle & Target

## URBAN FISHING REPORT

### It's A Great Time For Local Fishing

March offers the best time of the year to fish your nearby park lakes for trout, sunfish, bass and catfish. Good fishing for trout will continue through March as all lakes receive their final winter stockings.

Most trout are biting on Power Bait fished on the bottom, but worms and small jigs have worked well at times. The cool morning hours are the best times to target the trout.

As waters warm up, try fishing for large-mouth bass that are now moving closer to shore as they prepare to spawn and search for food. Regulations require that all bass under 13 inches must be released unharmed immediately.

Reports keep coming in of anglers' catching catfish, even though it has been nearly four months since the last cats were stocked. Speaking of catfish, the catfish stocking season starts on Thursday, March 21 at all Phoenix and Tucson area Urban waters.

Bluegill stockings will be done by the end of March. Excellent trout fishing conditions can be found at Payson's Green Valley lakes. Best bets for these pine-country

trout are Power Bait, marshmallows and worms. Some success has been found by trout anglers using spinners, small spoons and jigs.

#### Trout Season Wrap-up; Catfish Coming March 21

The final winter trout stockings in the Phoenix and Tucson area Urban lakes took place the week of March 4-9. Urban lake water temperatures are rising into the '60s, signaling the annual stocking changeover from winter trout to spring catfish.

Last week's trout delivery will be the ninth one of the season, concluding a very successful winter stocking season of 100 percent on-time deliveries. For the fourth year in a row, the trout were larger than normal and averaged about ½ pound each.

At Payson's Green Valley Lakes, trout stockings will continue every two weeks for another two months until the middle of May.

All Urban Program lakes and ponds in the Phoenix and Tucson areas will be stocked with 1.5-pound average channel catfish on Thursday, March 21. Catfish



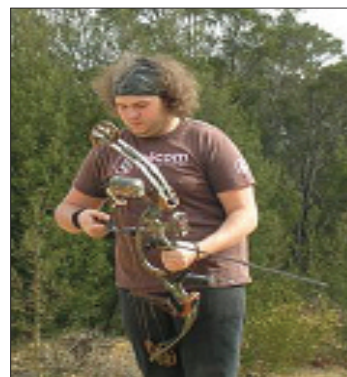
sizes this spring are expected to be average or a bit bigger according to our Arkansas-based contractor.

Catfish will run from 14-19 inches in length. Beginning with the spring season kick-off stocking, catfish will be stocked seven times through mid June at rates averaging from 40 to 60 fish per acre. More than 13,000 pounds of Arkansas farm-raised catfish will be delivered and stocked into 19 Urban Fishing Program lakes every two weeks throughout the spring.

#### Upcoming Free Fishing Events For The Family

**March 23-24 Outdoor Expo** — including Kids Fishing Tank, at the Game and Fish Ben Avery Shooting Facility, 5000 W.

See FISHING on page 14



### Fall-Hunting Recommendations Being Considered

From AZGFD

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has hosted its series of public forums to meet with constituents about developing the 2013 fall hunt recommendations for deer, bighorn sheep, turkey, javelina, buffalo, bear, mountain lion, and small game animals. The meetings were held in Yuma, Mesa, Pinetop, Flagstaff, Tucson and Kingman.

Constituents interested in particular game management units within those regions had the opportunity to discuss management direction. The meetings allowed the department to get together with sportsmen to discuss recommendations being considered, based on survey data, harvest rates, and hunt guidelines.

Permit numbers were not proposed at this point, but where permit numbers might be headed was discussed generally.

#### What's Next?

Now that the public forums are completed, final proposed draft hunt recommendations will be available for public review at regional open houses which will be posted at [www.azgfd.gov/huntguidelines](http://www.azgfd.gov/huntguidelines) by April 1. The final fall hunt recom-

See HUNTING on page 14

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#### BASS

Continued from page 1

\$3,000, and the second biggest overall bass wins \$3,000.

And, if that isn't enough, the six hourly weigh-ins bring the winner \$300 and the second through seventh place winners \$100 each.

The kids too: Their top three places each hour win Walmart gift cards.

But wait! There's more. Visit [www.billluebassdays.com](http://www.billluebassdays.com) for all the "skinny" on this big event. Or, contact Don McDowell of "Shake, Rattle, and Troll" radio at [don@shakerattleandroll.com](mailto:don@shakerattleandroll.com)

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## Tackle & Target

### Special Elk Tag To Be Auctioned

A coveted Arizona Commissioners Special Elk Tag (good from Aug. 15, 2013- Aug. 14, 2014) is one of the premium auction items being offered during the 12th Annual Arizona Elk Society Ban-

quet in Mesa, Ariz., on March 23. The tag will be sold during the Live Auction on Saturday.

See **ELK** on page 15

### DERBY

Continued from page 7

the Outboard Boating Club at the Trailer Boat Ramp on Shelter Island Drive in San Diego. The Derby mailing address is 3960

W. Point Loma Blvd. Ste H347, San Diego 92110.

Enter online at [www.InternationalYellowtailDerby.com](http://www.InternationalYellowtailDerby.com). More information is also available by e-mailing [johnncinsd@gmail.com](mailto:johnncinsd@gmail.com).

### POINTERS

Continued from page 7

The best fishing pattern today is to fish in muddy water using shad-imitating lures like medium-running crankbaits, swim baits, jigs and spoons.

Colored water is literally the spring hot spot as murky water warms more quickly than clear water. Yesterday there was a 2-3 degree temperature difference between clear and cloudy water as the day progressed. As the surface layer warms, fish move to warmer shallow water. As water cools overnight, fish move back to the depths where they are more comfortable. Therefore, fish deeper water in the morning and move to shallows in the afternoon.

Stripers are still in the backs of the canyons in muddy water. Best technique is to troll or cast shallow running lures from the 25-foot channel toward shore. Expect

most stripers to be in water less than 10 feet deep. They are in small bunches rather than schools since muddy water requires them to feed individually instead of in schools.

Bass will be feeding on crayfish in both muddy and clear water. They don't move as much as stripers so are more likely to be satisfied with water conditions found in their home cove. Fish deep with crayfish imitating lures for smallmouth and shallower around any available cover for largemouth. In these harsh conditions, tumbleweed piles will be the preferred habitat.

Fishing technique and conditions are different this year but it is still Lake Powell, which always provides a very special fishing experience.

At press time, lake elevation was 3,600 and water temperature was 46-52F.

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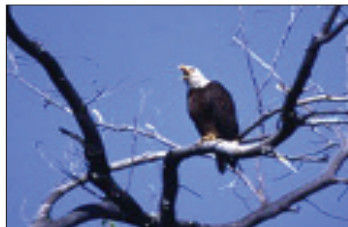
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# Western Wildlife



## Arizona's Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program Celebrates 35 Years

For more than 35 years, Arizona's Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program has contributed to the tremendous growth of the state's bald eagle population and helped save the lives of more than 60 eagle nestlings.

This year's nestwatchers participate in four-month tours of duty, watching 14 breeding areas, most along the Salt and Verde rivers in national forests, on Native American lands, and in Maricopa County parks. They collect data about the eagles' behavior, educate the public, and notify rescuers of any life-threatening situations for the birds.

So far in 2013, three new breeding areas have been documented bringing Arizona to a record 68 bald eagle breeding areas throughout the state.

The department's bald eagle conservation program is supported by the Heritage Fund, a 1990 voter-passed initiative that

See NESTWAT CH on page 17

## Volunteers Sought For Ferret Spotlighting Effort

Once considered the most endangered mammal on the planet, the black-footed ferret continues its climb toward recovery in Arizona's Aubrey Valley. As part of this recovery effort, the Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking volunteers to assist with two spring spotlighting events to document the population of this elusive, nocturnal, and endangered carnivore.

Witness the process of how researchers learn how to understand the black-footed ferret's population, longevity, and movement throughout the range.

The Black-footed Ferret Recovery Project personnel will be conducting two shorter spotlighting efforts instead of five consecutive nights, as in the past. The spotlighting periods will be from March



28-30 and from April 25-27 at the black-footed ferret recovery area in Aubrey Valley, just west of Seligman. Sign up for just one evening or several.

Volunteers must be able to stay atten-

tive from sunset to sunrise and be willing to learn how to use a Global Positioning System (GPS). A parent or guardian must accompany volunteers under the age of 18.

### Twice Thought To Be Extinct

Twice thought to be extinct, a small population of black-footed ferrets was discovered in 1981. Only 18 were left when captive breeding efforts began in 1985. In 1996, Arizona's Aubrey Valley was selected as a re-introduction site, where the population has become large enough over the past decade to be self-sustaining.

All the ferrets in the wild today are the offspring of just seven males and 11 fe-

See FERRET on page 15

## New Book Brings Wildlife Management History To Life

When Arizona became a state in 1912, many wildlife species were in dire straits. Fifty years later, most wildlife species, especially game animals, were abundant beyond the hopes of even the most enthusiastic conservationist.

A newly published book, *Bringing Back the Game: Arizona Wildlife Management, 1912-1962*, examines wildlife management in Arizona during those formative years as sportsmen, and later professional game wardens and biologists, worked to return game populations to abundance and to provide more fishing opportunities for anglers.

This comprehensive 490-page book has 35 chapters in five sections, and includes more than 150 historical photographs.

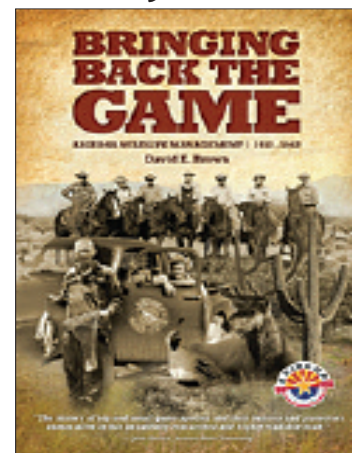
Published by the Arizona Game and

Fish Department, this is the third in a series of wildlife histories that began with *Man and Wildlife in Arizona: The American Exploration Period, 1824-1865*, and continued with *Arizona Wildlife: The Territorial Years, 1863-1912*.

The Arizona Wildlife History Series now covers almost 140 years of efforts to conserve, use and manage wildlife in the Grand Canyon State — a significant achievement.

Author David E. Brown is a retired biologist and adjunct professor at Arizona State University and the University of Arizona. He worked for the Arizona Game and Fish Department from 1961 to 1988.

*Bringing Back the Game* is available for \$19.95. It and the other books in the Arizona Wildlife History Series are available for sale at all Arizona Game and Fish offices, or by downloading and printing the publications order form at [www.azgfd.gov/publications](http://www.azgfd.gov/publications).



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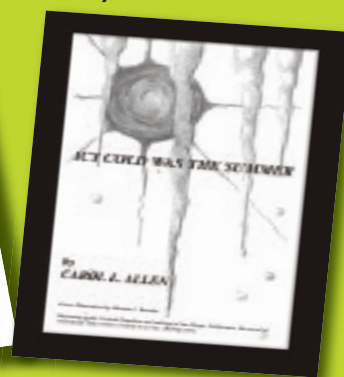
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# RV Land Cruising



## Archaeology Programs Featured At Red Rock State Park In March

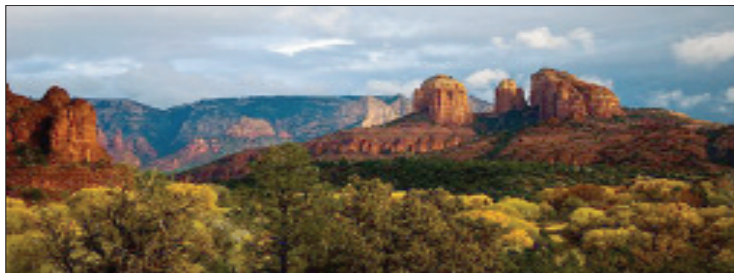
Red Rock State Park is the perfect place to experience the red rocks of Sedona, several hiking trails, bird-watching and daily special events. Red Rock's diverse habitat, which is abundant with plants and wildlife, creates the perfect environment to provide environmental education programs. In March 2013 the programs will feature the opportunity to learn about archaeology.

### Learning Opportunities

**Wednesday and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m.** In March, visitors will find bird enthusiasts joining a naturalist for a "Guided Bird Walk" directed at beginning and advanced birders. Bring your own binoculars; only a limited number are available for loan from the park. Visitors will see the many birds that make the park their home.

**Daily at 10 a.m.,** visitors can join a naturalist on a guided nature walk that lasts 1½ to 2 hours and will introduce them to the riparian ecosystem of Oak Creek and other aspects of the park. Plants, wildlife, geology, history and archaeology are some of the subjects that may be discussed.

**Daily at 2 p.m.,** the park hosts either a guest speaker or a ranger/naturalist led activity of approximately 45-minutes. Programs may include a nature-hike, a special



Red Rock State Park

presentation or an educational/nature video. This program may be an indoor or outdoor activity.

### Also, Explore On Your Own

Visitors are invited to also explore on their own. The family-oriented trail system is well marked for both safety and pleasure. Five miles of trails consist of interconnecting loops, leading to red rock vistas or along the lush greenery of Oak Creek. The three major loops are connected along the riparian corridor by the Kisva Trail, which also leads to the short loop of the Yavapai Ridge Trail. The Javelina Trail takes you

into the pinon/juniper woodlands and back to the other loops. Detailed information is available at the Visitor Center. Bikes and horses are allowed on designated routes.

### Junior Ranger Program

A Junior Ranger program is available for children between the ages of six and 12. Junior Rangers pledge their part in helping preserve the beauty of the park for everyone! Junior Ranger booklets, available at the Visitor Center, have activities to complete and, once approved by a Ranger, the newest Junior Ranger at Red Rock State Park is sworn in after taking the pledge and

receiving a Junior Ranger button.

### Park Visitor Center

The Park Visitor Center features many displays about the area's geology, archaeology, flora and fauna, including an interactive relief map of Sedona and computer programs about various park features. The popular video, "The Natural Wonders of Sedona," is shown several times daily in the Park Theatre. Aerial explorations reveal ancient Indian ruins and dramatic landscapes, colorful desert wildflowers and local wildlife.

For more information about Red Rock State Park call (928) 282-6907. Red Rock State Park is located at 4050 Lower Red Rock Loop Road in Sedona, AZ. Park hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the Visitor Center is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entrance fee is \$10 per vehicle, up to four adults. The Arizona State Park Annual Fee is available for \$75 (some restrictions apply).

For information about all 27 Arizona State Parks, the Trails and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs and State Historic Preservation Office call (602) 542-4174 (outside of the Phoenix metro area call toll-free (800) 285-3703), visit the website and online camping reservations at AZStateParks.com, Twitter/Facebook AZStateParks.

## Arizona's 20 National Parks = Visitors, Money, Jobs

A new National Park Service report shows that more than 10.1 million national park visitors in Arizona in 2011 spent \$766 million and supported 12,886 jobs in the state. Nationwide, visitors to the 398 units of the National Park System had a combined \$30 billion economic benefit that supported 252,000 jobs. The Arizona jobs figure is the nation's second highest after California.



Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

"The national parks of Arizona are exceptional and diverse — from the Sonoran Desert borderlands of Organ Pipe Cactus to the timeless wonder of Grand Canyon. The attraction of these 20 natural and cultural jewels as havens for relax-

ation, exercise and learning about our national story is undeniable," said John Wessels, regional director for the Park Service's eight-state Intermountain Region, which includes Arizona.

### Investors In Treasures

"Arizona's millions of park visitors, and the people of the state who live and work in communities near its national parks, are investors in these treasures of our heritage," Wessels said. "The money that visitors spend on national park trips has positive effects on the local, state and national economies. And the local efforts of Arizonans — those who own or work at businesses that serve local and long-distance park visitors, or who provide services for parks and park employees — are essential ingredients in these community transactions."

### The State's Gems

Arizona's national parks include Grand Canyon National Park; Petrified Forest National Park; Saguaro National Park; Canyon de Chelly National Monument; Casa Grande Ruins National Monument; Chiricahua National Monument; Hohokam Pima National Monument; Montezuma Castle National Monument;

Navajo National Monument; Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument; Pipe Spring National Monument; Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument; Tonto National Monument; Tuzigoot National Monu-

ment; Walnut Canyon National Monument; Wupatki National Monument; Tumacacori National Historic Park; Fort Bowie National Historic Site; Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, and

Coronado National Memorial. In 2011, these parks welcomed a combined 10,134,892 visitors.

See **PARKS** on page 18

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## RV/Land Cruising



### ARIZONA ARTSCAPES

— It's spring and an excellent time to visit Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park. Boyce Thompson is an arboretum and state park of Arizona, located in Superior. It consists of a 323-acre (131 ha) botanical collection that includes a wide range of habitats and a 1.5-mile (2.4 km) main loop walking trail. Founded in 1925, the arboretum is the largest and oldest botanical garden in the state of Arizona. It is jointly managed by the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Inc. (a 501 c(3) non-profit organization), the University of Arizona, and Arizona State Parks.



### DESERT BLOOMS

#### It's 'Eye Candy'

A perfect spring outing to celebrate Arizona's blooming beauties: the Wildflower Discovery Walks at McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Join Ranger Amy to identify the gorgeous desert flowers that are blooming in the desert. Every week, different species will appear as the wildflower season unfolds — it is always a surprise what we find!

Call the park for updates and be sure to bring your camera. Every week will be a new location in the park, based on where the prime blooms are, that week. Meet at the Trailhead Staging Area.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 27

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

**Duration:** 1 1/2 hours

**Speaker:** Ranger Amy Burnett

**Registration Required**

**Fees:** No fee for tour; \$6 vehicle park entry fee

For more information, contact amyburnett@mail.maricopa.gov or call (480) 471-0173 x201 or visit www.maricopa.gov/parks/

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SUNDAY, APRIL 21 - 9 AM TO 5 PM

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Come down and climb aboard boats in the fleet. Enjoy displays by leading tackle manufacturers, great deals on fishing tackle, fishing seminars and casting contests.

There's a stocked fishing area for children, boat rides around San Diego Bay, nautical art, prizes and excellent family entertainment.

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Art By Chuck Byron. Bluefin Frenzie.

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Day At The Docks is produced by the San Diego Sportfishing Council with support from the San Diego Unified Port District and County of San Diego.

## DOCKS

Continued from page 1

which offers first-class accommodations while traveling to some of the world's most prolific fish-filled waters.

## Entertainment, Raffles, Contests

"From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the free celebration continues with live local entertainment and raffles of fishing equipment valued at thousands of dollars donated by sponsors and exhibitors. Throughout the day, Avet Reels and Seeker rods will sponsor contests where you'll be able to match your casting abilities against winners or your knot-tying skills at the Izorline booth against the best, taking home some fantastic prizes," said Miller.

Visitors arrive early and stay late, she said. Parking is at a premium around the Landings but free parking and free round-trip shuttle service to and from the festival is offered from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For out-of-towners, Ramada Inn, (619) 225-9461 and Best Western, (619) 224-3254 are offering special discounted rates with free parking.

## FISHING

Continued from page 8

Carefree Hwy, Phoenix. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**April 6 Riparian Preserve Festival and Kids Fishing** at Water Ranch Park — Gilbert. 8 a.m. to noon

Remember to visit the Web — [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov) — for stocking schedules,

## The Latest Displayed

The industry's leading manufacturers will display the latest in fishing tackle and some of the West Coast's recognized experts will conduct seminars periodically at the various stages, revealing their secrets on improved fishing techniques and results. Inexpensive introductory bay tours will be available for the entire family along with displays by marine artists and fishing tackle experts, food, entertainment, kid's fishing, contests, prizes with in excess of 200 exhibitors!

## Demonstrations

Several times during the day very large fish will be presented by skilled crews who then demonstrate the different ways there are to clean and prep a huge fish.

Captains and crews, aboard their boats, will share their wealth of knowledge acquired over a lifetime; other experts will conduct "how-to-do-it" seminars covering different aspects of sportfishing as well as local chefs will offer tips on how to prepare and cook your catch.

For a complete schedule of Port of San Diego's Day at The Docks activities, visit <http://www.sportfishing.org/DAD00/dad2013.html>

## HUNTING

Continued from page 8

mendations will be presented to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission for consideration during its April 13 meeting in Phoenix.

Each year the department makes recommendations to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission regarding the manage-

ment of game species for the annual hunting and trapping regulations, which establish the seasons, dates, bag limits, open areas, and hunt permit-tag allocations based on the framework of the hunt guidelines set by the commission every two years.

To learn more about the hunt recommendations and hunt-guidelines processes, visit [www.azgfd.gov/huntguidelines](http://www.azgfd.gov/huntguidelines).

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# DOWNSTREAM Events Calendar Beginning Mid-Mar.

## BEYOND ARIZONA

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**4TH ANNUAL CABO MARINE SHOW:** May 1-4 — Los Cabos International Boat Show; <http://cabomarineshow.com/>

## BOATING

**PARKER: SCSC SPRING POWER BOAT CLASSIC:** April 6, 7 — Blue Water Resort & Casino, GN boats, tunnel boats, mini boats compete for points & cash prizes, 7 am - 7 pm, 928 669-6511 or <http://parkerareatourism.com> H w

**TEMPE: 8TH ANNUAL TEMPE TOWN LAKE OUTRIGGER CANOE ASSOCIATION REGATTA:** April 6 — canoe racing, outrigger canoe competition, music & entertainment, bring lawn chairs and blankets, free, 8 am - 5 pm, <http://www.tempeoutrigger.net>



**TEMPE: 10TH ANNUAL ARIZONA DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL:** March 23-24 — Tempe Town Lake, 50 dragon boat racing teams from all over the world are expected to participate, 40-foot-long rowing canoes, 20 paddlers, one steersperson & a drummer in a 500-meter race, also features music, food, vendors and performances by martial arts and dance groups, fundraiser, free, 9 am - 4 pm, <http://www.azdba.com>

## FERRET

Continued from page 10

males. A record 123 individual ferrets were documented in 2012, confirming that the re-introduction of these specialist carnivores in Arizona has been a tremendous success.

The program is funded through the state's Heritage Fund and federal match dollars. Volunteers are vital to the continued success of the program because the department does not have the personnel to fully staff these events.

## If You Wish To Volunteer

For more information about volunteer-

## ELK

Continued from page 9

Every dollar raised from this elk tag goes directly to the management of elk in Arizona and allows for a multitude of wildlife conservation projects. Management of the dollars and projects are in coordination with the Arizona Habitat Partnership Committee.

Projects range from water improvements, wildlife friendly fencing, wildlife studies, game surveys, translocations, habitat restorations, land acquisitions and more. Many of these projects are matched and further leveraged with other funding sources, labor, or supplied materials, stretching every dollar spent even further.

In the end, the real winners of the Special Big Game License Tag Program are the citizens of Arizona. Through the dedication of concerned hunters and sports-

## News Flash from Bartlett Lake Marina

The campgrounds are now open, and the water levels in Bartlett are expected to be the highest in years!

**LAKE HAVASU DESERT STORM:** April 24-27 — See story on page 1 and visit [www.lakeracerille.com](http://www.lakeracerille.com).

**LAKE HAVASU BOAT SHOW:** April 19-21 — See story on page 1

## CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**PHOENIX: DESERT FLOWERS TOUR:** March 20 and 27, April 3 and 10 — Deer Valley Rock Art Center, join educator Elizabeth Alexander for a tour of multicolor wildflowers and flowering trees in our Sonoran Desert preserve, \$3-7, 11 am, 623-582-8007 or <http://dvrac.asu.edu>

**WILDFLOWER DISCOVERY WALKS:** March 27 — McDowell Mountain Regional Park, Maricopa County; see story on page 12.

## FISHING

**SAN DIEGO DAY AT THE DOCKS:** April 21 — Port Loma area of San Diego; see story on page 1

**YELLOWTAIL DERBY:** May 5-June 9 — San Diego; see story on page 7.

## HUNTING

**ANNUAL ARIZONA ELK SOCIETY BANQUET:** March 23 — Mesa; see story on page 9.

**BEN AVERY CLAY TARGET CENTER:** Current — Open seven days a week; (623) 434-8119

## SHOWS AND EXPOS

**AZGFD EXPO:** March 23-24, 2013 — See story on page 1.

ing, e-mail [azferret@azgfd.gov](mailto:azferret@azgfd.gov) by March 22 for the first spotlighting effort, and by April 19 for the second. On the subject line of the e-mail, write "Spring Spotlighting" with "March," "April," or "Both." Indicate which night(s) the volunteer is available, first and last name, contact number, and whether they will be accompanied by anyone else.

Please note whether the volunteer can bring GPS, clipboard, headlamp, pen, binoculars, walkie-talkies, 4x4 vehicle (include passenger capacity), compass, and a spotlight that is rechargeable or can be plugged into the vehicle's cigarette lighter. Temperatures will be cool, so dress appropriately.

men, Arizonans can continue to enjoy the state's full complement of diverse wildlife for generations to come.

Other special tags include an Arizona Special Buffalo Tag and a Hualapai Exclusive Bull Elk Tag.

## Becoming An AES Member

Joining the Arizona Elk Society is the best way to support Arizona's Elk and other wildlife as well as protecting our Hunting Heritage for future generations. The vision of the Arizona Elk Society is to have quality wildlife habitat to support a balanced Elk Herd and benefit other wildlife. To provide today's youth with outdoor education and experience to get them, and keep them, involved in conservation, hunting and fishing.

For more information, visit [www.arizonaelksociety.org](http://www.arizonaelksociety.org) or call (602) 885-0835.

## WATERSPORTS

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### Frozen Watersports:

**WINTER CURLING CLASSES/LEAGUE:** Contact the [skip@coyotes-curling.com](mailto:skip@coyotes-curling.com) for information.

### Swimming:

**TEMPE: IRONCARE SPLASH & DASH + SWIM ONLY:** April 11 — Race 1 — Tempe Town Lake, presented by Triple Sports, **Splash 750m or 1500m/Dash 5km; Swim Only 750m or 1500m**, a unique event with a relaxed atmosphere that is suitable for all levels of athlete, \$35-40, 6 pm, <http://www.4peaksracing.com/>

**GOODYEAR: 6TH ANNUAL SOUTHWEST VALLEY REGIONAL YMCA YOUTH, ADULT, & RELAY SPRINT TRIATHLON/DUATHLON:** April 7 — Goodyear YMCA, adult OLYMPIC Tri: **1500m swim**, 24 mi Bike, 6 mi Run; Adult SPRINT Tri: **400m Swim**, 12 mi Bike, 3 mi Run; Adult SPRINT DU: 1/2 mi Run, 12 mi bike, 3 mi Run; Youth Tri: **100m swim**, 4 mi B; 1/2 mi Run; adult 2 or 3 person Olympic distance relay teams, 6:45 am, <http://www.trifamilyracing.com>

**CHANDLER: 7TH ANNUAL TRI FOR THE CURE ARIZONA:** March 24 — Chandler High School, Sprint duathlon (run 1 mile, bike 8 miles, run 2 miles); Adult Sprint triathlon (**swim 400 meters**, bike 8 miles, run 2 miles), 7 am, <http://www.triforthecureaz.com/>

**PHOENIX:** 30th Annual Arizona Senior Olympic State Games: Through March 29 — events throughout the metro area including **swimming**, cycling, track & field, billiards, fun walks, road races & the triathlon, \$/event, free for spectators, 602-261-8765 or <http://www.seniorgames.org>

## WILDLIFE-RELATED

**FERRET SPOTLIGHTING EFFORT:** March 28-30 and April 25-27 — Arizona Game and Fish Department seeks volunteers; see story on page 10.

*Editor's Note: Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to [editor@azbw.com](mailto: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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30' Hunter 30 '89 .....\$27,900

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## SAILING

**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](mailto:membership@arizonayachtclub.org).

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## SAILING

**LAKE PLEASANT SAILING CLUB** — If you own a sailboat and are looking for a fun group of people to sail with, consider The Lake Pleasant Sailing Club. Held every monthly except for July at Rolling Hill's 19th Tee (Rolling Hills Golf Course) 1405 N. Mill Ave., Tempe, AZ. (where Van Buren turns into Mill Ave near Phoenix Zoo). [info@lakepleasantsailing.com](mailto:info@lakepleasantsailing.com)

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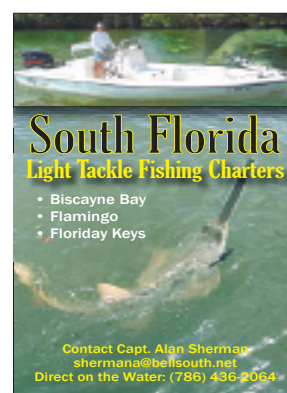
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**EXPO**

Continued from page 1

who will be on site.

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The Gold Sponsor for this year's Arizona Game and Fish Department Outdoor Expo is Cabela's.

The Ben Avery Shooting Facility is located at 4044 W. Black Canyon Blvd. in Phoenix (located on Carefree Highway, about 1/2 mile west of I-17 – just follow

the signs).

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is operated on a "user pay, user benefit" business model. The Outdoor Expo promotes wildlife-related and other outdoor activities to the public, which supports the department's mission and funding through their engagement in those activities. The department receives no Arizona tax dollars, and no tax dollars are used in conducting the Expo. For more information, visit [www.azgfd.gov/expo](http://www.azgfd.gov/expo).

**STORM**

Continued from page 1

ride in our performance powerboat, it is a very heartwarming and profound experience.

Those "kids" share so much joy and excitement, you can't help smiling from ear to ear! We'll again have an open house and auction to support the charities that mean so much to these "Kids." I was so pleased last year to be able to write the checks to them for almost \$5000 each.

**Close And Personal**

Once again we'll bring the boats up close and personal to enthusiasts from all

over with the downtown Desert Storm Street Party from noon to nine on Thursday. Then the excitement level hits fever pitch with the Poker Run on Friday and Shootout on Saturday, April 27.

The new shootout course proved to be just what we needed to provide a safer, better-protected course for our participants. Hopefully, that will attract some more great boats and we can put on a much better show and experience in 2013. The weather was so great for the outdoor parties both on Friday and Saturday night, we'll do that again, but make it a tighter and more intimate affair.

For more information, visit [www.lakeracerllc.com](http://www.lakeracerllc.com).

**LAKE HAVASU**

Continued from page 1

Challenge at the park/pavilion area of the State Park. Tasting kits are available for purchase.

**The Show Proudly Supports 'Packages From Home'**

"The mission of Packages From Home is to send care and comfort packages to deployed American military heroes who are stationed in active duty theaters around the world, as well as to facilitate activities that elevate morale of all veterans."

For more information, visit [lakehavasubootshow.com/](http://lakehavasubootshow.com/)

**NESTWATCH**

Continued from page 10

provides funding for wildlife conservation and education from Arizona lottery dollars.

The nationally recognized nestwatch program began in 1978 as a weekend volunteer effort by the U.S. Forest Service and Maricopa Audubon to help ensure the continued success of bald eagle breeding. Today, 26 government, private organizations and tribes are involved with the program to monitor bald eagle breeding areas that are under heavy pressure from human recreational activities.

For more information on Arizona's bald eagles, visit [www.azgfd.gov/baldeagle](http://www.azgfd.gov/baldeagle) or [www.swbemc.org](http://www.swbemc.org).



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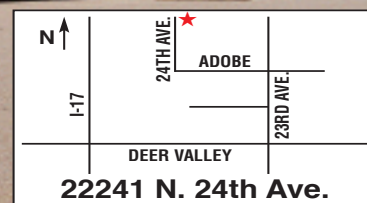
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## PARKS

Continued from page 11

### Spending Supports Jobs

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by Yue Cui, Ed Mahoney, and Teresa Herbowicz of Michigan State University for the National Park Service. The report shows \$13 billion of direct spending by 279 million

national park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a park. This spending supported 252,000 jobs, most of which also are in communities near national parks. Park visitor spending had a combined \$30 billion impact on the U.S. economy as a whole.

According to the report, most visitor spending supports jobs in lodging, food, and beverage service (63 percent). Other

spending categories include recreation and entertainment (17 percent), other retail (11 percent), transportation and fuel (7 percent) and wholesale and manufacturing (2 percent).

To download the national report, visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/products.cfm#MGM> and click on Economic Benefits to Local Communities from National Park Visitation, 2011. The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

To learn more about national parks in Arizona and how the National Park Service works with communities in the state to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to <http://www.nps.gov/arizona>.



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