

43 Pound, All Tackle World Record Rainbow Trout Caught in Canada When certified it will shatter a record that has stood for 37 years

Bend, Oregon and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada – Somebody once said, “records are made to be broken.” One of the premiere freshwater world records fell a few weeks ago.



Trophytroutguide.com announces that partner angler Adam Konrad of Saskatoon, SK., has landed the largest rainbow trout ever documented on 6-6-07. The huge fish weighed an astonishing 43.6 LB on a certified scale. With a girth of 34 in. and a length of 38.5 in., the fish was almost as big around as it was long! The fish came out of the Lake Diefenbaker system, which is a virtually unknown trophy trout fishery located in

Saskatchewan, Canada.

Adam and his twin brother Sean, have been pounding some of the biggest rainbows in the world for some time now. They both own IGFA line class records and now the all-tackle record, which just happened to be caught on 6 LB. test. A Mepps Syclops spoon did the trick.

The old record has stood since 1970 when David White caught a 42.2 pound rainbow near Bell Island Alaska. Adam has submitted his IGFA application for the new record and a source at IGFA says that Adam's application has been received and is in process. When the application goes through, Adam will hold the new all tackle world record for rainbow trout.

Adam has partnered up with trophytroutguide.com to create a DVD with footage of his world record catch. This will certainly be something that trophy trout aficionados will want to see!

Rick Arnold of trophytroutguide.com said this is a “huge deal” and one of the most exciting things to happen in the trophy trout world over the last 40 years. Congratulations Adam and Sean! This truly is the "fish of a lifetime"!

Links:

-read about the catch in Adam's own words:

http://www.trophytroutguide.com/articles/world_record_rainbow_trout_adam.htm

-download print quality pictures:

http://www.trophytroutguide.com/media/world_record_rainbow.htm

About Trophy Trout Guide:

TrophyTroutGuide.Com is a trout enthusiast website that features trophy photo galleries, fishing reports, articles, audio and video clips, guide listings and more. Rick Arnold, who owns the site, is an Oregon trophy trout fishing guide. He also runs a taxidermy business that specializes in trout and has been chosen to mount this catch and other record trout.

**MACDADDY’S INTRODUCES THE WORLD’S MOST PRECIOUS FISHING LURE™
FOR ITS “FISHING FOR A CURE”™ BREAST CANCER CAMPAIGN
Jeweled Lure Company Crafts Solid Platinum Pink Ribbon Lures
Will Also Have ICAST 50th Anniversary Commemorative Lures Available**

ARROYO GRANDE, Calif. -- MacDaddy’s™, the premiere manufacturer of precious metal and gemstone fishing lures and flies, announced that it has selected platinum as the signature medium for its new “Fishing for a Cure”™ breast cancer campaign. A solid platinum lure with a ribbon design in pink sapphires is the lead item this year, a follow-up to the company’s widely publicized Million-Dollar Lure™ campaign. Matching earrings are available, and the hooks are removable to allow the lure to be worn solely as jewelry.

MacDaddy’s will introduce its “World’s Most Precious Fishing Lure™”, the solid platinum spoon set with pink sapphires, at a news conference at the ICAST Show in Las Vegas. The conference is scheduled for 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, in Room N258 at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Mac McBurney, co-founder and chief designer of MacDaddy’s Fishing Lures, Inc., also said that 10 percent of the proceeds from all Pink Ribbon sales throughout the year will be donated to breast cancer research and recovery.

“The nature of platinum, its purity and rarity, makes it the ideal medium for this charity campaign to help in the fight against breast cancer,” Mr. McBurney said. “I chose to design in platinum because of the eternal, enduring character of the metal, and its ability to provide an extremely secure setting for precious gemstones.”

Platinum is naturally hypoallergenic, which is yet another ideal characteristic for the anti-breast cancer campaign. It is 30 times rarer than gold and will not tarnish or wear down like other metals, Mr. McBurney said.

In addition to the solid platinum lures, the company plans to offer a line of copies to allow participation in the campaign by patrons at lesser price levels. These include 14K gold lures with pink sapphires and sterling silver lures with pink cubic zirconia settings. Pricing for these versions is expected to begin at \$49.95.

Michael O’Connor, jewelry expert and style consultant to celebrities and Platinum Guild International, said that the unusual nature of the product, the solid platinum World’s Most Precious Fishing Lure™, and the charity aspect made the Pink Ribbon collection especially appealing. Mr. O’Connor makes regular appearances on the TV Guide Channel, Access Hollywood, and major televised red carpet occasions.

“MacDaddy’s caught everyone’s attention last year with its highly successful Million-Dollar Lure™ campaign,” Mr. O’Connor said. “The very special nature of the solid platinum World’s Most



Precious Fishing Lure™ makes it not only the ultimate sporting style accessory and fishing tool, but also offers an altruistic way for sports-minded people to contribute to an extremely noble cause in breast cancer research.

“MacDaddy’s Fishing Lures should be commended for their creativity in this goal.”

The Million-Dollar Lure earned extensive coverage in national and international media, including upscale publications like the *JCK*, *Stratos*, and *Cowboys and Indians* magazines, as well as broadcast media such as NBC, ABC, CBS, and FOX, as well as the ESPN and CNN networks, and Mexico’s Televisa channel. *Forbes Life* featured MacDaddy’s Diamond Eye© jeweled fly as the 3rd-day selection in its “must have” 12 Days of Christmas gift feature.

The Million-Dollar Lure™, designed by Mr. McBurney, is crafted in platinum and gold, and encrusted with 100 carats of diamonds and rubies (4,753 stones in all). The lure was manufactured by Uneek, Fine Jewelry Collections.

MacDaddy’s Fishing Lures, Inc.™ has been designing and selling lures and flies made from solid platinum, gold and precious stones since the company's founding in 2004. Designed for actual use as well as for commemoratives, presentations, and to be worn as jewelry, the MacDaddy's™ line of lures and flies is available at fine jewelry, gift, and sporting goods stores worldwide, as well as on the Internet. The company won the Golden Apple Award for Innovation in Marketing at the JA New York Jewelry Show for its 2006 Million-Dollar Lure™ campaign.

For further information, contact Mac McBurney, co-founder, at MacDaddy’s Fishing Lures, Inc.™, 131 Bridge Street, Suite A, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420. Call 805.234.4789. Fax: 805.473.0572. www.MacDaddysfishinglures.com

The 13th annual Big Sit!* is schedule Sunday, October 14, 2007.

Remember, this FREE EVENT is open to every person and club in any country! -- *editor Bill Thompson, III.*

The Big Sit! is an annual, international, noncompetitive birding event hosted by Bird Watcher's Digest and founded by the New Haven (CT) Bird Club. Every team that observes this year's "Golden Bird" has a chance to win \$500. We hope bird watchers from around the globe will unite on this special day by participating in this event (it's free!). The Big Sit! is sponsored by Swarovski Optik and Eagle Optics.

Some people have called it a "tailgate party for birders." Today there are Big Sit! circles all over the world, including Guatemala, India, the Netherlands, England, Vietnam, and New Zealand. □

The simplicity of the concept makes The Big Sit! so appealing. Find a good spot for bird watching—preferably one with good views of a variety of habitats and lots of birds. Next you create a real or imaginary circle 17 feet in diameter and sit inside the circle for 24 hours, counting all the bird species you see or hear. That's it. Find a spot, sit in it, have fun.

THE BIG SIT! is like a Big Day, or a bird-a-thon in that the object is to tally as many bird species as can be seen or heard within 24 hours. The difference lies in the area limitation from which you can observe. **THIS FREE EVENT is OPEN to every person and club in any country!**

Although The Big Sit! is a non-competitive birding event, there are three basic categories in which teams can "win":



Hosted by:
BIRD WATCHER'S
Digest

1. **Best Overall Count** (Most species seen by a single circle - you win Big Sit "braggin' rights")
2. **Best State Count** (Highest combined total from circles within a state - you win State "braggin' rights")
3. **The Big Prize!:** Swarovski Optik is offering \$500 to the circle who finds the "Golden Bird". What is the "Golden Bird"?

The Big Sit! Is hosted by: BWD and NHBC and sponsored by



Raise Money For Your Club!

In past years, *BWD* encouraged bird clubs to use The Big Sit! as a fundraiser, by organizing a Big Sit team and collecting pledges for each species they tallied.* For example, if 20 club members pledged \$0.20 per species and the team tallies 50 species during The Big Sit! That means the team could generate \$200 for a special club project.

GOVERNOR'S GEOLOGIC HAZARDS WORKING GROUP TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS

What: The Geologic Hazards Working Group, established by Governor Huntsman, will take public comments on its draft recommendations

Who: Representatives from the Utah Geological Survey, Utah League of Cities and Towns, Utah Association of Counties, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, Utah City Engineers Association, American Planning Association, Utah Division of Homeland Security, Provo City, Layton City, Alpine City, and Morgan County

Members of the public

When: 9:00 a.m. to Noon Thursday, June 28, 2007

Where: Auditorium, Room 1060
Department of Natural Resources
1594 West North Temple

Why: The Geologic Hazards Working Group has met five times to develop recommendations for Governor Huntsman's consideration on how to improve the land-use regulation process in Utah to reduce losses from landslides and other geologic hazards and how the State can help. Draft recommendations are now ready for public comment.

GOVERNOR'S GEOLOGIC HAZARDS WORKING GROUP MEETING TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

Thursday, June 28, 2007; 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Department of Natural Resources Building, Room 1060
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City

AGENDA

- 9:00 Welcome, introductions, format
- 9:10 Presentation of Geologic Hazards Working Group recommendations
- 9:40 Public comments – Suggestions for those presenting comments:
- Limit 10 minutes (or less, depending on number wishing to comment) for each person/group
 - Identify the number of the recommendation to which comments apply
 - Written comments requested; alternate wording for recommendations welcome
 - Working Group members may request clarification if needed
- 11:40 Adjourn public meeting
- 12:00 Working Group develop a plan to incorporate comments and finalize report

Outdoor Retailer Summer Market Moves to July in 2009

Summer Market 2008 to maintain August timeframe before moving up in 2009

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIF. (June, 26, 2007) – Outdoor Retailer, the leading outdoor industry trade event, is moving up the date of its 2009 Summer Market to July 21-24. The decision to change the show dates was made in response to evolving market needs for many of the exhibitors at Summer Market. In particular, the new 2009 date aligns more closely with earlier buying cycles and an accelerated selling window for many outdoor companies.

“The team at Outdoor Retailer is pleased to move Summer Market 2009 up a few weeks in order to meet the needs of many buyers, exhibitors and retailers alike,” said Joseph Flynn, vice president, Nielsen Sports Group. “We are constantly evaluating shifts and trends in the outdoor market, and after thorough research and consideration of all interest groups, it became clear that we need to make this change in order to best serve a broad group of our outdoor specialty business partners.”

Outdoor Retailer has worked closely with the Outdoor Industry Association, the Salt Palace Convention Center, the Salt Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau and members of the outdoor industry to secure the new date and to ensure that it will not interfere with other events on the outdoor industry and international trade show calendars.

“By moving the show to late July in 2009, the Outdoor Industry Association is confident that the new dates appropriately balance the needs of all market segments,” said Frank Hugelmeyer, president & CEO of the Outdoor Industry Association. “Our top priority in choosing the new dates was to allow companies enough time to adjust development cycles and ensure our members benefit from a more timely, collaborative and dynamic marketplace.”

Future Outdoor Retailer Show Dates:

- Winter Market 2008: January 23 – January 26; Salt Lake City, UT
- Summer Market 2008: August 7 – August 10; Salt Lake City, UT

- Winter Market 2009: January 21 – January 24; Salt Lake City, UT
- Summer Market 2009: July 21 – July 24; Salt Lake City, UT

Exhibitors are encouraged to contact their Outdoor Retailer account executive with questions.

CAMPSITES AVAILABLE FOR FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND

Salt Lake - If you are planning to go out of town for the Fourth of July Weekend, it's not too late to reserve a campsite at a Utah state park. The following parks have campsites available, and reservations may be made up to two days before your arrival: Bear Lake, Deer Creek, Escalante, Fremont Indian, Goblin Valley, Green River, Huntington, Rock Cliff at Jordanelle, Kodachrome, Quail Creek, Red Fleet, Rockport, Sand Hollow, Scofield, Snow Canyon, Starvation, Steinaker, Utah Lake, Wasatch Mountain, Willard, and Yuba.

To make a reservation or for more information, please call 322-3770 from within the Salt Lake calling area and (800) 322-3770 from outside the area or visit www.stateparks.utah.gov

UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

July 1 Deer Creek State Park - Midway

Figure 1

Battle at Midway Triathlon begins at 6 a.m. Participants and spectators should meet at Solider Hollow. For more information or to register, please visit www.bamtriathlon.com.



July 4 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Night Hike: Join park staff on a night hike to the top of Beacon Knob. This is a moderately difficult seven-mile hike with an estimated time of four hours. Once up top, enjoy the various valley fireworks displays from a distance. Participants should bring plenty of water, sturdy shoes, snacks, and flashlight and meet at White Rock Bay trailhead at 7:30 p.m. Registration is required. To register for the event or for more information, please call (801) 721-9569.

July 4 Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum - Fillmore

Join staff from the Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum and Fillmore City in a celebration of our country's independence. The Statehouse celebrates by hosting a rounders tournament, which is similar to baseball. For more information, please call (435) 743-5316

Letter sent to protect Izembek National Wildlife Refuge

Forward to a friend:

<http://refugenet.e-actionmax.com/tf.asp?aacwc=374418315825655121270787>

Dear Friend,

Your help is needed to protect the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge!

Problem:

Members of the Alaskan Congressional delegation have introduced legislation that will result in a road carved through the biological heart of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, the first wetlands area in North American to be recognized under the Ramsar Convention as a Wetland of International Importance. As such, the impacts to migratory bird species will affect

global populations.

Congress rejected this ill-conceived plan in 1998, but Representative Don Young (R-AK) and Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) didn't get the message. Both introduced mirror bills last week, H.R. 2801 and S. 1680, that would authorize a land exchange paving the way for the state of Alaska to build a nine mile road right through the refuge, a designated wilderness.

Established in 1960 to protect habitat for the Pacific black brant, the 417,000-acre Izembek NWR is located on the Alaskan peninsula - with 95% designated as wilderness. Wildlife here is abundant, from brown bears, caribou and wolves to seals, seal lions and sea otters. At the heart of the refuge lies the 150 square mile Izembek lagoon, containing some of the largest eelgrass beds in the world, which the Pacific brant and other avian species depend upon for survival.

On paper, the land exchange proposed in the legislation sounds good – the FWS would add over 61,000 acres to the Izembek NWR and nearby Alaska Peninsula NWR with over 45,000 of those designated as wilderness. In exchange, the FWS would grant a 206-acre easement to the state of Alaska to build the road. However, these 206 acres are the biological heart of the refuge and its destruction would have a severe impact on the birds and wildlife that depend on the refuge. More than 98% of the world's Pacific brant population fuel up on the eelgrass in the lagoon prior to their nonstop, 3000 mile trip to Mexico! And the nearby wetlands offer nesting sites for thousands of birds. A road through these sensitive lands will have profound impacts on wildlife and the proposed exchange lands would not provide comparable habitat value to compensate for this irreversible impact to fish, wildlife, and wetlands. It's not about quantity - it's about quality.

The proposed road would connect the two small villages of King Cove (population 807) and Cold Bay (population 80). In 1998, advocates argued they needed a road through the fragile wilderness, but Congress ruled that such a road was not in the public interest. They instead gave the Alaskans \$37 million to address their concerns with funding to upgrade medical facilities and the airport, and to build a state of the art hovercraft that would be able to transport people in a medical emergency. Over \$25 million has already been spent on construction of a road connecting King Cove to the hovercraft terminal. Steep slopes and unstable volcanic soils have forced re-routing and contributed to construction delays and escalating costs. Cost estimates for this part of the road are a whopping \$1.6 million per mile and the annual maintenance for this gravel road is expected to be at least \$93,000! Extending the road, in some of the harshest weather conditions in America, is expected to cost you, the American taxpayer, countless additional millions for construction and maintenance. Furthermore, the hovercraft, which travels on a cushion of air up to 58 MPH across water, ice and land is up and running and has so far transported over 700 passengers, 50 vehicles and 9 medivacs.

Solution:

This absurd proposal, already voted down by Congress once, must be stopped in its tracks! Your entire Congressional delegation needs to hear from you to keep this amazing wilderness whole and intact.

Action Needed:

Contact your U.S. Representative and both Senators today and urge them to oppose the Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Refuge and Wilderness Act of 2007.

Deadline for responding:

Please take action by Friday, August 31, 2007.

To send a message, please click the link below:

<http://refugenet.e-actionmax.com/r.asp?aacwc=374418315825655121270787>

NOTE: Do not use your email program to forward this message to others as it has been personalized with your account information. To spread the word about this issue, please use the "Forward to a friend" link above.

Pheasants Forever and FFA Team to Enhance Learning

PF and FFA working to develop today's youth into tomorrow's conservation leaders

Saint Paul, Minn. - June 25, 2007 - Pheasants Forever (PF) has announced the creation of a national collaborative effort with the National FFA Organization to focus on building student leadership and instill a conservation ethic in young adults.

Through a variety of projects and programs, including schoolyard habitat projects, the effort will connect local PF chapters and members to their local FFA chapters and student members, benefiting school systems and communities. Schoolyard habitats are designed to establish working outdoor classrooms for students, which create environments that allow students to learn a variety of subjects through the outdoors.

"Both organizations realize that the youngsters our programs reach today will be future leaders in agriculture and conservation tomorrow," said Rich Wissink, PF Youth Program Specialist, "This new collaboration with the FFA gives young adults in high school the opportunity to satisfy their interest in conservation and wildlife management."

"This collaborative educational effort makes total sense for both organizations. It will connect PF members to local agricultural science education programs and local agriculture educators," said Lynn Campbell, Senior Regional Director with the National FFA Foundation. "As we continue to expand the understanding of agriculture and diversify the number and focus of programs for all our members - in areas such as natural resources, habitat, land stewardship and activities beyond production farming - combining efforts with Pheasants Forever seems like a natural fit."

The national collaboration is built upon innovative ideas PF chapters and FFA chapters have already initiated, including PF chapters providing financial support of the National FFA Wildlife Management Proficiency awards and providing gift subscriptions of the Pheasants Forever Journal of Upland Conservation to National FFA chapters. "At the local level, Pheasants Forever and FFA have been working together for a number of years, so this national collaboration is based on those local interests and successes," Wissink said.

One such project is a wildlife habitat project in Lincoln, Nebraska. The Cornhusker Chapter of PF joined the Norris High School FFA chapter to plant and manage an educational prairie on school property. The 65-acre prairie, planted in April, will serve as a natural classroom where students can learn about agriculture, natural history and a conservation ethic. "The partnership makes sense for Pheasants Forever because many FFA members belong to farm families and they're the future owners of rural land," said Ken Hesser, a board member with the Cornhusker chapter. "The seed planted in their minds is far more important than the seeds we planted in the ground," he said.

For more information on the collaborative educational effort between PF and the National FFA Organization, contact Rich Wissink at (715)722-0286 or via email at rwissink@pheasantsforever.org.

The National FFA Organization, which is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students through agricultural education, began in 1928 as the Future Farmers of America, changing its name in 1988 to reflect the ever-broadening field of agriculture. Today, there are more than 7,242 FFA chapters with 495,046 members in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever are non-profit conservation organizations dedicated to the protection and enhancement of pheasant, quail, and other wildlife populations in North America through habitat improvement, land management, public awareness, and education. PF/QF has more than 115,000 members in 700 local chapters across the continent.

Get Your Gun and Head to the Range

Shooting Sports Revealed as a Favorite Seasonal Activity

NEWTOWN, Conn. -- America's favorite summertime sports have long been played on trails, waters, fields, courses and courts.

And, now we know, they're played on shooting ranges, too.

Summer Sports Participation

* Statistics from American Sports Data (ASD)

State	Mountain Bikers Per 100 People	Water Skiers Per 100 People	Jet Skiers Per 100 People	Softball Players Per 100 People	Tennis Players Per 100 People	Target Shooters Per 100 People
USA	2.4	2.9	3.5	6.0	6.8	6.9
AL	.6	3.6	2.4	6.7	5.2	7.8
AR	.8	3.6	3.8	5.0	5.7	13.8
AZ	3.0	2.3	2.7	7.2	5.4	8.3
CA	3.3	2.7	4.1	5.4	7.3	6.6
CO	11.7	3.8	1.9	8.4	6.7	9.2
CT	1.8	4.0	3.2	5.2	7.5	5.3
DE	2.2	.4	4.4	4.9	4.6	2.4
FL	1.3	2.0	4.4	4.2	6.6	5.3
GA	1.5	2.1	3.5	4.6	8.1	6.1
IA	1.6	3.0	2.8	8.1	6.4	4.9
ID	6.7	3.1	1.2	9.3	5.3	18.9
IL	1.5	3.9	3.4	6.7	6.5	5.2
IN	1.2	3.2	4.0	7.8	6.5	7.9

KS	1.5	3.0	5.2	11.9	7.6	10.5
KY	.9	1.8	2.6	6.1	6.9	10.5
LA	.7	3.2	2.7	7.8	6.1	6.3
MA	3.4	3.0	3.2	6.9	10.4	3.2
MD	2.7	1.9	2.6	4.6	7.0	5.2
ME	3.9	3.9	3.3	7.3	7.1	10.4
MI	2.9	4.5	6.6	6.3	6.2	7.1
MN	2.7	6.0	5.8	9.0	10.0	7.7
MO	2.0	4.1	4.6	8.7	7.1	8.2
MS	1.0	3.3	3.8	8.4	3.6	9.6
MT	3.4	10.6	9.5	5.5	6.0	14.1
NC	1.1	1.3	3.6	4.3	7.3	6.6
ND	3.3	5.6	7.3	12.5	8.0	12.7
NE	2.3	2.6	4.8	10.4	3.7	7.9
NH	6.4	3.9	.9	4.9	5.2	6.8
NJ	2.0	2.7	4.0	6.8	9.2	3.3
NM	1.3	.7	2.8	4.0	7.2	7.1
NV	2.0	1.8	6.6	3.5	9.2	8.2
NY	2.1	2.2	2.8	6.0	7.4	5.8
OH	1.7	3.1	3.6	7.4	6.3	7.4
OK	1.5	4.5	5.0	7.1	5.1	7.9
OR	4.8	3.1	1.9	5.3	6.5	9.1
PA	2.7	1.7	1.5	4.6	5.8	7.0
RI	2.6	1.5	3.1	6.6	3.1	3.6
SC	.9	3.3	3.3	3.6	4.7	5.6
SD	.7	3.1	3.3	6.6	10.1	10.7
TN	2.0	2.5	4.4	6.9	5.6	9.8
TX	1.5	2.2	2.9	4.6	6.8	6.8
UT	7.9	9.5	7.7	9.7	6.8	14.9
VA	1.5	1.0	2.2	4.6	6.5	5.2
VT	6.3	5.7	-	10.4	11.4	8.8
WA	2.7	3.1	2.7	5.8	7.9	6.7
WI	3.2	5.7	4.9	9.1	7.8	7.6
WV	2.4	.3	1.5	2.8	2.7	11.1
WY	4.4	4.3	3.9	6.2	7.2	14.5

State	Total Target Shooters (000)			
	Shotgun	Handgun	Rifle	Total
USA	5,850	12,139	14,343	18,242
AL	67	187	216	271
AR	72	222	333	381
AZ	80	262	255	350
CA	585	1,769	1,642	2,162

CO	208	286	303	370
CT	66	136	129	165
DE	11	20	10	24
FL	132	476	471	693
GA	90	294	343	418
IA	47	64	105	120
ID	95	157	259	291
IL	217	400	419	586
IN	130	227	311	357
KS	126	173	180	246
KY	110	258	344	425
LA	65	180	223	271
MA	31	124	92	159
MD	80	236	236	354
ME	26	89	109	132
MI	238	327	538	647
MN	187	167	326	357
MO	176	239	338	417
MS	62	184	213	256
MT	28	56	116	124
NC	185	375	408	542
ND	55	30	60	64
NE	82	64	118	138
NH	12	48	81	85
NJ	110	224	169	259
NM	21	111	82	132
NV	46	104	97	121
NY	221	552	623	905
OH	323	613	637	821
OK	128	174	231	269
OR	137	219	304	352
PA	282	610	888	1,036
RI	4	18	13	22
SC	76	154	128	196
SD	44	15	62	62
TN	113	294	362	497
TX	349	858	970	1,297
UT	108	149	255	268
VA	112	253	274	344
VT	9	35	40	50
WA	108	285	340	404
WI	286	218	406	471
WV	67	141	214	261
WY	40	59	68	74

Statistics gathered over the past three years show that target shooting -- with rifle, handgun and shotgun -- is actually more popular than many pastimes historically considered mainstays of warm-season recreation.

In fact, participation in shooting sports tops tennis, softball, jet skiing, water skiing, mountain biking, most team sports and virtually all of the seasonal technical sports like rock climbing and kayaking, according to the most recent numbers from American Sports Data (ASD), a consumer research firm for the sporting goods, fitness and health club industries.

ASD monitors participation in all shooting sports. It has tracked rifle and shotgun shooting participation for many years, and began tracking handgun target shooting in 2003.



"With three years' worth of data, we now have a more complete and clear picture of the comparative popularity of all shooting sports," said Doug Painter, president of the nonprofit trade group National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF).

Along with comparisons, the sheer numbers in shooting are also impressive.

Research from ASD shows more than 18 million Americans enjoy the shooting sports. Actual numbers may be even higher. In a 2006 survey commissioned by NSSF, 17 percent of Americans, or about 50 million people, said they had been shooting with a rifle in the past two years. Fifteen percent went target shooting with a handgun and eight percent with a shotgun.

Per capita, ASD shows Idaho as the most avid shooting state (18 of every 100 people participate), followed by Utah, Wyoming, Montana and Arkansas.

In overall numbers, California is No. 1 with over 2.1 million shooters, including the most rifle, handgun and shotgun shooters of any state. Texas, Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio follow, according to ASD.

"Target shooters say their sport is challenging, a great activity to share with family and friends, and just plain fun. Plus, there's an added benefit -- shooting hones self- and home-defense skills that give citizens confidence and peace of mind," said Painter.



NSSF operates a Web site, huntandshoot.org, offering where-to and how-to information.

Shooting sports vary widely. Shotgun games include fast-action trap, skeet and sporting clays. Rifle shooters can choose from infinite forms of target sports, from composed precision to boisterous cowboy shooting. Handgun options range from simple practice on paper silhouette targets to elaborate, reactive obstacle courses that test competitors' athleticism, speed and accuracy.

Venues can be as humble as a local gun club to the world stage of the Olympic games.

Painter said new shooting leagues are popping up at ranges around the country with handgun sports emerging as a growing attraction, especially for women. NSSF is partnering with ranges nationwide to offer "First Shots" clinics for newcomers. Those who have attended the clinics have enjoyed their first experiences. In fact, surveys show 92 percent of First Shots attendees say they will likely continue participating in shooting.

Shooting is among the safest sports. Accidents and injuries are exceedingly rare, especially when compared statistically with other forms of outdoor recreation.

Wildlife conservation funding in America is generally attributed to hunters, but shooters also are vital contributors. An excise tax on all firearms and ammunition is earmarked for wildlife restoration, management and habitat programs.

To learn more and find a shooting range near you, visit www.huntandshoot.org, NSSF's free, one-stop clearinghouse of information for firearm-based recreation.

Proposed Rule to Implement Yellowstone & Grand Teton Winter Use Plan Out For Comment!

It is now time to comment on the draft of the "Proposed Rule" that will implement the new "Winter Use" decision that will be made this fall 2007.

The National Park Service (NPS) has released a draft of a "Proposed Rule" to implement the Yellowstone and Grand Teton Winter Use Plan for public review and comment." This rule will implement the final EIS and Record of Decision that will guide management of winter use in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway.

The proposed rule was published in the Federal Register on May 16, 2007, and is available for public review and comment for 60 days. **The comment period will end at midnight on July 16, 2007.**

BlueRibbon and its partners from the snowmobile community have reviewed the "Proposed Rule" and are recommending areas to comment on. The proposed rule, as written, would implement the preferred alternative in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). It should be noted that the comment period on the Park Service's DEIS closed on June 5, 2007.

The NPS preferred alternative is similar to the temporary rules which have guided winter use in the parks for the last three years. In Yellowstone, it retains the same daily cap of 720 commercially-guided, Best Available Technology (BAT) snowmobiles.

The preferred alternative continues to require that snowmobiles and snowcoaches travel only on existing park roads which are groomed for their use. Trail and off-road use of snowmobiles and snowcoaches would continue to be prohibited.

There are two major areas of concern in the draft "Proposed Rule." These concerns are the maintaining of the commercially guided only requirement for all snowmobilers entering Yellowstone and the closing of the East Gate to snowmobile access totally.

The Park Service needs to allow non-commercially guided small groups to access Yellowstone by snowmobile. Through adaptive management the Park Service can allow for families to visit the park without hiring a guide. Likewise, closing the East Gate to snowmobile access after thirty years does not make sense. The effects of closing the East Gate on the community of Cody, Wyoming, will be very hard on local economics.

The National Park Service intends to have a final EIS, a Record of Decision, and a final rule guiding winter use in place before the start of the 2007-2008 winter season.

In closing, it should be noted that we are now in our tenth year of the battle over access to Yellowstone! Please remember that the fact that Yellowstone has remained open to snowmobiles during these last ten years represents one of the most profound victories over the extreme environmental movement in our lifetime. Enjoy the victory, and together we can make a difference during the current comment period.

To view the Proposed Rule:

http://www.sharetrails.org/uploads/PL/Yellowstone_2007/NPS-2007-0126-0001.pdf

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

Comments WILL NOT be accepted by phone, fax, or e-mail. All public comments must be received or postmarked by midnight, July 16, 2007. Because the comment period for the Winter Use Proposed Rule will run through July 16, 2007, we want to deliver these signed letters to the Park Service in mass. We are now collecting all the letters at the BlueRibbon Coalition Office. You can help by signing your letter at our Rapid Response Center at <http://capwiz.com/share/home/>.

PLEASE, IF YOU RECREATE IN YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, GET INVOLVED NOW!

Thanks in advance for your support,
Jack Welch, President
BlueRibbon Coalition

Mercer Fire Grows to 2600 Acres

Salt Lake City, Utah ... The Mercer Canyon Fire increased in size overnight to approximately 2600 acres. There is no containment date set for the fire but fire officials expect to make significant progress today as the winds have shifted causing the fire to burn away from communities and back into itself. There are approximately 150 people ---fighting this fire.

Start Date: 6/24/07

Cause: Human caused - under investigation.

Size: ~2600 acres

Percent Contained: 25%.

Estimated Containment Date: NA

Location: Lake Mountain south of Saratoga Springs.

Vegetation: Grass, sage, juniper

Resources present: A total of 150 people. 6 hand crews, 2 engines, 2 helicopters, 2 single engine airtankers

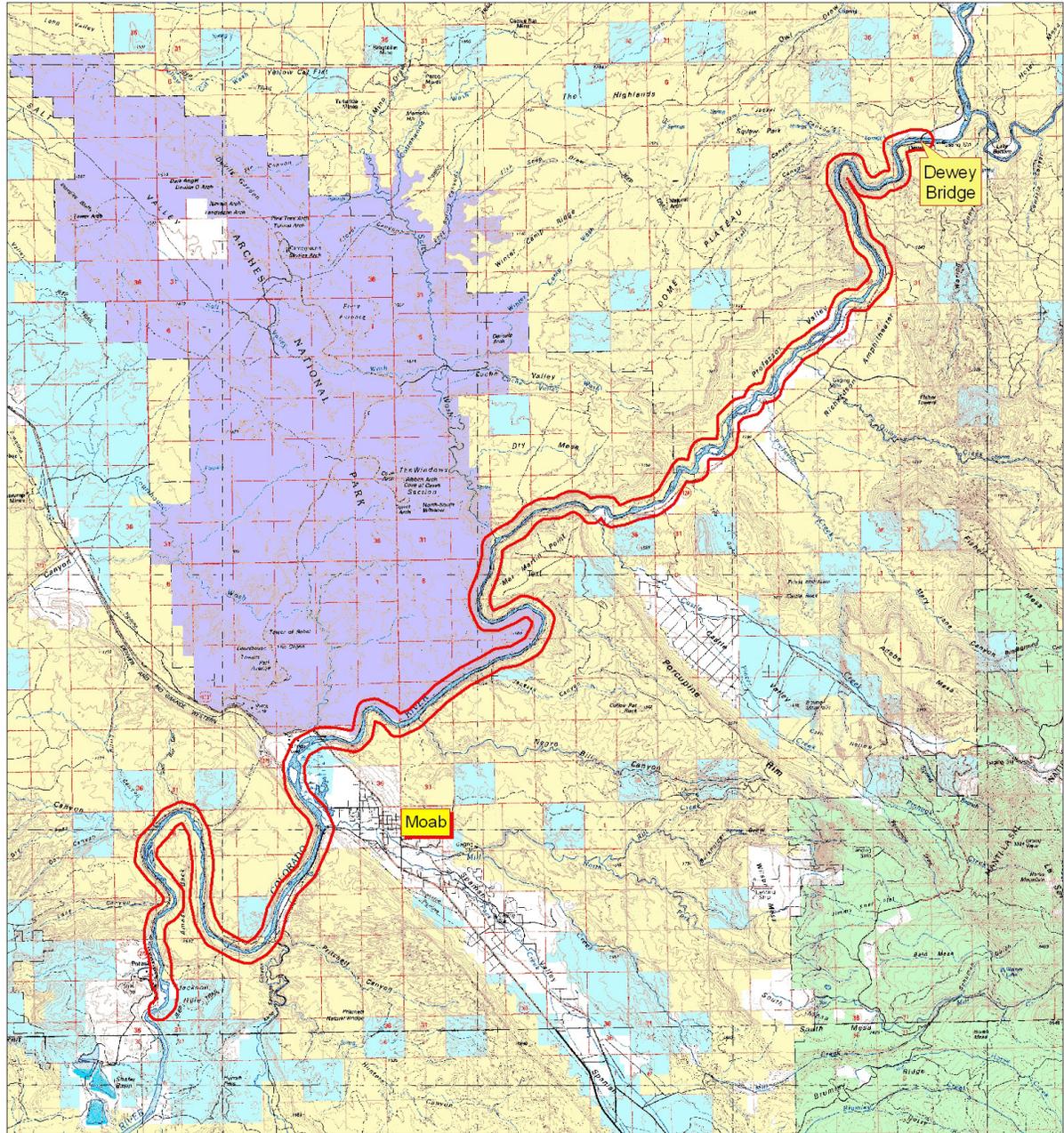
Restrictions: Fire restrictions are in place on all federal, state, and private lands west of I-15 as well as on the Colorado River Corridor near Moab.

Structures threatened: Communication towers and power lines

Other: The jurisdiction is a mixture of State and BLM and the command of the fire is unified. As is standard procedure, firefighting aircraft operate only during daylight hours for safety reasons. For more information, go to www.UtahFireInfo.gov.

Additional Fire Restrictions to Take Effect
Colorado River Corridor from Dewey Bridge to the end of Highway 279 restricted

Colorado River Corridor Fire Restriction



-  Fire Restriction Area
1/4 Mile Buffer on the Colorado River
from Dewey Bridge to the end of Highway 279
-  BLM Public Lands
-  National Forest
-  National Park
-  State Land
-  Private Land

Salt Lake City, Utah—June 22, 2007—Due to increasing wildland fire danger from Tamarisk and other volatile fuels along the Colorado River, fire officials have announced fire restrictions to take effect 12:01 a.m., Monday, June 25, 2007. The restrictions include all BLM and State and Private lands along the Colorado River Corridor from Dewey Bridge on Highway 128 to the end of Highway 279 (including Kane Creek road) for a distance of ¼ mile from the river on both sides. National Park Services lands are permanently under restriction in these areas. Fire restrictions remain in effect until rescinded.

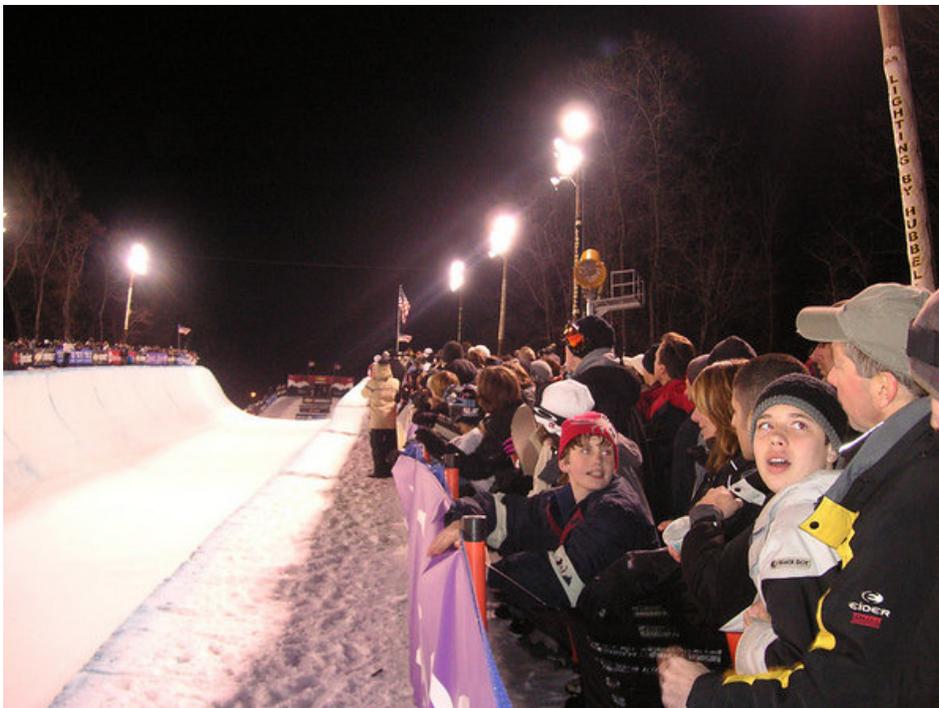
The following acts are prohibited on the above-mentioned lands:

1. Setting, building, maintaining, attending, or using open fire of any kind (including charcoal) except as otherwise authorized. Devices fueled by petroleum or liquid propane gas (LPG) products are allowed in all locations.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle, camp trailer, or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared to mineral soil.
3. Discharging, or using any kind of fireworks, tracer ammunition, or other incendiary devices in any location on federal, state, and unincorporated private lands. (Note that these acts are always prohibited on federal lands.)
4. Operating a motorcycle, chainsaw, ATV, or other types of small engines without an approved and working spark arrester.

All other fire restrictions, or necessary exemptions to the restrictions, will be handled through local “permits” issued by the responsible agency for that purpose. This order does not affect incorporated towns and cities.

For more information on specific fire restrictions go to www.utahfireinfo.gov.

2008 CHEVROLET U.S. SNOWBOARD GRAND PRIX ANNOUNCED
Breckenridge, Tamarack and Killington to host series



PARK CITY, Utah (June 27) – The 2008 Chevrolet U.S. Snowboard Grand Prix enters its 12th year as America’s premier snowboarding series with stops scheduled for three of the nation’s top resorts including Breckenridge, CO, and Tamarack, ID, plus a return to the East Coast with a night final at Killington, VT.

Offering one of the largest overall purses

in snowboarding the Chevy Grand Prix will award prizes totaling \$300,000, including a new Chevrolet truck given to the overall champions. NBC, America's Olympic network, will again provide national exposure with broadcasts of each stop. Versus will broadcast additional weekend events, highlighted by the Paul Mitchell Progression Session series now entering its fourth season.

“With well respected and proven venues in Breckenridge, Tamarack and Killington, the Chevy Grand Prix series will continue to provide a combination of great marketing value and world class events that set the standard for elite level snowboarding competitions,” said Grand Prix Tour Director Eric Webster.

The combination of prize money, exposure and superior competition venues continues to draw the worlds best riders like 2006 Olympic gold medalist Hannah Teter (Belmont, VT), silver medalist Gretchen Bleiler (Aspen, CO), two-time X Games champion Steve Fisher (Breckenridge, CO) and 2007 series overall winners Tommy Czeschin (Mammoth Lakes, CA) and Kelly Clark (Mount Snow, VT).

As snowboarding continues to evolve, the Chevy Grand Prix remains a solid proving ground as young riders go head to head with seasoned pros. Last season was highlighted with Louie Vito (Columbus, OH) and Matt Ladley (Steamboat Springs, CO) landing on the Chevy Grand Prix podium for the first time.

Kicking off Dec. 14-15 at Breckenridge, the Chevy Grand Prix will mark its fourth consecutive year of opening the competition season and the seventh year Breckenridge has hosted the Chevy Grand Prix. Consistently voted as a top snowboarding resort by readers of Transworld Snowboarding magazine, pros like Fisher and 2002 Olympic bronze medalist JJ Thomas call Breck home. The crowd-favorite Paul Mitchell Progression Session will again take place at night in downtown Breckenridge. At last year's event a crowd of 5,000 plus were on hand to see Fisher earn an automatic ticket to The Arctic Challenge by landing a barrage of huge tricks on the 30-foot quarterpipe, while being towed in by snowmobile.

The series then moves north on Feb. 9-10 to Tamarack, ID, where in its inaugural season with the Chevy Grand Prix, featured a 22-foot halfpipe (the new Olympic standard) that was rated by riders as the best competition halfpipe of the year. Opened in 2004 Tamarack hosted last year's finals and boasts 5,000 acres of backcountry terrain that begged most riders to hang around well after the competition ended. For the second straight year, Tamarack will also host a snowboardcross event with the best in the



country going head-to-head on the mountain's renowned natural features.

On March 15-16 Vermont's Killington Resort will host the Chevy Grand Prix for the first time and will also be the location where the overall champion will be crowned at a night halfpipe final. Because of its unprecedented dedication to building the best parks and pipes in the east, Killington will host the a slopestyle event, another stop of the Paul Mitchell Progression Session series. Additionally, Killington will host live musical entertainment to coincide with the event at the resort's Bear Mountain venue.

“Not only does the Chevy Grand Prix have the sickest pipes, you're always guaranteed to be competing with the best group of riders out there,” said Vito, who cut his teeth on East Coast pipes and was second at two Chevy Grand Prix events last winter. “You also see a lot of progression at Chevy Grand Prix events; just look at the Olympic year, so many of the tricks thrown in Italy were first stomped at the Chevy Grand Prix.”

Domestic field sizes will be made up of about 60 men and 30 women for each halfpipe contest. Registration will be invitation only based on 2007 results, with invitations going out in mid August.

2008 CHEVROLET U.S. SNOWBOARD GRAND PRIX SCHEDULE

Dec. 14-15, 2007, Breckenridge Resort

Friday, Dec. 14 – Halfpipe Qualifiers

Saturday, Dec. 15 – Halfpipe Finals and Night Downtown Paul Mitchell Progression Session Freestyle Event

Feb. 9-10, 2008, Tamarack Resort

Friday, Feb. 8 – Halfpipe Qualifiers

Saturday, Feb. 9 – Halfpipe Finals

Sunday, Feb. 10 – Snowboardcross Qualifiers and Finals

March 15-16, 2008, Killington Resort

Saturday, Feb. 15 – Halfpipe Qualifiers and Night Finals with concert

Sunday, Feb. 16 – Paul Mitchell Progression Session Slopestyle Qualifiers and Finals

Hunting Age Lowered

Hunters as young as 12 can hunt big game in Utah this fall

It's hard to believe, but the start of Utah's general archery buck deer hunt is less than two months away.

As the season approaches, the Division of Wildlife Resources has good news for youngsters who would like to hunt buck deer, or any wildlife species in Utah this fall: the minimum age to hunt big game has been lowered to 12 years of age. And hunters of any age can hunt small game.

One requirement hasn't changed,



though: young hunters must pass the DWR's Hunter Education course before they can hunt. A list of Hunter Education classes is available at www.wildlife.utah.gov/huntereducation or by calling the nearest DWR office.

After completing the Hunter Education course, hunters will receive a free hunting license. The hunting license allows the holder to hunt small game and also allows them to buy a big game hunting permit.

"We're excited about this change. It will give young people a chance to connect with nature by getting outdoors and hunting with their parents at an earlier age," says Lenny Rees, hunter education coordinator for the DWR.

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

Helping Baby Birds

Lots of baby birds on the ground right now

It's not uncommon to find a baby bird on the ground this time of the year.

It's also not uncommon to not know exactly how to help the bird.

The following information, provided by the Division of Wildlife Resources from the Nature Garden Web site (nature.gardenweb.com), will help you know what to do if you find a baby bird this summer:

Is the bird an orphan?

"Is the bird an orphan?" is the first question many of us ask when we see a baby bird on the ground.

Fortunately, in most cases, the bird is not an orphan. Most babies are still under the watchful eye of their parents. Unlike human babies, wild babies are not constantly watched by their parents and spend large amounts of time alone. (This is especially true of mammals.)

In most cases, wild animal babies, including birds, should be left alone.



"Fledglings"

You'll often see baby birds, which are partially feathered, sitting on the ground below a tree. Many of us automatically assume that the bird fell out of its nest and needs help.

At this stage in a bird's development, the birds are considered "fledglings." This is the period in their life when they're learning to fly. It's normal for them to jump out or fall out of their nest. The mother bird will continue feeding the bird on the ground until it's able to fly (this usually takes only a few days).

Unless it's injured, these birds should be left where they are. Try to keep cats, dogs and curious children away from the bird, so its mother can continue to feed it.

Cat or dog danger?

If a dog or cat is threatening the baby bird, do not instantly bring the baby into your home. Instead, keep your pet restrained during the short time that the baby is on the ground. However, if your pet has already attacked the bird or picked it up—and the bird is injured—please take the bird to a licensed bird rehabilitator as soon as possible.

How can I find a licensed rehabilitator?

You can learn where licensed rehabilitators are in your area by contacting the nearest Division of Wildlife Resources office (the offices are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays):

Ogden office – (801) 476-2740
Salt Lake City office – (801) 538-4700
Springville office – (801) 491-5678
Vernal office – (435) 781-9453
Price office – (435) 636-0260
Cedar City office – (435) 865-6100

Most rehabilitators will accept these birds without charging a fee.

“Nestlings”

Baby birds that don't have any feathers, or that have feathers that are just starting to come in, are called "nestlings." These birds stay in their nest, and their parents bring food to the nest to

Figure 2
feed them. When a nestling falls out of its nest, you'll usually find it on the ground, directly below its nest. The baby probably fell out of its nest, was blown out by a wind storm or was "pushed" out by one of its siblings.

What should I do if I find a nestling that's out of its nest?

The best thing to do is to try and place the bird back in its nest. If you can't reach the nest, the following works very well (you can also use this procedure if you find a nest on the ground and baby birds scattered about):

Make a "makeshift" nest out of a clean Cool-Whip container or a margarine dish. Poke holes in the bottom of it so water can drain. Next, line the bowl with paper towels. Then tack the makeshift nest in the tree as close to the location of the original nest as possible. Finally, place the baby bird(s) in the nest and leave. The parents will usually come back in a short time and start feeding the babies in your homemade nest.

The only time you should bring a baby bird into your house is if you **know** that the mother is dead or the baby is injured. Its natural parents will do a much better job of raising it than you can ever do. A baby bird that is featherless must be fed every 15 to 20 minutes, from about sunrise to 10 p.m.! This requires a huge time commitment from a foster parent.

What if I already touched the birds? The mother won't come back, will she?

This is NOT TRUE. Most birds have a very poor sense of smell (vultures are one exception) and will not mind the fact that you've handled their babies. (They don't like you near their babies, however.)

If you do find a baby bird that is an orphan, or is injured, please do the following:

- Get it to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator **as soon as possible**; the longer you delay, the less chance the bird has of surviving.
- Keep the baby bird **warm** and in a quiet, dark place until you can bring it to a rehabilitator (a small cardboard box works well).
- DO NOT give the baby bird any liquids.

Doves and pigeons

If you find a baby dove on the ground, it's usually difficult to find its nest. Doves make poor nests, and they get blown down easily. And pigeons don't usually build nests out of large sticks.

If you're not sure if a dove or pigeon needs attention, get it to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator **as soon as possible**; the longer you delay, the less chance the bird has of surviving.

Adult birds

If you can catch an adult bird, something is probably wrong with it, and it needs help. Get it to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator **as soon as possible**.

Sandhill Crane Applications Available by July 2

Applications will be available by July 2 to hunt sandhill cranes in three northern Utah counties and Uintah County this fall.

Hunters who applied for a sandhill crane permit during any of the past seven years should receive an application in the mail by July 2. Beginning July 2, applications also will be available from hunting and fishing license agents statewide, the Division of Wildlife Resources' Web site (www.wildlife.utah.gov) and DWR offices.

Mail-in applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. on July 16 to be entered in the draw for permits. Applications submitted through the DWR's Web site must be received no later than 11 p.m. on July 16.

Hunters who have a major credit card are encouraged to apply for a permit at the Web site. Hunters who don't have a major credit card must mail their application in. It will take a few days for their application to arrive in the mail, and they're encouraged to mail it as far in



advance of the July 16 deadline as possible, says Judi Tutorow, wildlife licensing coordinator for the DWR.

“To ensure their application is received on time, those who wait until a few days before the deadline should consider using an overnight mailing service,” Tutorow says.

Draw results will be posted by Aug. 9.

Hunts will be held in Uintah County, Cache County, Rich County and the eastern portion of Box Elder County. A total of 49 permits will be available for the Cache County hunt, 23 for Rich County, 21 for eastern Box Elder County and 71 for Uintah County.

The hunts in Cache, Rich and eastern Box Elder counties will run Sept. 1 - 9. The hunt in Uintah County will run Sept. 22 - 30.

Sandhill Crane Season Forecast

Those who draw a permit can expect a good hunt, says Tom Aldrich, waterfowl coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Resources.

The success rate among those who draw a permit, and go afield to hunt sandhill cranes, is about 60 percent, Aldrich says.

He says advanced scouting is the key to a successful sandhill crane hunt. “If you can spend a day watching sandhill cranes in the mornings and evenings, when they fly between their roosting and feeding areas, and can then acquire permission from a landowner to set-up in a field where they’re feeding, you’ll usually be successful,” Aldrich says.

Hunters also may find success pass shooting birds as they fly between roosting and feeding areas.

“Hunting success is pretty consistent from year-to-year and is not really affected by weather or other factors,” Aldrich says.

Aldrich reminds hunters that some areas in Box Elder and Cache counties are closed to sandhill crane hunting. In Box Elder County, the western half of the county is closed, as are the Harold Crane, Public Shooting Grounds and Salt Creek waterfowl management areas, and the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge.

In Cache County, a 1½-mile by 11-mile area in and around Mendon is closed.

Those with questions may call the Utah Wildlife Administrative Services office at 1-800-221-0659, the nearest Division of Wildlife Resources office or the DWR’s Salt Lake City office at (801) 538-4700.

Polar Bear Hunting Battle Won, Fight Continues

Washington, D.C. – Safari Club International applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for overwhelmingly defeating an ill-advised amendment that would have undermined global conservation for polar bears.

This amendment, sponsored by Rep. Jay Inslee (D-Washington) and Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-New Jersey), would have forbidden the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from processing permit applications for the importation of polar bear hides or parts into the U.S. Although purporting to “protect” polar bears, this amendment would not have reduced polar bear mortalities related to hunting. If U.S. hunters did not take these polar bears, the same number of bears would be hunted by individuals from native communities in Canada and/or by hunters from other countries.

But by effectively stopping American hunters from hunting in Canada, this amendment would have removed one incentive for the Canadian governments to fund (at least in the amount of

\$1,000,000 per year) the current, successful Canadian efforts to conserve the bear. If the amendment had succeeded, it would also have destroyed the source of funding (from the permit fees paid to the U.S. government) for polar bear research in the U.S. and Russia.

The attempt to add the amendment to the House Interior Appropriations bill was clearly defeated by a vote of 188-242. Lawmakers voting to block the amendment recognized it as a purely emotion-driven attack on hunting in general.

Numerous sporting and conservation organizations rallied to oppose this amendment, including SCI, the National Rifle Association and the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation.

Also allied in opposition to this amendment were the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Government of Nunavut (where many healthy populations of polar bears reside), and the federal Canadian government, which issued a strong letter of opposition to the amendment co-sponsors.

A website has been developed to counter the misinformation campaign and emotional, non-scientific arguments put forth by anti-hunting legislators, and the anti-hunting groups they support. This site can be found at www.polarbearfacts.org.

Another battle may need to be fought in the Senate. Similar language was inserted in the Senate Interior Appropriations bill by Sen. Jack Reed (D-Rhode Island) but the Senate has not yet completed action on its version of the bill.

SCI President Dennis Anderson said, "Defeating the House amendment was an important victory, but while this battle is won, the war against the conservation benefits of sustainable polar bear hunting, and hunting in general, wages on. All sportsmen and women must continue to let their Congressional delegations know they oppose such anti-hunting efforts."

SCI's work will continue in the Senate to make sure that this bad idea never sees the light of day.

2007 JULY FOURTH CAMPGROUND UPDATE

Salt Lake City, June 27, 2007 – Campgrounds on the 6 National Forests throughout Utah are expected to be very busy over the 4th of July. You can make reservations for a Forest Service campground unit by calling toll free 1-877-444-6777. Most campgrounds do have first-come-first serve areas, but they fill up quickly on holidays. Special precautions must be taken when using campfires in the National Forests in Utah. Effective Monday, June 25, 2007 at 12:01 a.m. State and Federal officials put into affect a fire restriction on all National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, private and State lands located west of Interstate 15. The fire restriction prohibits open fires of any kind except campfires in developed campgrounds and facilities; smoking, except in vehicles, boats developed recreation sites, residences or in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of all flammable materials, and **Fireworks and other such materials are always prohibited on Public Lands.**

As part of a move to simplify recreation fees across the nation, the America the Beautiful Interagency Pass will be honored at more National Forest fee sites, such as the Flaming Gorge, Mirror Lake and American Fork Canyon areas. The Interagency Annual pass is \$80.00 and is good for one year. The annual pass allows visitors a discount in areas that have an entrance fee or use fee. This includes recreation sites operated by the Forest Service, National Park Service,

Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. There is also a Senior Interagency Pass, for individuals 62 and over, which sells for \$10.00 and is good for a life time. Also, there is an Interagency Access Pass, for individuals with documented permanent disabilities, which is free and is good for a lifetime. The Senior and Access passes provide visitors a discount in areas that have an entrance fee or use fee and may provide a discount on camping, boat launches, swimming sites and guided tours.

Recreation users who plan to take their All Terrain-Vehicles (ATV's) with them should contact the Ranger District offices where they plan to ride for current information on open roads and trails. Riders should be properly trained and should remember to protect the fragile surroundings. Always keep your ATV on designated roads and trails.



The following is a listing of Forest Service campgrounds that will be open for the Fourth of July Holiday:
(MORE)

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST
(435) 789-1181**

Duchesne Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Figure 3

Flaming Gorge Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees. **Individuals using the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area will have to pay a use fee. Day passes are \$2.00, 16 day passes are \$5.00 and \$20.00 for annual passes. Passes are available at Forest Service Offices in Manila Utah and Green River Wyoming and local businesses in and around the Flaming Gorge Area.**

Roosevelt Ranger District: All

campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Vernal Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST (435) 865-3700

Cedar City Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees. Cascade Falls is closed due to construction.

Escalante Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Pine Valley Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Powell Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Teasdale Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST (435) 896-9233

Beaver Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees, except, LeBaron Lake which is open, but does not have water.

Fillmore Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Loa Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Richfield Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

MANTI-LASAL NATIONAL FOREST (435) 637-2817

Ferron Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Moab Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees

Price Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees except Flat Canyon Campground, which is open but with no water.

Monticello Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

SanPete Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

UINTA NATIONAL FOREST (801) 342-5100

Heber Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees, except Mill Hollow which will remain closed for the season due to construction. Indian Creek road located at the south end of Strawberry Reservoir will be closed weekdays due reconstruction to the road bed, but will be open weekends, every Friday starting at 6:00 pm until Mondays at 6:00 am.

Pleasant Grove Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Individuals using the American Fork Canyon-Alpine Loop area (Fee Demonstration Area) will be required to pay the special fee of \$3.00 per car which is good for three days, \$25.00 for and annual pass.

Spanish Fork Ranger District: Most campgrounds are open with water and fees.

WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST (801) 524-3900

Evanston Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

The Bear River Ranger Station located on the Mirror Lake Highway will be open 7 days a week starting Friday, June 29th.

Sunday through Thursday hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hours on Friday and Saturdays are from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Kamas Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Individuals using the Mirror Lake Area will have to pay a use fee. Day passes are \$3.00, 7-day passes are \$6.00 and annual passes are \$25.00. Passes can be purchased at Forest Service offices in Kamas, Utah and Evanston, Wyoming.

The Kamas and Evanston Ranger Districts have had numerous bear sightings this year.

Bears are being attracted by food items that are left in the open or unsecured. In July of 1998 a Forest Supervisor's, Special Order for bear control was implemented. The order prohibits



forest users from possessing or storing any food, refuse, unwashed cooking supplies and/or utensils except in vehicles, trailers, or in other air tight, lockable, hard containers while on the Kamas or Evanston Ranger Districts. This includes all pet foods, horse feed, etc. These restrictions are not only for the public's protection but also to protect the bears.

Mountain View Ranger District: Hoop Lake Campground is open with water and fees. Bridger Lake campground will be open with fees, but has a limited water supply. Marsh Lake and Stateline campgrounds are open with fees but no water. The Dump Station at Stateline is closed. China Meadows campground is open with fees, but there is no water system provided. Henrys Fork Trailhead/Campground is open for dry camping. Recreationists who are planning to visit the Mountain View Ranger District should bring their own water.

Ogden Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees.

Logan Ranger District: All campgrounds are open with water and fees, except Tony Grove, Wood Camp, Green Canyon, High Creek, Friendship and Spring campgrounds, which are open with fees, but no water.

Salt Lake Ranger District: All campgrounds will be open with water and fees. The gate in Millcreek Canyon will be open July 1, 2007.

If you are planning to use livestock (horses, mules etc.) on National Forest lands, remember that you are permitted to use only certified weed free straw, hay or pellets. Each bale and container must be tagged or marked as weed free, or the individual must have original and current evidence of weed free certification present. In addition, all markings must meet State and/or County standards for certification as weed free.

For current road, trail and campground conditions please call the Forest Service Office that manages the area you are planning to visit. Please keep campfires in the designated fire pits and make sure they are out cold before leaving them unattended.

When hiking, always carry extra water, food and take along a coat and matches in case the weather turns bad and always let someone know where you are hiking and approximately when you will return and never hike alone.

Have a great holiday in your National Forest and please be safe.

Interior Department Issues Oil Shale Research, Development and Demonstration Lease for Public Lands in Utah

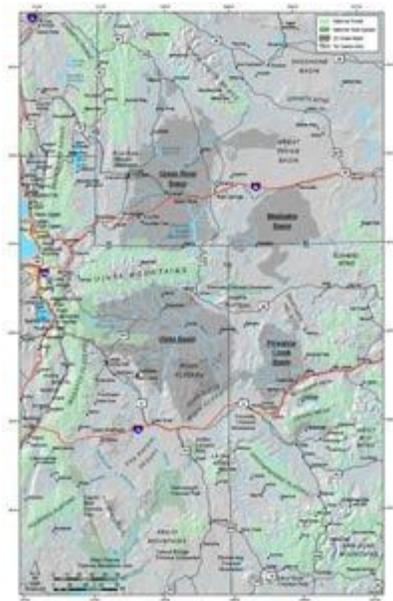
The Department of the Interior today issued a research development and demonstration (RD&D) lease that will allow oil shale development to resume on a 160-acre tract of public land in Uintah County, Utah administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Vernal Field Office.

The lease was issued to Oil Shale Exploration Co., LLC (OSEC) after environmental analysis determined that the company's RD&D project would have no significant impacts.

"The terms and conditions of this lease reflect our commitment to advancing development of the substantial oil shale resource found in Utah while also safeguarding the environment," said C. Stephen Allred, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management. "We look forward to continuing to cooperate closely with the State of Utah and local governments as development of these unconventional energy resources moves forward."

OSEC must submit a detailed plan of operations for approval by the BLM. The company will test an above-ground retorting process on shale from the White River Mine site south of Vernal. Initial test-retorting of existing shale stock will take place at a facility in Canada and will help

determine the feasibility of the retorting process, the chemical properties of the syncrude products, and whether spent shale would have to be isolated from the environment. In addition to requiring the company to obtain all appropriate local, state and federal permits to safeguard resources such as air and water quality, the lease specifies that shale from an existing supply at the site will be made available to other companies researching oil shale development.



“The RD&D process benefited greatly from the support of the State of Utah and local governments in Uintah and Duchesne Counties,” said BLM Utah State Director Selma Sierra. “The BLM will continue to facilitate communication and collaboration between local communities and companies working with shale from the White River Mine.”

Issuing the lease for the OSEC project completes action in the BLM’s oil shale RD&D leasing program, which began in June 2005. The BLM continues to lead development of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) supporting future commercial oil shale leasing on public lands in Utah, Colorado and Wyoming, as directed in the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Like the five RD&D leases issued earlier for lands in Colorado, the lease issued today grants OSEC rights to develop oil shale resources on a 160-acre tract of public land, with an initial term of 10 years and the possibility of up to a five-year extension

http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/wo/Communications_Directorate.Par.26772.File.dat/oil_shale_ShadedRelief.pdf

upon proof of diligent progress toward commercial production. RD&D lessees may also apply to convert the leases plus 4,960 adjacent acres to a 20-year commercial lease once commercial production levels have been achieved and additional requirements are met. The BLM will perform subsequent NEPA analysis on any proposed commercial operations on RD&D leases.

The Green River Formation – which covers portions of Utah, Colorado and Wyoming – may hold the equivalent of 800 billion barrels of shale oil that is potentially recoverable, enough to meet U.S. demand for oil at current levels for 110 years. More than 70 percent of U.S. oil shale, including the richest and thickest deposits, lies under federally managed lands. The Interior Department is working closely with state and local governments in the three States in determining how development of the resource proceeds.

Details about all phases of oil shale development on federal lands are available on the BLM website: http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/oil_shale.html .

ANTI-HUNTING PRESERVATIONIST GROUPS TARGET HUNTING AND OFF ROAD VEHICLE USE AT BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PARK

The Humane Society, Defenders of Wildlife, Sierra Club and other anti-recreation groups have recently notified the National Park Service of their intent to sue under the Endangered Species Act and other laws to close twenty miles of ORV trails in the already minimal and heavily-restricted route network on the Bear Island Unit of the Big Cypress National Preserve.

The groups' "sixty-day notice" was signed by attorneys for the Defenders of Wildlife and dated June 14, 2007. The agency has sixty days to respond. A "sixty day notice" is required before filing suit under the Endangered Species Act, and thereby represents a formal threat of suit and

clears the grievants' path to the courthouse should the agency refuse to capitulate to their demands.

Joining the Humane Society, Defenders of Wildlife and Sierra Club on the letter were Wildlands CPR (Center for the Prevention of Roads), The Wilderness Society, National Parks Conservation Association, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, and the Florida Biodiversity Project. These same groups (or various combinations of them) have previously coordinated efforts in attacks against hunting and recreational access in other areas across the country, including bear hunting in New Jersey and Minnesota, and snowmobile use in Yellowstone National Park and the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

In 2000, the Preserve closed 23,300 miles of dispersed ORV use and limited vehicles to only 30 miles of ORV trails in the Bear Island Unit, which provides a highly-restricted but still popular hunting experience for those pursuing deer and wild hogs. Despite the significant past and ongoing restrictions on hunting and ORV access, the preservationists' letter alleges that activity along additional twenty miles of trail will illegally disturb and reduce the "prey base" of the endangered Florida panther.

"Anyone who believes these preservationist groups seek reasonable and inclusive solutions should be buying parcels of land in the same swamps of Big Cypress," stated Brian Hawthorne, Public Lands Director of the BlueRibbon Coalition. "This is a clarion call to all sportsmen and off-road vehicle enthusiasts. These groups will stop at nothing short of closing all hunting and vehicle access to Big Cypress and other public lands," Hawthorne concluded.

BlueRibbon is a non-profit organization which champions responsible recreational use of public lands and individual environmental stewardship. In their respective 2005 Forms 990 available for public review, BlueRibbon reported total revenue of \$1,046,398 versus \$27,019,455 for Defenders of Wildlife.

BLUERIBBON COALITION INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

Dear BRC Action Alert Subscriber,

Just to keep you up-to-date with things going on in your area, and because the recreation fee program is so controversial, we are forwarding a notice from the Federal Register regarding new site fees on the Fishlake National Forest below.

As always, please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Ric Foster
Public Lands Dept. Manager
BlueRibbon Coalition
208-237-1008 ext 107

[Federal Register: June 19, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 117)]
[Notices]
[Page 33738-33739]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of New Fee Site; Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act,
(Title VIII, Pub. L. 108-447)

AGENCY: Fishlake National Forest, USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of new fee site.

SUMMARY: The Fremont River Ranger District of the Fishlake National Forest will begin charging a \$20 fee for double family overnight camping at the Rosebud ATV Campground. There will also be a \$5 fee for an extra vehicle. This campground is located on the Dixie National Forest, but is administered by the Fishlake National Forest. Overnight camping at other campgrounds on the Dixie National Forest have shown that publics appreciate and enjoy the availability of developed recreation facilities. Funds from the fee charges will be used for the continued operation and maintenance of the Rosebud ATV Campground.

DATES: Rosebud ATV Campground will become available for overnight camping on May 25, 2008 (weather permitting).

ADDRESSES: Forest Supervisor, Fishlake National Forest, 115 East, 900 North, Richfield, Utah 84701.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David C. Bell, Forester, 435-836-2811.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Recreation Lands Enhancement Act (Title VII, Pub. L. 108-447) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to publish a six month advance notice in the Federal Register whenever new recreation fee areas are established.

The Fremont River Ranger District of the Fishlake National Forest currently has several fee campgrounds. These facilities are located on Boulder Mountain in south central Utah. They are in close proximity to Scenic Byway 12, an all American highway. This area offers significant recreational camping, fishing, boating, ATV riding, hiking, horseback riding, hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities and is rich in historical and cultural importance. A market analysis indicates that the \$20/per night double family camping fee is both reasonable and acceptable for this sort of unique recreation experience.

Dated: June 6, 2007.
Mary C. Erickson,

Fishlake National Forest Supervisor.
[FR Doc. E7-11800 Filed 6-18-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

KEEP WILDFIRES AT BAY THIS SUMMER

AAA Offers Tips for Fireproofing Homes and Property

SALT LAKE CITY, June 27, 2007 – As the summer heats up and with it the risk for wildfire, homeowners need to be alert for ways to protect against this deadly threat, according to AAA Utah.

“Utah is an extremely flammable state, with a fire season lasting nearly six months of the year,” said Rolayne Fairclough, AAA Utah spokesperson. “It’s important in the beginning of summer to double-check your home and land to reduce the risk of fire.”

The good news is that by following some simple guidelines in the AAA-recommended book *Fireescaping* by Douglas Kent, it’s possible to greatly reduce the chance of a fire on your property. The principles of ‘fireescaping,’ or landscaping your yard for fire protection, help minimize the flammability of your home and surroundings by giving fire less fuel.

“It just makes good sense to landscape your yard with wildfires in mind,” said Fairclough.

“Many people aren’t aware that creating 100 feet of defensible space around homes and buildings if their property adjoins mountainous, forested, brush- or grass-covered lands helps protect their property from wildfires.”

AAA offers the following guidelines for fireproofing your home and land:



1. Clean up your act.

- Keep trees, bushes and other vegetation trimmed and watered and grass cut to four inches or shorter. Healthy plants are less flammable.
- Remove tree limbs that touch the house or deck, or are within 10 feet of the chimney.
- Keep roof and gutters clear of leaves and debris.
- Clear all combustible material at least 30 feet from the dwelling. (Firewood piles next to the home are acceptable only during the winter season.)
- Safely store all flammable materials, including oily rags.

2. Invest in fireproofing options.

- Use fire-resistant “Class A”-rated material if you replace your roof.
- Because high winds often accompany a wildfire, screen foundation vents, vents in the eaves and on the underside of the roof and other points of access with ¼-inch mesh to prevent embers from blowing into your home.
- Put “spark arrestors” – ¼-inch mesh screens that prevent burning embers from escaping –on chimneys.
- Extreme heat can break glass. Consider using double-paned windows or tempered glass.
- When planting, choose fire-resistant trees and plants such as California Redbud, sage, toyon, wild strawberry and monkey flower.

3. Improve your chances in case of disaster.

- Make sure your home address can be seen easily from the street by emergency personnel.
- Give the local fire department a key or access codes for any entrance gates.
- If possible, make roads and driveways wide enough for emergency vehicles.

AAA Utah offers a wide array of automotive, travel, insurance and financial services to more than 165,000 members. AAA has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers since it was founded more than 100 years ago.

DEER VALLEY RESORT SPONSORED STEPHANI VICTOR NOMINATED FOR 2007 ESPY AWARD

WHAT: Deer Valley Resort sponsored, World Champion and Paralympic Gold Medalist Stephani Victor has been nominated for a 2007 ESPY Award! The ESPY’s, *Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Awards*, are ESPN’s annual sports awards designed to recognize outstanding individual and team athletic achievements in the last year.

WHO: **Stephani Victor, 2007 Overall World Cup Champion and 2006 Paralympic Gold Medalist, has been nominated for the year’s “Best Female Athlete with a Disability.”** Victor competes in the women’s sitting category mono-skiing.

She remains the Overall World Cup Champion in giant slalom and is an eight-time U.S. National Champion with 14 career World Cup victories!

HOW: ESPY Award winners are selected exclusively through online voting. Votes for Stephani Victor as 2007's Best Female Athlete with a Disability can be cast by:

- Visit <http://espn.go.com/espy2007/index.html#/vote/>
- Scroll down to "Best Female Athlete with a Disability" on the right-hand side
- Click on Stephani's photo
- Hit the submit button to lock in your vote

WHEN: Vote today! The ESPY Awards will air on July 15, 2007 at 9 p.m. /ET on ESPN.

Utah Tourism Board Approves Funding for San Juan County Marketing Project

Salt Lake City – Members of the Utah Board of Tourism Development have approved \$7,500 in Special Opportunity Cooperative Marketing funding for the San Juan County Economic Development and Visitor Services. The county will use the funding for foreign language translation of www.utahscanyoncountry.com, the area's visitor web site, to capitalize on recent marketing activities, including exposure of the recent 2007 Red Bull Air Race Championship Series that was held in Monument Valley. The race will be broadcast in more than 80 countries through November.

"This is a great way for the state to partner with San Juan County and leverage a successful Utah event," said Leigh von der Esch, managing director of the Utah Office of Tourism, Governor's Office of Economic Development.

"For me this is what the special opportunities fund is all about – capitalizing on something that happened positive in San Juan County," said Hans Fuegi, chairman of the board's Cooperative Marketing Committee.



The county will translate its web site into five languages: German, French, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, and Japanese.

"As worldwide broadcasts have begun in some markets, if we act immediately, we have the opportunity to increase market share by offering foreign language translation of our web site," said Charlie DeLorme, director of San Juan

County Economic Development and Visitor Services, in the application. “We estimate a significant increase in foreign visitors.”

San Juan County reports the number of visitor requests has jumped from 100 a day last fall to nearly 2,200 daily requests for information after the air race. The county has received 26,000 visitor requests through June of this year compared to a total of 28,000 telephone and electronic inquiries in all of 2006.

The tourism board also set aside \$300,000 in cooperative funds for a couple of Madden Pre-print inserts that will run in newspapers across the country. A “Life Elevated” winter insert will be placed in papers this fall in California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, and Texas. The Utah Office of Tourism ran a Madden 20-page insert in national newspapers this spring that generated numerous requests for information on Utah destinations.

Regular Cooperative Marketing applications are due on June 29, 2007. For the next fiscal year, \$2.2 million will be available for cooperative out-of-state marketing opportunities. The board will consider those applications during its August 10 meeting in Salt Lake City.

Those eligible for the co-op program include cities, counties, non-profit destination marketing organizations (DMO's), and similar public entities that have been established as a non-profit for a minimum of one year. The Utah Office of Tourism will match up to 50% of the cost of a marketing project. All projects must utilize the Utah “Life Elevated” brand and have a call to action.

For additional information on the state's Cooperative Marketing program, contact the Utah Office of Tourism, 300 N. State St., Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114, (801) 538-1900 or visit <http://travel.utah.gov> .

PLANET DOG Delivers New Toy Collection for a Tail-Wagging Holiday

Portland, ME (June, 2007) – Inspired by play enjoyed by children and dogs worldwide, Planet Dog is proud to announce the launch of their 2007 Holiday Toy line. “We know that under all that fur, there's a kid at heart,” says Catherine Frost, Planet Dog's Director of Marketing, “and what kids love is a really full toy box,” adds Frost. This year, dog lovers can fill their “toy boxes” with a mix of durable Orbee-Tuff® toys and soft, squeaky toys made for dogs of all sizes.

New this year is the **Orbee-Tuff® Snowball**. This 2 ½” winter-white ball won't melt like your run-of-the-mill snowball. As the seasons turn, it can be frozen to bring back the true feeling of winter and provide a "cool" summer treat. Due to its phenomenal success, Planet Dog is again offering the whimsical vintage **Orbee-Tuff® Bulb** (6” tall) in traditional red and green holiday colors.

Both Orbee-Tuff® toys are made in the U.S.A. from Planet Dog's award-winning Orbee-Tuff® material. And, each features a Treat Spot™ for stuffing healthy treats, spreads and other Christmas “cookies” that may show up in a dog's stocking. Like all of Planet Dog's Orbee-Tuff® toys, they are also doggie-durable, bouncy, buoyant, minty and recyclable and parents will love their 100% satisfaction guarantee.

For the soft and squeaky toy lovers, Planet Dog is offering two new toys: The “**Naughty and Nice Lil' Buds**” and the “**Gingerbread Buddy**.” The Naughty and Nice Lil' Buds are designed for small to medium dogs. Sold as a pair, each stands 5” tall. One Bud is embroidered

with “naughty” and the other, “nice.” They are the perfect gift for little rascals who have a “Should I or Shouldn’t I” complex.

The Gingerbread Buddy is soft and sweet with a jolly ‘ol squeak. Standing at 9” tall, this toy is just right for medium to large dogs who love to have a buddy around at all times. For bigger dogs who love to squeak, Planet Dog also offers a 12” long **Big Red Bone**.

All of the toys in Planet Dog's holiday collection are available for a suggested retail price of \$9.95 each and covered by the company's 100% satisfaction guarantee. They can be purchased at www.planetdog.com or by calling Planet Dog directly at 800-381-1516 (toll-free). They can also be found at pet shops and other retailers nationwide.

The company, who designs and develops innovative pet products that enhance the lives that people share with their best friends, is also socially-responsible. They give a percentage of every Planet Dog purchase directly to their philanthropic arm, the **Planet Dog Foundation (PDF)**. In 2006, the Foundation, whose mission is promote and celebrate programs in which dogs serve and support their best friends, donated more than \$100,000 in cash and in-kind donations to worthy non-profits nation-wide.

“We’re doing what no other pet product company is doing,” says Frost. “We offer unique and top-quality products that dogs love, while creating awareness of how much service dogs give back to people in our society. Our goal is to ensure that our actions speak louder than woofs,” adds Frost. For more information and a full list of programs and grantees, visit www.planetdogfoundation.org.

Whether creating great products, providing financial resources or helping to raise awareness about outstanding canine service programs, Planet Dog is proud to be a pet industry leader with a proven track record and demonstrated commitments to initiatives that bring people and dogs together for fun and mutual support.

"As a small company doing big things, our goal has been and will always be to support like-minded organizations that need it most," says Alex Fisher, Planet Dog's co-founder and Chief Creative Officer. "From the beginning, we knew we wanted to build a socially responsible company that not only enhanced the lives of dogs and their people, but one that also improved the world around us by giving back," adds Fisher.



to
sit. speak. act.