

UTAH STATE PARKS BOATING SAFETY TIP

Salt Lake -- As colder weather approaches, Utah State Parks Boating Education Specialist Chris Haller stresses the importance of being prepared for sudden storms.

Safety tips include:

- Wear your lifejacket
- Keep a sharp lookout for other vessels and floating debris
- Sound your horn or whistle in foggy conditions
- If vessel has more than one fuel tank, switch to a full tank
- Head for the nearest, approachable shore
- Head into waves at a 45 degree angle
- Close all hatches and windows to reduce the chance of swamping
- Reduce speed, but keep enough power to maintain headway and steering
- Secure loose items
- If engine stops, drop anchor from the bow
- Take appropriate warm clothing



Weather can change very rapidly and create unexpected situations for vessel operators. Always watch for changes in weather and monitor the weather forecast. Make sure to inform a close friend or relative of where you are going and when you expect to return.

For more boating information, or to take a boating course, visit www.stateparks.utah.gov or call (801) 538-BOAT. Wear it UTAH!

Timpanogos Cave National Monument Celebrates National Public Lands Day with Free Cave Tours

Timpanogos Cave National Monument Superintendent Denis Davis announced that the Monument will be waiving fees for cave tours on Saturday, September 27, 2008 in recognition of National Public Lands Day.

The National Park Service will join other Department of the Interior bureaus and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service in waiving all entrance or standard amenity fees on September 27. For the first time in the Monument's history, cave tour fees (which are expanded amenity fees) will be waived.

“We are very excited to offer this wonderful opportunity for the community to visit the caves without the cave tour fee,” said Superintendent Davis. “We appreciate our great community support and want to say thank you for another great season at the monument. This free day is a perfect time to visit the canyon in the fall and see the scenery above and below ground.”

Cave tours are limited to 20 participants per tour and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Tours will be offered every 15-20 minutes throughout the day on September 27, with the first tour hike time at 8:00 a.m. and the last hike time at 3:30 p.m. We encourage visitors to arrive early to get their tickets, as cave tours fill up quickly and a limited amount of cave tour tickets will be available.



Hiking the 1 ½ miles to the cave is considered moderately strenuous, gaining over 1,000 feet in elevation. The cave tour and hike to and from the caves takes approximately three hours.

The cave temperature is a cool 45 degrees Fahrenheit; light jackets, plenty of drinking

water and sturdy walking shoes are recommended.

For more information about Timpanogos Cave National Monument and National Public Lands Day, please call 801-756-5238 or 801-756-5239.

UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

September 30 Escalante Petrified Forest State Park - Escalante

Nature Hike: Discover park wildlife and desert-adapted plants on a guided hike to the Petrified Forest. Meet at the visitor center at 10 a.m. (435) 826-4466

October 1 - November 30 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Art Gallery: Debbie Goodman displays paper collages in the visitor center art gallery. (801) 725-9263

October 4 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Star Party: Join Ogden Astronomical Society and Weber State University for an evening under the stars. Enjoy beautiful celestial views (weather permitting) and stellar conversation with local astronomers. Meet at White Rock Bay at 7 p.m. If you bring a flashlight, please make it a red-colored lens. (801) 721-9569

October 4 Goblin Valley State Park - Green River

Goblin Valley Events: Earn a Junior Ranger badge by joining park staff at 9:30 a.m. and learn to identify the park's animal residences by their tracks and scat. Later, join park staff at 8 p.m., to learn about bats! Meet at the amphitheater just past the campground. (435) 564-3633

October 10 Snow Canyon State Park - Ivins

Johnson Canyon Sketchwalk: Bring the family and join park staff at 10 a.m. for a two-mile, roundtrip hike. Learn about the human history of Johnson Canyon and the fun of nature sketching! (435) 628-2255

October 10 – 11 Iron Mission State Park Museum – Cedar City

Night at the Museum: Join museum staff for a slumber party at the museum. Children and parents participate in pioneer activities, then wind down with an evening movie. Breakfast is served Saturday morning. (435) 586-9290

October 11 – December 31 Fremont Indian State Park and Museum - Sevier

Art Show and Reception: Enjoy the nature photography and jewelry of Vandy Moore.

A reception is held October 11 from 2 to 5 p.m. where visitors can meet Moore. Refreshments will be served. (435) 527-4631

October 11 Goblin Valley State Park - Green River

Goblin Valley Events: Children six through 12 are invited to learn about predators and prey at Goblin Valley, and earn a Junior Ranger Badge. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Observation Point above the Valley of the Goblins. Later, join park staff at 8 p.m., to learn about bats! Meet at the amphitheater just past the campground. (435) 564-3633

October 11 Snow Canyon State Park - Ivins

Sunset Hike: Explore the twilight sights and sounds of the canyon during a two-mile, roundtrip evening hike beginning at 6:15 p.m. (435) 628-2255

Bedol Introduces Eco-Friendly Clock That Operates With Only Water and Salt.

The Bedol Water-Powered Clock is the first item in the company's "Green" product line. The invention company, known for its modern and practical designs, presents a new approach to traditional water clock technology.

Los Angeles, CA- The Bedol Water-Powered Clock, with its stylish circular design and bright attractive colors, makes it a fun, versatile and environmentally friendly product for everyday use. A dash of salt in the water is all that's needed for the clock to harvest energy and operate.



Bedol products have been sold at selected retailers nationwide such as Saks Fifth Ave, Neiman Marcus and Macy's.

Bedol is committed to do their part for the environment by offering eco-friendly alternatives to everyday products. The Bedol Water-Powered Clock presents customers with a digital clock that eliminates the need for batteries.

Bedol features the latest in innovative products that gives a fun and edgy spin to traditional household and office items.

Mark Bedol, company founder, established the Bedol brand with popular inventions and designs such as:

Checkmaster, a checkbook calculator that simultaneously balances three different accounts, the sleek looking spider clock and the SuperSmart line of children's school supplies.

Bedol products are also available at the company store: Bedol What's Next, located at 456 W. First St. in Claremont, California (in Southern California outside of Los Angeles) or www.bedolwhatsnext.com

Nevada Commission on Tourism Brings First Official Chinese Leisure Tour Group to Silver State

RENO, Nev. — The Nevada Commission on Tourism brought its first tour group to Reno and Lake Tahoe under a new U.S.-China agreement that swings open the door to lucrative leisure group travel, Lt. Gov. Brian K. Krolicki, chair of the Nevada Commission on Tourism, announced Tuesday. Later this week, the Chinese travelers will visit West Wendover and Las Vegas.

Six of the 25 visitors are top officials of golf clubs in China, including one of the country's 10 best, and will play in Reno to help promote Chinese golf tours to the Silver State. The other 19 travelers are on a driving tour to visit attractions in Reno, Lake Tahoe, Virginia City, West Wendover and Las Vegas, where they will go aerial sightseeing over the Grand Canyon.

“This is a historic tourism visit that heralds great potential economic benefits for Nevada,” Krolicki said. “When these golf club officials tee off on our beautiful courses and the sightseeing group experiences the awesome mountains, exciting entertainment, historic sites and resort amenities Nevada offers, they will take home a compelling story that will generate many more leisure groups from China and help bolster our tourism-based economy.”

The international agreement, finalized this year, allows tour operators to advertise directly to Chinese leisure groups and book group travel to U.S. destinations. Previously, group tours were unsanctioned in China and had to be arranged by word-of-mouth and personal relationships. Karen Chen, the commission's chief representative in China, created the tour itineraries.

The golf group played Monday at Edgewood Tahoe golf course at Lake Tahoe and will play in Reno Tuesday at Lakeridge Golf Course, Wednesday at Arrowcreek Country Club and Thursday at Sommersett Country Club. The golfers include Honglin Zhao, general manager of DaLian Jinshi Golf Club in the city of DaLian in China's Liaoning Province, which ranks in the top 10 among China's hundreds of golf clubs. The golfers also will visit Reno's National Automobile Museum before departing Sept. 19 for San Francisco and China.

The sightseeing group, which flew from China to San Francisco and drove to Reno Monday, will visit the automobile museum and other attractions in the Reno, Lake Tahoe and Virginia

City area before setting out Sept. 17 on a driving tour across northern Nevada to West Wendover and on to Yellowstone National Park, Salt Lake City and Las Vegas. They will drive to Los Angeles Sept. 25 for their return flight to China. Three journalists from China television's Travel Channel are on the tour and will produce a one-hour TV program about Nevada that will be seen by more than 300 million Chinese viewers.

Driving tours are important to Nevada tourism because they enable visitors to see much more of the state than would be possible only by flying from city to city.

The Nevada Commission on Tourism was the first U.S. tourism entity to be issued a license by the Chinese government to advertise to outbound travelers and operates an office in Beijing. The commission has eight friendship agreements in China to encourage more tourism business. Another leisure tour from China is scheduled to visit Nevada Sept. 30 – Oct. 8.

Toyota Donation Supports Environmental, Education and Safety Programs for Grand Canyon National Park

\$500,000 and five hybrid vehicles donated by Toyota to Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon National Park – September 18, 2008 – Toyota

<http://www.toyota.com/community> is providing \$500,000 and five hybrid vehicles to the Grand Canyon Association <http://www.grandcanyon.org> to support a number of environmental, education and safety programs for visitors to the park and high school students across the country, it was announced today.



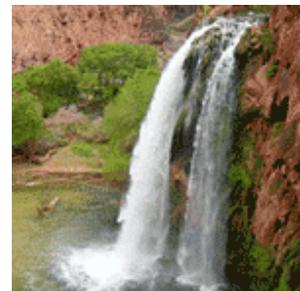
This donation is part of a \$5 million contribution from Toyota in support of five National Parks and the National Park Foundation to enhance environmental leadership and educational programs at parks around the country. The company is also donating 23 vehicles in total to the national parks.

"Toyota's philanthropic support makes more resources available to the youth of this country and ensure the future stewardship of Grand Canyon National Park and other public lands," said Susan Schroeder, executive director of the Grand Canyon Association, the official fundraising partner of the Grand Canyon.

Grand Canyon National Park <http://www.nps.gov/grca> will use Toyota's contribution to expand the park's Preventative Search and Rescue Program to the North Rim. This program ensures that visitors have a safe and enjoyable experience at the park. On the South Rim alone,

this program can reach up to 1,200 hikers each day. A majority of the funds will be used to support the Grand Canyon's Environmental Education (GCEE) program, which will offer travel grants to schools in inner-cities, rural counties and Indian reservations to enable the groups to bring their students to the park. Also as part of GCEE, cold weather gear will be purchased to loan to students visiting in the late fall and winter, expanding the timeframe when schools can visit the park.

Other education programs funded by Toyota's contribution include a School Resource Ranger to be on the grounds of the Grand Canyon School each school day; adding three horses for the use of mounted rangers; and strengthening the Rim to River stewardship development program, which is available to high school students from across the country and supports the Department of the Interior's No Child Left Inside Initiative.



"The partnership with Grand Canyon National Park is a great opportunity for Toyota to extend its environmental and educational community-based programs," said Michael Rouse, vice president, philanthropy and community affairs, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. "We are proud to partner with such an iconic national park to develop and offer programs that inspire the youth of the nation."

In addition to the monetary contribution, Toyota will donate five hybrid vehicles -- two Prius and three Highlander Hybrids -- to Grand Canyon National Park. The vehicles will be used to support the Toyota fund programs as well as various other initiatives throughout the park.

"Toyota has become a champion of national parks through their generosity and leadership in environmental initiatives," said Steve Martin, Grand Canyon National Park superintendent.

"Their donation of five fuel saving vehicles helps to support the National Park Service mission and promotes a positive course to a cleaner, more environmentally responsible future."

Helping Lawmakers Understand Habitat, Management Issues

MISSOULA, Mont.-- Lawmakers working with a better understanding of elk habitat conservation and management. That's the ultimate goal behind the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's 2008 platinum-level support of the bipartisan Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses.

Jeff Crane, president of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, said, "There is a direct link between legislative actions and successful on-the-ground conservation and access for hunters to public lands. The Elk Foundation understands this link and is a longstanding supporter of our organizations. We are grateful for the Elk Foundation's active support and leadership in the conservation community."

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation provides hunters with a voice in Congress, the Administration and federal land management agencies.

The Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus is one of the largest and most active caucuses in Congress, comprised of Republican and Democratic members from nearly every state.

The National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses is the umbrella organization for state legislative sportsmen's caucuses nationwide. Thirty-five states have sportsmen's caucuses totaling over 2,000 legislator members from both sides of the political aisle.

"These two organizations help us navigate the political maze and get our issues in front of decision makers. They're the best allies that wildlife and sportsmen's groups can have in this arena. We're proud to be among only a dozen groups who sponsor at the platinum level," said David Allen, president and CEO of the Elk Foundation.

Allen said the Elk Foundation must address its mission--ensuring the future of elk, other wildlife and their habitat--with increasing urgency. Across elk country, habitat is being lost at alarming rates to development, subdivision and other land-use changes.

Ready Your Business Schedule Set

The 2008 fall schedule for the Ready Your Business "12 Point Program to Business Continuity Planning" is attached for your review. Forward to your business associates, customers or vendors who would benefit in joining you in better preparing the workplace for any type of business interruption.



View the Be Ready Utah Declaration signed by Governor Jon M Huntsman Jr, recognizing September as National Preparedness Month and Utah celebrating preparedness awareness events across the State on the www.BeReadyUtah.gov home page.

Watch for details of more Ready Your Business opportunities with on-line training modules as a resource to your continuity planning. Soon to be released: Pandemic

Influenza Planning and Communication Options. Thanks to the Utah Small Business Development Center, a training library will be available on the www.BeReadyUtah.gov website fall of 2009!

Visit our NEW web site. www.BeReadyUtah.gov to find additional Community, School, Family and Business preparedness tips, video and events.

For additional information on how you can schedule a Ready Your business workshop series or presentation for your organization, please contact:

Jesse Valenzuela, Coordinator / Instructor Ready Your business 801-538-3296
jessev@utah.gov

Renee Murphy, Section Manager Private Sector / Be Ready Utah 801-538-3702
Rmurphy@utah.gov

Support access to public lands

Wilderness bills are popping up everywhere as the political climate is ripe for them and we need to let our elected officials know we strongly oppose this trend. We can achieve this in both the voting booth and through letter writing, which brings us to the point of this alert.

Senator Boxer and Representative McKeon introduced the Eastern Sierra and San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act, H.R. 6156 in the House and S. 3069 in the Senate last May.

It is an over the top bill that contains huge tracts of inappropriate wilderness, and Senator Feinstein is already working with wilderness groups drafting another one in Southern Inyo County.

Early wilderness legislation designated truly remote wild lands, but today's wilderness bills contain mine sites and roads that are merely cherry stemmed in if not closed entirely.

Wilderness advocates shaky arguments supporting designation are easily countered, making it readily apparent that their true agenda is simply closing Americans out of their public lands. They simply continue repeating their talking points, knowing that if enough letters are sent, lazy politicians wanting votes will buy into it.

We need to let our elected officials know we won't tolerate this rampant land grabbing that is robbing us of our rights.

I want to appeal to all NRA members receiving this to contact the NRA about getting involved in opposing this and future wilderness bills. These bills will impact hunters as much as any forest user group and having the NRA take a strong position is vital. Call or mail the NRA at:

800-392-8683 - Grassroots Hotline

When calling request "option 4" to speak with a live person and share your comments regarding how you would like the NRA to use its considerable combined voice to help oppose bad wilderness

NRA-ILA
11250 Waples Mill Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

PLEASE SUBMIT COMMENTS AND PASS THIS MESSAGE ON TO ANY FRIENDS OR ASSOCIATES THAT SUPPORT PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS.

FURTHER DETAILS AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE BOXER/McKEON WILDERNESS BILL:

Maps associated with the bill are at:

http://mckeon.house.gov/eastern_sierra_maps.aspx

The original text of the bill as introduced on May 22, 2008 can be found at the following website but it hasn't been updated to reflect subsequent amendments shown on the maps.

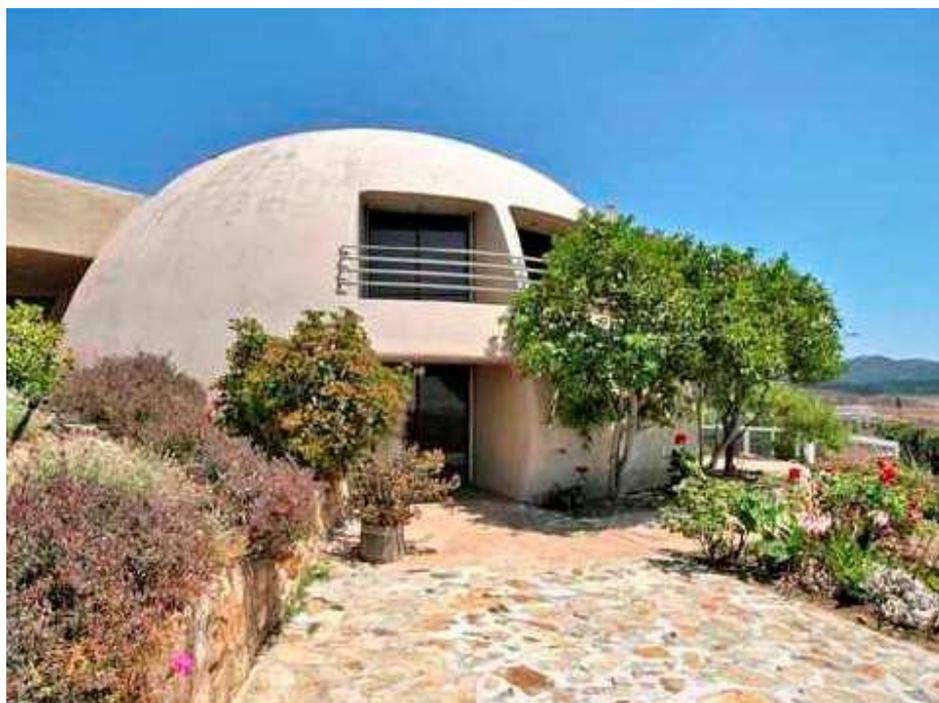
http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h6156ih.txt

To all the signers of the petition to establish a wilderness alternative:

AAPL has been gearing up for an assault on the rampant legislation of wilderness through the alternative designation that was the subject of the petition you so graciously signed. In conjunction with the Blue Ribbon Coalition, AAPL has begun to draft legislation to create a Semi-Primitive Backcountry Roaded Designation that will carry equal weight to wilderness, insuring reasonable access to all recreationalists on select lands not yet wilderness.

We are busy gathering more grassroots support for this effort and look forward to working with you all as we bring this effort to fruition. Meanwhile, VOTE in candidates that support conservative values and stay tuned for more Land Use Action Alerts.

News from the Dome Institute



The Annual Dome Tour is almost here and Monolithic Needs Your Dome - We'd love to help you show off your Monolithic Dome! And you can do just that during our National Dome Tour. It's scheduled for Oct. 24 for commercial domes and Oct. 25 for dome-homes. Get the details and read reviews of past tours! <http://www.monolithic.com/dometour/2008/index.html>



Compost Covers: A Monolithic Product - In our Italy, Texas plant, we are now manufacturing Compost Recycling Aeration Process Covers (C.R.A.P.). These covers are highly technical and sophisticated. In a very short time, the covers allow and promote the biodegrading of organic matter into a usable, recyclable soil.

<http://www.monolithic.com/compostcovers/index.html>

100+ Floor Plans now easily available - They're featured on Monolithic Marketplace and in "Dome Living: A Creative Guide for Planning Your Monolithic Dream Home."

http://www.monolithic.com/plan-design/house_plans/ordering/index.html

Why a Monolithic Dome? - That's a good question that Architect Rick Crandall answers by citing 22 advantages of the Monolithic Dome. <http://www.monolithic.com/plan-design/crandall/why/index.html>

The Monolithic Crenosphere Dome - Here is a description and illustrations of a giant size arena or stadium that, till now, many thought was unaffordable. The Crenosphere Dome is a dream-come-true for high schools, universities, cities and professional sport organizations that want a beautiful, practical and affordable facility.

<http://www.monolithic.com/gallery/sports/crenosphere/index.html>

Thermographs of Dome in Canada - Using a \$50,000 thermograph camera, pictures were taken showing the virtually zero amount of heat loss in a Monolithic Dome.

<http://www.monolithic.com/thedome/thermograph/index.html>

YouTube - It currently includes 21 Monolithic presentations you can view, comment on and rate. www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Monolithic+Domes&search_type=&q=f

Mystery Solved! -- When passersby began wondering about two Monolithic Domes recently built in Florida, a local television station supplied them with the answers they wanted.

http://www.monolithic.com/domesinnews/2008/baynews_abcdomes/index.html

Domes For The World (DFTW) - View the New Ngelepen Video.

http://www.monolithic.com/dvd/dftw_ngelepen2.html

Monolithic Dome Institute Podcasts - You can subscribe now.

<http://www.monolithic.com/podcasts/index.html>

Check It Out - For the latest on Monolithic Domes and related topics, check our website. New articles, profiles and discussions, as well as updates of old ones, are posted often.

<http://www.monolithic.com/>

***Outdoor Life* Selects Hornady® 44 Mag LEVERevolution® as Ammo of the Year**

(Grand Island, NE) The LEVERevolution® line of ammunition from Hornady® continues to revolutionize the shooting industry. The NEW 44 Magnum LEVERevolution® ammunition was recently awarded an Editor's Choice Award for Handgun Ammo of the Year in the August issue of *Outdoor Life* magazine.

Chris Christian, award winning competitive pistol shooter, former Navy small arms instructor and *Outdoor Life* Editor, wrote, "Hornady's new 225-grain LEVERevolution® load (1,410 fps from a 6-inch barrel) will increase the range of any 44 Magnum handgun, carbine or single-shot with its polymer tip and increased ballistic coefficient."

The 44 Mag, loaded with the 225 gr. FTX™ bullet, represents the first time advanced LEVERevolution® Flex Tip™ technology has been used in a true dual-purpose (handgun/lever gun) application. Typical hollow point pistol bullets expand too quickly and sacrifice penetration at the higher velocities achieved with lever action rifles. But Flex Tip™ eXpanding™ bullets expand reliably, transferring significant immediate energy with devastating temporary cavities over an incredibly wide range of velocities.



"We are very proud of the 44 Magnum," said Dave Emary, Hornady Senior Ballistician. "The versatility this cartridge offers is an incredible asset to hunters and shooting enthusiasts, and we are pleased that a publication as respected as *Outdoor Life* has selected it as Handgun Ammo of the Year."

Click here for complete information on the [44 Mag LEVERevolution®](#), including a video.

Founded in 1949, Hornady Manufacturing Company, a second generation family-owned business headquartered in Grand Island, Nebraska, has become a world leader in innovative bullet, ammunition, reloading tool and accessory design and manufacture.

SKI MAGAZINE RANKS PARK CITY MOUNTAIN RESORT ONE OF THE TOP FIVE SKI RESORTS IN NORTH AMERICA

Park City, UT (September 12, 2008) – Park City Mountain Resort has once again been ranked a top five ski resort in North America by the readers of *SKI* magazine. Park City Mountain Resort first broke into the prestigious top-five in the 2004-05 season and since then, has received this top ranking three times.

“It is an honor to once again be ranked as one of the top five ski resorts in North America,” said Peter Curtis, president and general manager of Park City Mountain Resort. “Over the years we have directed a lot of our resources to enhancing the on-mountain experience for our guests. Specifically, identifying ways to allow more of our guests to explore the 3,300 acres of terrain our mountain has to offer. It’s certainly not coincidental that the categories where we saw the most improvement in the surveys were terrain variety/challenge, service and family programs.”

Park City Mountain Resort started implementing changes as it related to the on-mountain experience two years ago. The first enhancement was the development of the Resort’s groomed Signature Run program which allows intermediates the opportunity to experience advanced terrain. While black diamond runs are typically not groomed because of their difficult nature, the Signature Runs tame some of the challenge while still providing a sense of accomplishment. The Resort also developed a new mountainzone concept by sectioning out the trail map and color-coding it. Each mountainzone features a variety of terrain so nearly every ability level can enjoy the area. In addition, the Resort integrated a new interactive tool where guests can create tailor-made tours based upon their ability levels and terrain preferences. Over 100,000 tours have been printed off by guests and used to explore the 3,300 acres Park City Mountain Resort has to offer.

The Resort was also the first in North America to guarantee a maximum class size of five children or less in its Kids Signature 5 Program, for skiers and snowboarders ages six to 14, every day of the season. Plus, students can choose lunch of their choice in one of our on-mountain restaurants. In addition, the Resort’s new Online Vacation Planner, introduced last season, allows families to explore all of the adventures that Park City has to offer before even packing their bags. Personal itineraries that include details on all activities can then be printed and used as a guide once they reach Park City.

“We have also placed a strong emphasis on cultivating a work environment where team member take pride in what they do and how they do it. Without the hard work and dedication of our friendly employees, we would never be able to maintain a high level of service to our guests,” added Curtis.

More than 20,000 *SKI* magazine readers are surveyed for its “Top 60 Resort Guide” by an independent research firm. The ski resort survey is the most comprehensive and longest-running in the winter sports industry.

About Park City Mountain Resort

Park City Mountain Resort, a family adventure destination, is located in the heart of Park City, Utah and is only a 35 minute drive from the Salt Lake City International Airport. With over 3,300 acres of unspoiled terrain, the Resort offers groomed Signature Runs™, bumps, powder, trees, eight peaks, nine bowls, four terrain parks, and the Eagle Superpipe, North America's largest superpipe. The Resort is committed to \$10.5 million in improvements for the 2008-09 winter season including a new high-speed lift, renovations to on-mountain dining, expanded snowmaking and a new run. For more information, visit parkcitymountain.com or call (800) 222-PARK.

JEEP 48STRAIGHT PREVIEW – RACE #2 AT THE CANYONS, UTAH

Americans Cody Warren & Kathy Pruitt to Face Stiff International Competition While Defending Titles at Second Leg of Jeep 48STRAIGHT on Sept. 19-20 in Park City, Utah



PARK CITY, Utah – Heading into the first race of the Jeep 48STRAIGHT Mountain Bike Series last month in New Jersey, one would have been hard pressed to pick

fellow Californians Cody Warren and Kathy Pruitt as favorites to bring home a title. After taking down one renowned racer after another to earn the win and a share of the \$100,000-plus cash purse, the pair will no longer have the element of surprise on their side heading into the second leg of the series, taking place Sept. 19-20 at The Canyons in Park City, Utah.

For Warren, the challengers will be arriving from near and far, led by fellow U.S. National Champions Eric Carter and Rich Houseman, both from Temecula, Calif., as well as 2008 Crankworx Champion, J.D. Swanguen of San Diego. Also in the mix from the American contingent are Kyle Strait of Redlands, Calif., a Sea Otter Classic titlist with several Red Bull cycling wins and a World Junior Downhill Championship podium under his belt, and Cam Zink of Costa Mesa, Calif. A member of the U.S. National Team who has been racing for more than half his life and dominating for most of it, including a win at Crankworx. No one will be overlooking local favorite Chris Van Dine of Park City, a rider with over 20 titles spanning all

disciplines of mountain bike racing.

The foreign contingent is equally as daunting, with commitments to attend from Great Britain's Steve Peat, Australia's Nathan Rennie and South Africa's Greg Minnaar. Peat is a three-time World Cup Champion, with 15 World Cup titles, eight British National Championships and two European Championships to his name. Rennie, the 2008 Australian National Champion, is a former overall World Cup Champion and Junior World Champion. Then there's Minnaar, with an astounding 35 World Cup titles, a World Championship and two World Cup Championships, who happens to be leading the current World Cup season with one race to go.

Pruitt will have her work cut out for her as well, led by reigning World Champion and U.S. National Champion Melissa Buhl of Chandler, Ariz. Buhl lost to Pruitt in the finals in New Jersey, and will be seeking to turn the tables on the U.S. National Champion in Utah. Another top name to keep an eye on is Fionn Griffiths of Great Britain, a three-time World Cup winner who can bring home a title on any given day.

As was the case in New Jersey, Jeep 48STRAIGHT will hold an Open Qualifier for local professionals and semi-professionals, with the racers battling against the clock to try and earn a coveted spot in the dual slalom championship. The Open Qualifier, which will be capped at 75 men and 25 women, will take place on Friday, Sept. 19. Additional details can be found at www.48Straight.com.

An additional event, the 48STRAIGHT **Cyclocross**, presented by Scott USA, has been added to the schedule for Utah. There will be two categories of racing, including the more advanced Group A with a 60-minute race and \$400 guaranteed cash payout, and the more recreational Group B, with a 45-minute race and \$250 guaranteed cash payout.

Off the dirt, the activities at Jeep 48Straight include the **Sponsor Expo**, with great free gear from Jeep, Paul Mitchell, Trikke, Michelin and Rossignol, as well as a **Green Your Scene Eco-Festival** offering educational and interactive features designed to raise environmental awareness and provide local level solutions. Wrapping up the event will be a free concert by Oakland, Calif., indie-band, **Rogue Wave**.

Full event information, including dates, times, and locations, as well as registration for the cycling competitions, may be found at www.48STRAIGHT.com.

Each event of the Jeep 48STRAIGHT summer season will receive national broadcast coverage on CBS Sports, representing the most visibility of any mountain biking event in the sport. The event at The Canyons will air on CBS Sports on October 12.

Following the event at The Canyons, Jeep 48STRAIGHT will head to San Luis Obispo, Calif., on Sept. 19-20 for the season's grand finale.

Horse Hollow Prescribed Burn Planned for Fillmore Ranger District

The Fillmore Ranger District will be conducting the Horse Hollow prescribed burn starting the first week of October and continuing as needed through December 2008. A prescribed burn is the use of management ignited fire, conducted under specified weather and fuel conditions in order to achieve specific management objectives. Generally there are only two “windows of opportunity” per year when fuel, vegetation and weather conditions are acceptable and safe for use of prescribed fire. These usually occur in the spring and fall. Although every effort is made to conduct prescribed burns so smoke is minimized and dispersed into the atmosphere,

some communities and residents may be affected for short periods of time. The burn will only be implemented if temperature, humidity, wind speed, fuel moisture, and other factors can be safely met.



The Horse Hollow Hazardous Fuels Reduction project is located two miles east and southeast of the city of Fillmore, Utah. This project encompasses approximately 2700 acres and is located within the Center Fork Chalk Creek Grazing Allotment. The objectives of the project are to reduce potential negative effects from future catastrophic wildland fire. The treatment area will also have secondary impacts that will improve the area for wildlife and livestock, as well as promote regeneration of Quaking Aspen clones. Approximately 40-80% of the vegetation will be burned in a mosaic pattern to create a diversity of structural vegetative stages.

Firefighters from the Central Utah Interagency Fire Program (CUIF) will be hand lighting the treatment area using drip torches and fusees, and a helicopter will be used for aerial ignition. The area has been prepared for prescribed fire and broken down into smaller units. The units will be burned one at a time to safely manage the prescribed burn.



The prescribed burn activities will not be occurring during the general deer hunt. However, access into the project area and camping in proximity to the project area leading up to the hunt will be limited while prescribed fire activities are occurring. For additional information or a map of the affected area, please contact Tyler Monroe

at 435-743-8310 or the Fillmore Ranger District at 435-743-5721 (390 S. Main St. in Fillmore, Utah, M-F 800-430)

Information and links about wildland fire in Utah can be found on the internet at www.utahfireinfo.gov.

“Without a trace!” BLM & Forest Service event supports Don’t Waste Dixie Recycling Week

In support of Don’t Waste Dixie Week and the Washington County Washington County Solid Waste District’s recycling initiative, the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service

will host “*Without a Trace!*” Friday September 26, 2008 at noon. Guest speaker Fred Ybright, a 30-year “Leave No Trace” expert, will introduce time-honored approaches to land-use ethics including minimum impact recreational use. The lecture kicks off the season’s brown bag lecture series hosted at the Interagency Office located at 345 East Riverside Drive in St.

George, Utah.

For the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service, supporting Don’t Waste Dixie Week is a comfortable fit as the committee’s mission parallels the Leave No Trace program sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service.



“I think it’s a one hundred percent match, there’s no doubt that our objectives are the same,” said Ken Welton, Brown Bag Lecture Series Coordinator and BLM Volunteer. “The whole philosophy of the Leave No Trace Program really is in preserving the environment for future generations so they have the opportunity to enjoy it the way we know it now. We want our kids to enjoy the quality of life we enjoy now, particularly here in Washington County,” said Welton.

For Fred Ybright, it’s a passion and love for the outdoors that’s compelled him to share the Leave No Trace message with the public for the past 30 years. The former Wilderness Coordinator for the Pine Valley Mountain Wilderness and the regional US Forest Service Leave No Trace National Representative said the primary theme which underscores leave no trace approaches is simple; it’s about taking the environment and natural landscapes into consideration during activities on public lands.

“Everyone one of us knows of places we used to go that we once loved and now it’s not what it was because it’s been loved to death and overused or abused. But there are still some of those places left that are still beautiful and pristine. The more we try to practice leave no trace ethics, the longer those really special places will last,” Ybright said.

Leave No Trace, he said, is more than simply carrying out garbage. “You’re going to make less of an impact on the landscape if you plan ahead for your recreation activities—and that’s the first step of Leave No Trace,” Ybright said.

Admission is free, but space is limited for this popular lecture series. **Obtain tickets in advance** from the Interagency Information Center to reserve a seat. Attendees are encouraged to bring a sack lunch to enjoy during this noon time lecture. The lunchtime-brown bag lecture

series is sponsored by the Arizona Strip Interpretive Association, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service. **For more information call 435-688-3246.**

Schedule of Events:

- Monday, Sept. 22 5pm Washington County Solid Waste Recycling Launch & Don't Waste Dixie Kick Off Event St. George Town Square
- Tuesday, Sept. 23 City and County Clean Up Day, HWY 18
- Wednesday, Sept. 24 Education Day
- Thursday, Sept. 25 Rechargeable Battery recycle day
- Friday, Sept. 26 Noon Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service "Without a Trace" brown bag lunch time lecture at the Bureau of Land Management St. George Field Office 345 East Riverside Dr.
- Saturday, Sept 27 7:30am-1:30pm Electronic Recycling Event, Vernon Worthen Park, St. George, Community Clean Up Day

Charting a brighter future for Dixie; Week-long event launches first ever County wide recycling initiative in Southern Utah history

During the week of September 22-26, 2008 local businesses and citizens, partnering with city and county, state and federal governments will take a focus on conserving the region's most priceless natural resource; it's unparalleled, pristine beauty and panoramic landscapes. Hosting a wide range of events from a county wide education day with Washington County Schools, a city-county clean up day, a lunch time lecture and an entire festival devoted to recycling, the jam packed week is filled with events that offer every member of the public an educational value and an opportunity to participate in enhancing and improving the community in which they live.

"This is about the community," said Jennifer Harris, Recycling Coordinator for Washington County. "We always have questions from residents who want to know what's going on with recycling in this area, what the city and county are doing and what opportunities for recycling exist here," she said. "Many also ask how they can get involved personally. The Don't Waste Dixie Week enables every member of our community, every segment of our society, to participate personally at some level, to one degree or another. Every effort counts," she said. Each day of the week focuses on a different aspect of recycling or waste management. The first event, Monday September 22, 2008 is momentous for Washington County as it marks the launch of the Washington County Recycling program. "It's exciting because it's the first county wide initiative in the history of Southern Utah," said Harris.

City and county employees will be out on the streets and in the community on September 23rd Harris said, "cleaning up the areas we enjoy." This year's cleanup efforts will focus on Highway 18 in preparation for the St. George Marathon. "We'll be in the public eye and with so many people coming to visit our cities we want them to see the beauty of our area —not the trash on our roads or littering these majestic landscapes."

According to Marc Mortensen, Assistant to the City Manager for St. George, the fall season brings tens of thousands of visitors to the area. "The city continually receives comments from visitors on how clean and picturesque this area is. Both visitors and residents recognize that we live in one of the most pristine areas in the country and this week-long event gives us the opportunity to capitalize on and showcase one of our greatest assets—the natural beauty of the area," said Mortensen.

Day Three kicks off a month-long recycling contest for participating Washington County Elementary Schools which focuses on collecting and recycling plastic. After weighing in plastics from recycling bins placed at elementary schools, the winner receives a \$500 grant from the Washington County Solid Waste District and all of the money collected from recycling efforts.

Those who recycle batteries on Thursday's September 25 event will help protect the region's ground water by keeping batteries out of the land fill and from the potential of leaching chemicals into the ground. Friday's lunchtime lecture, "Without a Trace," hosted by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service, highlights minimum impact approaches for recreating on public lands and Saturday's Electronic Waste Recycling Day enables every resident in the county to drop off electronics for free.

Save Money and Celebrate Winter at Utah Ski Swaps

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH- "One man's trash is another man's treasure." Perhaps the best example of this old adage is the "ski swap." For many snowriders, fall ski swaps are a staple tradition in winter preparation, enabling them to sell used gear and stock-up on new equipment for the coming winter season. Most participants save huge sums of money compared to full retail prices and many leave swaps with a bit of extra cash. Ski swaps also serve as a celebration bringing winter enthusiasts across the state together to anticipate the coming season.

"Changing leaves and dropping temperatures are sure signs that winter is around the corner," said Ski Utah President Nathan Rafferty. "A little foresight can save locals a lot of money and make it easier to enjoy The Greatest on Earth."

Participate in your local ski swap and look to your favorite resorts and retailers for early season and locals deals. Applications for the Ski Utah School Passport Program, offering FREE skiing for any Utah fifth or sixth grader, are also currently available. For more information on early season, sales, swaps and pricing visit SkiUtah.com.

PARK CITY

36th Annual Park City Ski Team Swap Basin Recreation Field House at New Park
1388 New Main St., Kimball Junction (435) 649-8749

Nov. 7-9, 2008

Nov. 7, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.; Nov. 8, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Nov. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bring your equipment to the Basin Recreation Field House on Nov. 7 from 3 p.m.-7 p.m.

The ski team keeps 30 percent of the profit.

Admission is \$8 on Friday, \$5 on Saturday and \$2 on Sunday. Children under 12 are free



www.parkcityskiteam.org

Park City Snowboard Team Snowboard Swap Park
City Mountain Resort First Time lower parking lot
(435) 615-8839

October, exact dates TBA 15% donation on all sold
items to the Park City Snowboard Team

www.pcsbt.org

St. Lawrence Thrift Stores Annual Ski Sale Park and
Recreation Building

90 North 100 West, Heber City (435) 657-0209

Nov. 7, noon-6 p.m.; Nov. 8, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Drop your donations off at the old St. Mary's Church 121 Park Avenue, Park City

No fees, free admission Best prices in town!

SALT LAKE CITY

Black Diamond Store 2092 East 3900 South, Holladay (801) 278-0233

Oct. 18, 7 a.m.-noon Bring gear, sell your gear and keep the money.

Rowmark Ski Swap New Location at the Salt Palace (801)924-5935

Oct. 24-25, Times TBA Rowmark charges 25 percent commission.

Admission: Friday \$5 per person and Saturday admission TBA (Children under 12 free) Check
website for more information www.rowmark.org

Soldier Hollow Pre Winter Ski Sale

Soldier Hollow Legacy Foundation Lodge at Soldier Hollow, Midway (435) 654-2002

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7-8, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cross Country ski equipment and snowshoes

Junior Packages from \$75, adults from \$189 Discounted preseason passes available.

The Snowbird Mountain Sports Expo: New and Used Equipment Sale

Snowbird Center, Snowbird Ski & Summer Resort, Highway 210, Little Cottonwood Canyon
(801)933-2110 Sept. 26-28

Friday, Sept. 26, noon-8 p.m. (public check-in at 11a.m.)

Sat., Sept. 27, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 28, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. (4 p.m.-6 p.m. pick up)

Check in for goods will begin @ 11a.m. on Friday

\$3 skis/snowboards and \$2 soft goods

Fri.- \$2 Entrance Fee, \$5 for families

Sat. & Sun.- FREE admission! Benefiting the Snowbird Sports Education Foundation

www.sbsef.com

OGDEN

Howlfest Ski Swap at Wolf Mountain 3567 Nordic Valley Way, Eden (801) 745-3511

Sat., Oct. 25 10 a.m.-10 p.m. The event includes ski swap, DNA rail jam, family activities and food. www.wolfmountaineden.com

Ski Utah is the marketing firm owned and operated by the 13 statewide ski resorts that make up the Utah Ski and Snowboard Association. The organization has been creating brand awareness of and demand for the Utah wintersports product since its inception in 1978. For more information on the upcoming winter season visit SkiUtah.com.

FETCH! Pet Care and AAA Expand Landmark Marketing Partnership for National Pet and Home Care Services Rollout

AAA to Actively Promote FETCH! Pet Care's Professional Pet and Home Care Services to its 51 Million Members and 30,000 Employees Throughout the U.S.; Market Reach for Pet Care Services Industry Leader Skyrockets to Over 75 Million Employees, Customers and Members of Leading Companies and Associations Across North America

BERKELEY, CA, September 9, 2007 – FETCH! Pet Care (www.FetchPetCare.com), the nation's largest pet care brand offering professional pet sitting and dog walking services, today announced it has significantly expanded its first-of-its-kind partnership with AAA, North



"We are very pleased with the service Fetch Pet Care provided and will certainly use you again... I will be telling everyone about this great service."
Deb M., Sierra Foothills, CA

America's largest motoring and leisure travel organization, which has agreed to

actively promote exclusive discounts for - and streamlined access to - FETCH! Pet Care's services to all 51 million AAA members and its 30,000 employees throughout the United States. This deal marks the first time AAA National has aligned itself with a professional pet and home care services provider with the reach and operational capacity to provide a high caliber of service to multiple millions of consumers.

Under the landmark agreement, AAA will execute various marketing initiatives promoting

FETCH! Pet Care's comprehensive pet and home care services, to be offered to AAA members and employees at a 10% discount with a free in-home consultation (a \$25 value), through its various internal and external direct and partner marketing channels. FETCH! Pet Care is also currently featured as one of only three concierge services promoted within the "Travel" section of the Northern California AAA Web site located at www.CSAA.com.

This deal increases FETCH! Pet Care's national reach as a perk being offered to over 75 million employees, customers and members of leading companies and associations across the U.S. The company's corporate partners include AAA, UPS, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Citibank, Safeway, Fox/Newscorp, Google and Purdue University; its strategic partners include Bark Busters and Veterinary Pet Insurance; and its animal rescue and shelter agency affiliates include Best Friends and PETA.

"This partnership further validates our position as the nation's largest and most trusted provider of professional pet sitting, dog walking and home care services, and marks AAA's official foray into the \$43 billion pet industry," said Paul Mann, founder and CEO of FETCH! Pet Care. "With upwards of two-thirds, or 34 million, of those within the AAA network owning at least one pet, we applaud the organization for its intent to promote our unparalleled service to better meet its members' and employees' needs – whether at home on a daily, weekly, intermittent or emergency basis, or remotely since we can also provide pet care service at a traveler's domestic destination. We also commend AAA's progressive decision to offer our home care services to those of its members and employees who don't own pets."

This national scale agreement with AAA is expected to significantly increase FETCH Pet Care's sales revenues and market share of both corporate franchise starts and new client acquisitions. Now with 200 locations, the company services tens of thousands of active clients throughout 1,700 cities and towns in 34 states across the U.S. With an average of 10 to 15 new franchise locations opening each month, FETCH! Pet Care's pool of professionally trained, bonded and insured pet sitters and dog walkers is projected to reach 5,000 by the end of 2008, and 10,000 by end of 2009 to meet growing customer demand. All this due, in large part, to FETCH! Pet Care's proprietary technology-driven operational infrastructure and highly streamlined processes, coupled with the scalable human resources required to handle a high, geographically dispersed client volume.

"AAA partnership programs provide useful products and services to our members and staff as value added perks," notes Terry Lindstam, program manager for AAA National. "This alliance provides additional benefits to our members and differentiates AAA from other travel concierge services and employee incentive programs. This relationship will also allow us to create new vertical pet-friendly travel packages that are in high demand, and we expect to be well received, in the marketplace."

"Through this key strategic partnership and the many others we have cultivated, we're successfully realizing our goal of being 'the' go-to pet care service provider for pet owners – and the companies and associations they are affiliated with - across the U.S.," Mann concludes.

FETCH! Pet Care provides pet owners with peace of mind while they are away from their pets. The company offers a wide range of services that cater to pet owners' specific needs and budget, including private leashed and group off-leash dog outings, overnight sitting and daily



"Thank you so much! Even though I missed Princess, I knew she was well taken care of."
Dori, Escondido, CA

cat and small pet visits in the client's home, private

boarding and daycare in the sitter's home, pet taxiing, Go FETCH! four-legged fitness, yard pet waste removal, and miscellaneous home care.

Consumers and interested business affiliates can reach FETCH! Pet Care through its Web site at www.FetchPetCare.com or via toll-free telephone at 1-866-FETCH-ME, where they simply enter their 5-digit zip code to be quickly connected to the FETCH! Pet Care office nearest them.

Three Utah Waters Might Have Quagga or Zebra Mussels

Each water is in northeastern Utah

Division of Wildlife Resources biologists have been hunting for quagga and zebra mussels this summer.

They've gathered water samples from 42 waters in Utah. Those samples have been given to a Bureau of Reclamation lab in Denver, and test results are starting to come back.

Quagga and zebra mussels are also called Driessena mussels. Here's what the biologists have found so far:

- Driessena mussels have not been found in samples taken from Bear Lake, Flaming Gorge and Lake Powell.
- Pelican Lake, Red Fleet Reservoir and Midview Reservoir might have Driessena mussels in them. The three waters are in northeastern Utah.

Larry Dalton, aquatic invasive species coordinator for the DWR, watched BOR personnel examine the samples under a microscope when he was in Denver last week. He says the samples contained what appeared to be juvenile Driessena mussels.

"But we won't know for sure until we get DNA test results back," Dalton says.

The samples have been sent to two separate laboratories for DNA testing. It could take as long as three weeks to receive the DNA results back.

Not taking chances

Even though DWR biologists don't have conclusive evidence that the three northeastern Utah waters have Driessena mussels, they're not taking any chances. They've put a containment program in place at all three waters.

“At these waters, we’ve switched from greeting boaters as they enter the water to visiting boaters as they leave,” Dalton says. “Boaters must do one of two things after they leave any of these waters: they must allow us to decontaminate their boat for them, or they must decontaminate their boat themselves before placing it on another water.”

If you want DWR personnel to decontaminate your boat, they’ll do it for free using special decontamination units. These units spray water that’s 140 degrees Fahrenheit. “For a 16- to 18-foot boat, this process takes about 20 to 30 minutes,” Dalton says. “Once we’re done, your boat is decontaminated, and you can launch it on another water.”

If you choose to decontaminate your boat yourself, Dalton says you must do the following:

- **Clean** plants, fish, mussels and mud from your boat;
- **Drain** the water from all areas of your boat and equipment;
- **Dry** your boat and equipment in the sun before using it again. In the fall, you must dry it 18 days in the sun.



Serious threat

Quagga mussels are a serious threat to Utah. Quagga mussels can:

- Jeopardize essential power and water infrastructures
- Destroy recreation areas and equipment
- Severely damage ecosystems, displacing native and sport fish species
- Cost millions of dollars to control

More information

More information about quagga mussels is available at www.wildlife.utah.gov/news/07-03/quagga.php.

Utah Lake Fish Forum set for Sept. 18

The Division of Wildlife Resources and the June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program are hosting a public meeting on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2008, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Springville Jr. High School, 165 S. 700 E. in Springville. The meeting is being held to kickoff the Utah Lake Fish Forum, a stakeholder involvement process that will assist the DWR to develop a successful Utah Lake fishery while supporting the recovery of June sucker, an endangered fish that is endemic to Utah Lake.

The Recovery Program has been systematically approaching carp removal for a number of years and is now in the beginning stages of a one-year trial to determine the feasibility of removing 5 million pounds of carp. This activity provides an opportunity for the DWR and the

Recovery Program to work with stakeholders through the Utah Lake Fish Forum process to proactively manage the Utah Lake fish community through regulations, and perhaps active removal of unwanted species in addition to carp.

Following the public meeting on Sept. 18, the Utah Lake Fish Forum will begin to meet on a monthly basis through at least May 2009. Members of the Utah Lake Fish Forum include representatives from the angling community, environmental organizations and other special interest groups. The public is invited to attend and participate with these meetings.

Much of the initial meeting on Sept. 18 will consist of informational presentations and discussion. However, public questions and comments will be accepted at the meeting. The following is the proposed agenda for the initial public meeting on Sept. 18:

Meeting purpose and Utah Lake Fish Forum overview

June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program and Endangered Species Act overview

Shallow lake ecology overview

Carp research results

June sucker stocking efforts

Food web analysis

Utah Lake creel survey

Fish management tools

Conclusion and next steps

Question and answer period

For more information about the Recovery Program or the Utah Lake Fish Forum visit:

www.junesuckerrecovery.org.



U.S. Soldiers to Celebrate National Hunting and Fishing Day

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.--Sometimes the best way to appreciate a special privilege is to imagine life without it.

In recognition of American soldiers serving far from home this autumn, the U.S. Army is hosting a National Hunting and Fishing Day celebration at its Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club near the U.S. military base in Heidelberg, Germany.

This lone overseas commemoration of National Hunting and Fishing Day is set for Sept. 27 to coincide with hundreds of events across the U.S. Visit www.nhfd.org for listings.

Congress formalized the day in 1971 as a public reminder that hunters, anglers and shooters are America's premier conservation supporters. Through licenses and excise taxes, they now generate \$100,000 every 30 minutes for fish, wildlife and habitat programs.

"This year, let National Hunting and Fishing Day also be a remembrance of those whose service to our country will prevent them from joining us afield this fall. On Sept. 27, think about America's outdoor freedoms, their benefits to conservation and the sacrifices that make it all possible," said Denise Wagner of Wonders of Wildlife museum.



Wonders of Wildlife, in Springfield, Mo., is the official home and coordinator of National Hunting and Fishing Day.

Jennifer L. King of the Heidelberg Rod & Gun Club advisory council said, "Our event is a volunteer-driven celebration for U.S. soldiers, military civilians, contractors, German sportsmen and their families. National Hunting and Fishing Day is an American celebration but sportsmen everywhere enjoy sharing the camaraderie and traditions of hunting and fishing. We're thrilled that our German community will be

joining us."

The event will feature informational exhibits, fishing games for kids, a BB fun shoot and competition, archery demonstrations and lessons, a trophy show complete with judging and prizes, food, games and attractions.

Along with the fun, King hopes the event will raise awareness of hunters and anglers throughout the military. Many U.S. soldiers stationed at Heidelberg have seen combat in multiple tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. Others have served in places like Kosovo in support of NATO missions.

"This is a chance for them to take a break, remember their hunting and fishing experiences back home, and tell some tall tales," laughed King.

U.S. Army commanders at Heidelberg provide for hunting and fishing as recreational opportunities for military personnel and their families. Through a special agreement, the German government sponsors fishing courses once a year and hunting courses twice a year for students over 18. Upon completion of the two-month hunting course, followed by written, oral and shooting tests in front of a government hunting board--standard German prerequisites--students qualify for German hunting privileges.



King said, "Frankly, I had college classes that were easier than the German hunting course! But, afterward, we greet each other and our German counterparts with the traditional German greeting for hunters and sport shooters, 'Waidmannsheil!'"

Visit Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club: www.mwrgermany.com/HD/rod_gun/rod_gun.htm U.S.

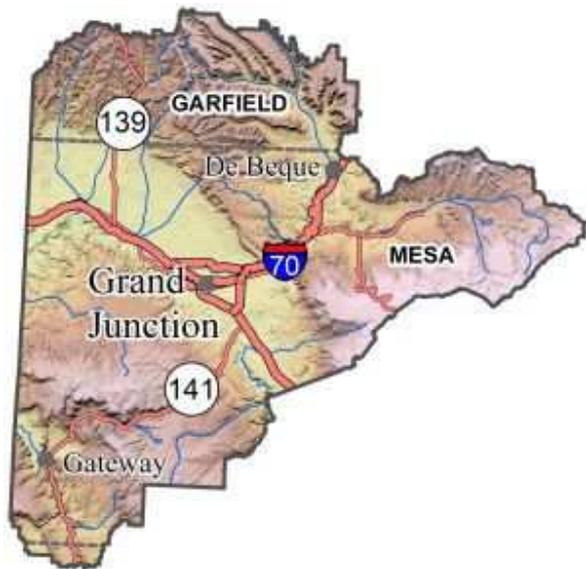
Presidents from Richard M. Nixon through George W. Bush have officially proclaimed support for National Hunting and Fishing Day. Wonders of Wildlife is developing communications campaigns, event-planning tips, promotional items and free online tools to help build public appreciation for hunters, anglers and shooters.

National Hunting and Fishing Day sponsors for 2008 include Wonders of Wildlife, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Bass Pro Shops, The Sportsman Channel, National Wild Turkey Federation, Realtree, Cabela's, Woolrich, GunBroker.com, Outdoor Channel, Safari Club International, Hunting Heritage Trust, Smith & Wesson, *Field & Stream* and *Outdoor Life*, and Yamaha.

BLM approves Whirlwind Mine plan of operations

Grand Junction, Colo.—The Bureau of Land Management has approved the proposed Whirlwind uranium mine operation on public lands five miles southwest of Gateway, Colo.

Under the plan, Energy Fuels Resources of Lakewood, Colo., will reopen two reclaimed underground mines—the Urantah Decline and the Packrat Mine—located on claims in both Grand County, Utah, and Mesa County, Colo. These mines will then be combined into one operation called the Whirlwind Mine.



BLM began an environmental assessment of the proposal in Sept. 2007, which included several opportunities for public involvement. Today's decision incorporates public comment and identifies numerous conditions of approval requiring protective measures and strict monitoring and reporting requirements.

Beginning later this year, the proponent expects to mine 100-200 tons of uranium ore per day from the underground mine over the next decade. The ore will be transported to Blanding, Utah, for processing, via John Brown Road, Colorado State Highway 141, Colorado State Highway 90/Utah State Highway 46 and Highway 191 to Blanding.

The BLM's role in the approval process, as the administrator of public lands, is only part of a complex planning process. The proponent was also required to submit a Mesa County Conditional Use Application, which is similar in content to the Plan of Operations submitted to the BLM. This application was evaluated and approved earlier this year by the county. The 112(d) Permit Application, also similar in content to the Plan of Operations and required of the company, was submitted to the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety and approved by the state in February 2008.

A map of the Whirlwind Mine and additional information may be viewed online at

www.blm.gov/co (select Grand Junction on the interactive map). For more information, please contact Megan Crandall at (801)539-4061 in Utah and David Boyd at (970) 947-2832 in Colo.

Northern Region Fishing Report

BEAR LAKE: Biologist Scott Tolentino reports fishing has improved this week and is considered "good." The best luck for anglers was with lake trout and cutthroat trout. This time of year, lake trout are beginning to stage prior to their spawn and are feeding heavily. The best spots have been off Gus Rich Point, 2nd Point and Cisco Beach in 65–80 feet of water. Use four– to eight–inch plastic tube jigs long tipped with cisco and jigged right on the bottom. Some anglers are also picking up lakers and cutthroat while trolling in these same locations and depths, but jig–fishermen have been doing better overall. Fishing should continue to improve as the weather cools off. The recreation crowds have pretty much left for the year and now the serious anglers are starting to show up. There have been no reports of anglers catching either lake trout or cutthroat off the Utah State Park marina yet. Boat launching is available at the Utah State Park marina and off the ramp at Cisco Beach. The lower water level has made the First Point and Rainbow Cove ramps unusable at this time.



EAST CANYON: Conservation Officer Jonathan Moser reports shore anglers are having success floating PowerBait up off the bottom. There are no reports of fish giving preference to any single PowerBait color. If rainbow isn't working, switch it up and use another color such as pink, dark green, sherbert, chartruse, orange, yellow or peach. Give the bait 20 to 30 minutes and, if you haven't had very many bites, change flavors. Smallmouth bass and crappie could be taken with a tube jig over some rocky structure in the lake.

EAST FORK LITTLE BEAR RIVER: The kokanee salmon are spawning. Please do not chase or handle the fish.

REMINDER: Fishing is closed to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color from August 15 through September 28.

HYRUM STATE PARK: Park Ranger Floyd Powell reports fishing is picking up

with the cooler weather. Anglers report good success on trout and yellow perch. Bluegill are still biting by the old wrecked cars. Large mouth bass are still kind of slow, but some smaller ones are being taken. Not many boaters or fishermen out, so come and see us.

LAKE TOWN POND (Behind Lake Town): Conservation Officer Casey McVay reports that 12–inch trout are being caught.

LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR (Behind Randolph): Conservation Officer Casey McVay reports the reservoir was close to drying up a few weeks ago, but is now about 1/3 full and rising. Fish may be caught on rainbow PowerBait or by floating a worm with a marshmallow.

LOGAN FIRST AND SECOND DAM: Conservation Officer Matt Burgess reports fishing has slowed down.

LOST CREEK: Conservation Officer Jonathan Moser reports boaters were having luck by trolling a triple teaser, or popgear and a worm. Most tried to get their gear down about 25 feet. Shore anglers floated PowerBait, dark green and rainbow were the favorites, up from the bottom. Most of the fish were in the 12– to 14–inch range, but 15– to 17–inch cutthroats were also common.

NEWTON RESERVOIR: Conservation Officer Matt Burgess reports anglers are taking muskie using large spinners, cast masters and rapalas from shore.

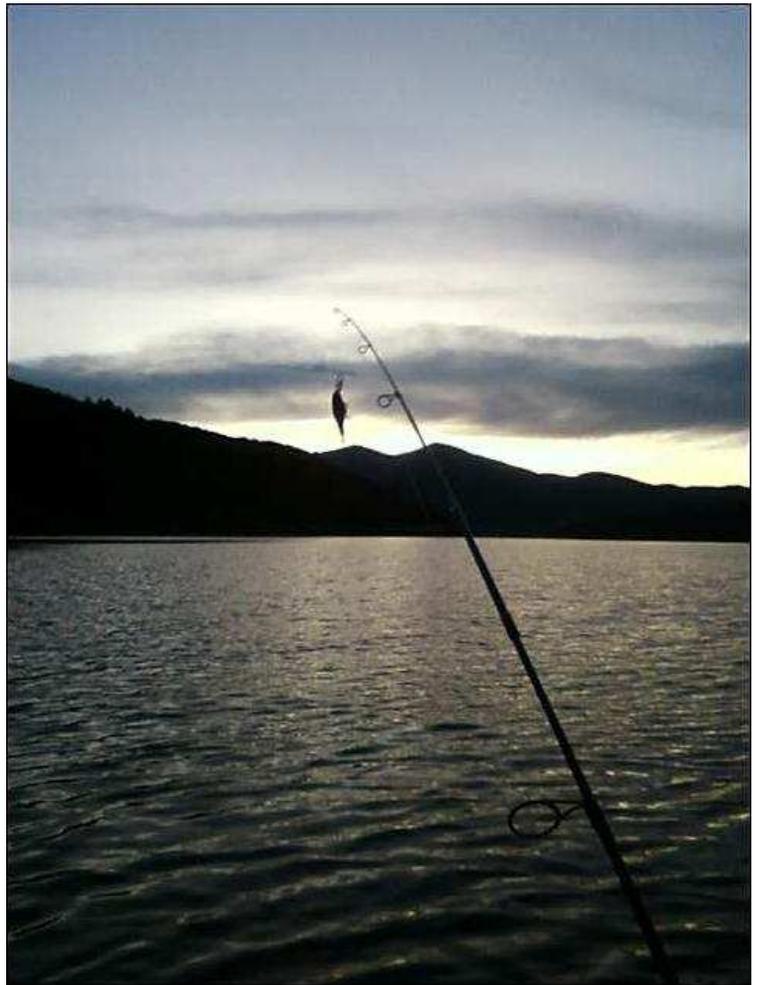
ROCKPORT STATE PARK: Conservation Officer Bruce Johnson reports fishing is slow.

SMITH MOREHOUSE: Conservation Officer Bruce Johnson reports success has slowed down.

WEBER RIVER (between Coalville and Wanship): Conservation Officer Bruce Johnson reports success has slowed down.

Plenty of bull elk in Utah

Rifle hunts starts Oct. 4; a few permits still left



If you're new to elk hunting, the Division of Wildlife Resource's big game coordinator has some advice for you.

A majestic bull elk in northern Utah.

Division of Wildlife Resources photo

"The chance you'll take an elk while driving along a road is pretty small," says Anis Aoude. "As soon as the first shots are fired, the elk head away from the roads and into the thickest cover they can find.

"If you want to be a successful elk hunter, you need to get into that cover too."



Utah's 2008 general rifle bull elk hunt kicks off Oct. 4. And permits for the hunt are almost gone.

On Sept. 17, about 1,200 any bull elk unit permits, and 1,200 spike bull only unit permits, were still available.

You can buy a permit at www.wildlife.utah.gov. Permits are also available at DWR offices and from hunting license agents across Utah.

Elk are doing great

"The weather over the past five years was excellent for elk," Aoude says. "Most of the state's herds are doing great."

Based on surveys this past winter, DWR biologists estimate the state has more than 66,000 elk. That's only 2,600 animals shy of a statewide goal of 68,600 elk.

Aoude says some of the largest elk herds are found on the Central Mountains (Manti) and Wasatch Mountains units in central Utah; the South Slope, Yellowstone unit in northeastern Utah; and the Plateau, Fish Lake/Thousand Lakes unit in south-central Utah.

He says there's also plenty of elk on the Morgan, South Rich unit in northern Utah. This unit is almost entirely private land, however. You must obtain written permission from a landowner before hunting on it.

Finding the elk

Most of Utah's elk hunting takes place on units that are called spike-only units. You may take only a spike bull on these units. Plenty of spike bulls are available on these units, but once the hunt starts, the animals can be tough to find.

"The success rate on spike-only units averages about 18 percent," Aoude says. "Fortunately, there are several things you can do to increase the chance that you take an elk."



Unless it gets cold and snowy before the hunt, Aoude says elk will be scattered at higher elevations when the season opens Oct. 4. He says the key to finding them is to get off the roads and into the backcountry.

"Elk are smart and wary, and they're sensitive to hunting pressure," Aoude says. "As soon as the shooting starts, they head into the thickest cover they can find. To find success, you've got

to head into the backcountry and find them."

The rut (breeding period), which occurs right before the general rifle hunt starts, can also make it challenging to find spike bulls.

During the rut, mature bulls gather groups of cow elk to breed. If one of these large bulls sees a spike bull, he'll chase the spike bull off.

Being chased into the cover by the bigger bulls makes the already nervous spike bulls more apt to head back into the cover once the bullets start flying.

"The larger bulls probably scare the spike bulls as much as the hunters do," Aoude says. "Unless you get into the backcountry areas where the spikes are hiding, you're probably not going to see many."

"The good news is, if you do get into the backcountry, there's a good chance you'll be among the 18 percent who take a spike bull this year."

OHV maps don't leave home without one

The most important reminder Aoude has for elk hunters is for those who will be using off-highway vehicles. "It's critical that you obtain an OHV riding map for the area you're going to hunt," he says. "These maps are available from the agency that manages the land you'll be hunting on. That agency is usually the U.S. Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management."

HUNTING AND OHVs
Off-highway vehicles (OHVs) are a great means of transportation to hunting areas. At the same time, you need to be considerate of other hunters and make every effort to avoid disturbing wildlife.

Hunting and OHV Tips:

- Begin hunting only after parking your machine at a designated parking area.
- Know and follow vehicle use regulations for your hunting unit so you don't ruin another hunter's trip.
- Stay on existing roads or trails, and ride ethically to protect natural resources, wildlife habitat and your riding privileges.
- It is illegal to carry loaded firearms on and/or shoot from OHVs.
- Drivers eight through 15 must possess an OHV education certificate to legally drive on public land.
- Drivers 16 and older must have a valid driver's license or an OHV certificate.
- Properly fitted and fastened helmets are recommended for all riders; and are required for those under 18.
- Out of state residents riding OHVs to Utah may need to purchase a non-resident permit. Call 1-800-OHV-RIDE.
- OHVs operated or transported on public lands, roads or trails must be registered.

If you see a hunter violating OHV rules, please contact the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources at 1-800-662-DEER.

Utah State Parks is the state OHV authority, providing access, education, and search and rescue on Utah's trails.

1-800-OHV-RIDE 
stateparks.utah.gov

Aoude says the DWR is receiving more and more complaints about OHVs being taken into areas where it's not legal to take them. "Taking OHVs into these areas damages the habitat the elk rely on, disturbs and scatters the animals, and ruins the hunting experience for other hunters."

Aoude also encourages you to do some preseason scouting and to check the boundary descriptions for the areas you'll be hunting.

Boundary descriptions are found in the 2008 Utah Big Game Guidebook. The guidebook is available at www.wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks and from DWR offices and hunting license agents across Utah.

Great Salt Lake water level could affect duck hunt

Season opens Oct. 4

If you chased ducks and geese in Utah last fall, then you already know how many birds should be in Utah this season.



Two American wigeons.

Division of Wildlife Resources photo

The numbers should be about the same.

One thing that will be different, though, is the level of the Great Salt Lake.

Utah's 107-day waterfowl season kicks off Sept. 27 when the state hosts its annual Youth Hunting Day. Youth Hunting Day is open to

hunters 15 years of age and younger.

The state's general waterfowl hunt begins Oct. 4.

Keeping birds in Utah

In the fall, two factors determine how long ducks stay in Utah: the level of the Great Salt Lake and the weather. And right now, the Great Salt Lake is nearing its lowest level since 1963.

"Ducks use the lake as a place to escape hunters," Aldrich says. "They rest on the lake during the day and then fly back into the marshes in the evenings and in the mornings to feed.

"Because the amount of surface water on the lake has decreased so much, the ducks have fewer places to rest. And that increases the chance that they'll leave the state early."

In addition to providing ducks a place to rest, two freshwater areas of the Great Salt Lake the Farmington Bay and Willard Spur portions of the lake are important feeding areas. "Both of these areas are drier than we like to see," Aldrich says. "I'm not sure how much food they'll provide ducks this year."

As important as the Great Salt Lake is, the biggest factor in keeping ducks in Utah is the weather. "Good numbers of ducks will stay in Utah into late November or even early December if the weather stays warm and calm," Aldrich says. "But if lots of big storms hit and the temperature gets cold, the ducks will start to leave."

Number of ducks and geese

Aldrich says the number of ducks and geese in Utah this fall should be similar to last season.

"Many of the nesting areas in the Intermountain West and up into southern Alberta were drier this past spring than they were the year before. But they weren't dry enough to have a big effect on the overall number of birds," Aldrich says.



"Also, some of the ducks that are the most plentiful in Utah, such as green-winged teal, nest in west-central Canada and Alaska. Alaska provides good nesting conditions almost every year because the conditions in Alaska rarely change."

Marsh conditions

Aldrich says the conditions you find at the state's waterfowl management areas will vary depending on which WMA you visit.

"The Farmington Bay and Ogden Bay WMAs are fed by major rivers. They receive good amounts of water every year, and they'll be in great shape again this season," he says. "At the other end of the spectrum are WMAs that we don't have secure water rights for or that are fed by springs.

"For example, the Locomotive Springs WMA will be very dry again this year. The Salt Creek and Public Shooting Grounds WMAs will have water in the main units, but the flat areas below the diked units at the Public Shooting Grounds will be pretty dry."

Aldrich says the four main units at the Clear Lake WMA should have water in them when the season opens on Oct. 4. But the outer units, including the popular area on the west side of the WMA, probably won't have water in them until the middle of the season.

Learn more

You can learn more about this year's waterfowl hunt by listening to an interview with Aldrich. The interview is available at www.wildlife.utah.gov/radio.

Rules, season dates and bag limits for the upcoming season are available in the 2008–2009 Utah Waterfowl Guidebook. The free guidebook is available at www.wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks

Bear River Refuge Road Open - Prescribed Burn Planned - Hunting Units Open

The Bear River Refuge road re-opened to the public on Saturday, September 20. Minor delays of 15 to 30 minutes may be encountered as construction work continues through the fall season. Good progress is being made and visitors will find a much smoother and wider gravel road through the project area.



Refuge staff will be also be conducting a prescribed burn in early October, with a goal of burning several hundred acres in Unit 2, which is encircled by the auto tour route. Burning is expected to be completed in one day with monitoring by staff to follow until the fire is declared out. During the burn, the public will not be allowed into that portion of the refuge, due to the hazardous nature of the activity. Adjacent units may also be closed during the burn to avoid any possible risk to the public.

The burn will decrease the number of wetland acres occupied by the invasive plant species known as Phragmites, which often displaces more desirable plant species that provide food and cover to wild birds. The strategy to control this plant is to apply an herbicide in the fall when the plant is drawing resources to the roots and rhizomes and follow up with a prescribed burn.

Due to wetland draw downs necessary during road construction, and subsequent plans to conduct the prescribed burn, Unit 2 and the most northern parts of Unit 3 may not be refilled with water until mid to late October. All other Refuge wetland units open to waterfowl hunting should be full by the waterfowl season opener on October 4, with the exception of Unit 9. A hunting and fishing map with regulations can be found on the Refuge web site at <http://bearriver.fws.gov>. You may also call the Refuge for information at (435) 723-5887.



Refuge Staff appreciates the public's patience and understanding during this year of major construction projects and habitat work. When these projects are completed, the result will be a safe and smooth ride to the Refuge, where improved habitat will host multitudes of birds for all visitors to enjoy.