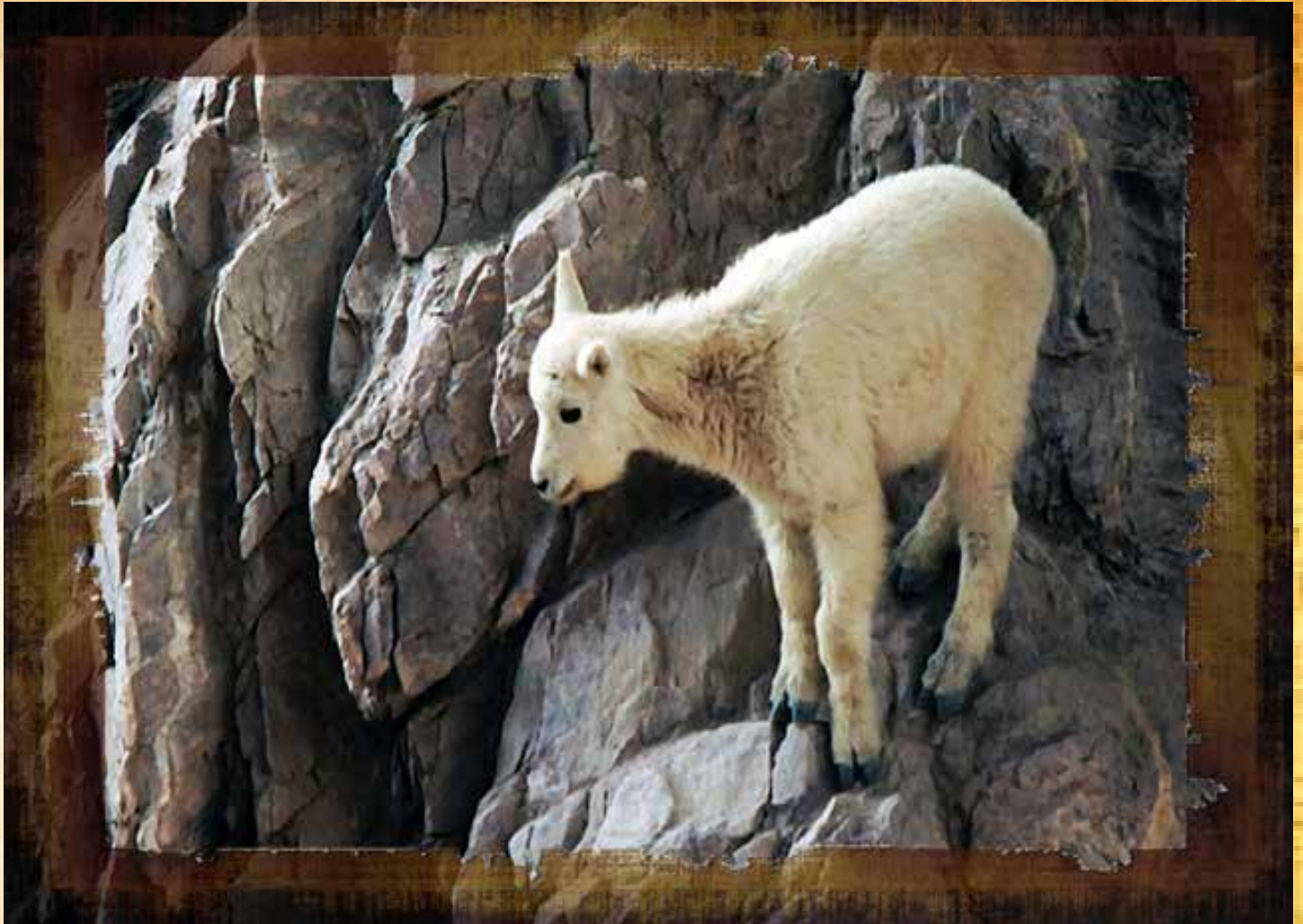


NORTHWEST OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION  
**NOWA FIELD NOTES**

NOWA NEWS JULY-AUGUST 2016



...Michel Hersen photo

2017 NOWA CONFERENCE SITE  
OPINION: STEALING YOUR PUBLIC LANDS  
CRAFT IMPROVEMENT  
MEMBER/SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS  
NOWA FUNDS

# NORTHWEST OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION

NOWA NEWS JULY-AUGUST 2016

[www.northwest-outdoor-writers-association.org](http://www.northwest-outdoor-writers-association.org)

## NOWA NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Chuck Robbins  
199 Antelope Dr.  
Dillon, MT 59725  
406-925-3081  
[crobb@bresnan.net](mailto:crobb@bresnan.net)

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## NOWA HEADQUARTERS

Executive Director  
Adela Jackson  
PO Box 82222  
Fairbanks, AK 99708  
907-322-8000  
[adelajackson@hotmail.com](mailto:adelajackson@hotmail.com)



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE/JOB OP/LAKE PEND OREILLE BASS

## STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

It's common knowledge that a group of people has more influence and power than one person. Some say the group gives an emotional and moral strength, a courage that can only be realized in a group of like-minded, committed people. Recently Steve Kerr, coach of the Golden State Warriors, adopted this slogan to exhibit his team's "cultural philosophy," and it has been well embraced by the fans, players and coaches. Yes, there are individual stars on the team, but even the stars serve at the pleasure of the owners, coaches, teammates and fans.

NOWA too, is an organization that benefits greatly from our Strength in Numbers. In fact, without members such as you and me, joining together on boards and committees, NOWA would cease to exist. Our strength is demonstrated most clearly at our annual conference when we gather to socialize, network, learn, and engage with the governance of NOWA. Our strength is also recognized by our conference host cities and our 40+ NOWA supporting members. NOWA is perceived by these entities to be *a powerful and talented group of professionals with wide reach and media influence*. I would agree! We are powerful, especially as a whole. We are also passionate, professional, ethical, hardworking, singly focused and mission driven.

This kind of organization takes a lot of behind the scenes work and planning. It requires the work of committees, the board, and the executive director throughout the year, not just at each conference. These committees are responsible for a range of duties including new member recruitment, marketing and financial management. NOWA has tasked itself with 20 committees of which 17 have one or more volunteers.

### **We need more NOWA members on committees.**

One way to help you consider a committee is to read through the committee descriptions on the website and see what may be of interest or where your skills may be used. All are welcome to join a committee.

*Member recruitment is thought by many within NOWA to be a top priority concern – without new members ("new blood"), NOWA will wither away. That is why it's imperative that each NOWA member be on the lookout for potential new members. But how does one do that? Here are a few tips:*

**Know the qualifications for becoming a member, the various memberships and the process of joining:** The qualifications and process are outlined on the website and the application.

**Invite someone to become a member:** My guess is you encounter at least one or two qualified people a year ready to become NOWA members. As a magazine editor I get to meet many talented writers, photographers and artist all of whom would make

excellent NOWA members. All they need is an invitation.

**Don't be shy about inviting someone:** heaven knows I am the worst salesperson in the world, but most people will be flattered to be invited and ask questions about how joining NOWA would benefit them.

**Be able to summarize the benefits of joining:** Outlined on the website

**Have your new recruit fill out an application:** Available on the website, on which you have to sign as a sponsor. The application as well as a fee is mailed into NOWA and reviewed by the committee for new members.

Recruiting members during the summer, fall and winter months also helps NOWA make money outside of the conference. As an incentive, members who recruit three or more new members get \$50.



...Craig Schuhmann

## NATURE CONSERVANCY SEEKS MANAGING EDITOR

For full job description and more information please visit:  
[www.FishingWire.com](http://www.FishingWire.com)

...John Kruse

## LAKE PEND OREILLE (SANDPOINT, ID) BASS



Lake Pend Oreille is widely known for its big trout. Less well-known is its bass fishery, both large and smallmouth bass. The river coming out of the lake is one of the best bass fisheries in Idaho. Large mouth in 3-6 pound class and 4 pound smallies are common. The best places to catch largemouth are the many sloughs off the main river. The best smallie fishing is in the main river.

...Chuck Robbins

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## 2017 NOWA CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR SANDPOINT, IDAHO



I'm happy to announce the location for our 2017 Conference will be in Sandpoint, Idaho, April 27-30. The La Quinta Hotel is offering us a \$65 room rate that includes a free breakfast. This rate will also be offered two days prior and two days after the conference for those planning on pre or post trips. To make room reservations, contact La Quinta at 208-263-9581.

Our contact is Kate McAlister, President/CEO of the Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce, phone 208-263-2161. Email [kate@sandpointchamber.com](mailto:kate@sandpointchamber.com). According to Kate, the weather during the shoulder season is unpredictable, much like our conference at Diamond Lake.

Having our conference location and date selected this early gives us the opportunity to plan and commit to attend and also invite new members. I hope you take advantage of this when planning your schedule and use this date to "plan around".

If you are flying to the conference, the nearest airport is Spokane, WA. Sandpoint is a two-hour drive beyond that.

On my way from the Diamond Lake Conference to Alaska I stopped in Seattle to visit long-time NOWA member, Jean Bullard. At 92, Jean is still very active. I treasure her "words of wisdom".

Hope your summer is filled with lots of fun outdoor adventures!



...Adela Jackson



...Top to Bottom, La Quinta Hotel Auditorium, Community Room, Meeting Room, Park Adjacent; Ron Kerr photos

## 2017 NOWA CONFERENCE, SANDPOINT, ID



Gary Lewis fishes with his grandson, Holden West. The boy is 1-1/2-years-old, and he caught his first trout on a Daiichi hook tipped with a Berkley Gulp! Alive pinched plastic crawler...Merrilee Lewis photo

## WRITING BETTER CAPTIONS

What is a caption? The Harper Collins Spanish Dictionary calls it a *leyenda*. Not very helpful, you say? That is the point. A caption should be helpful. Most important, the caption should help sell the book or magazine.

A caption is a point of entry. The potential buyer picks up the publication and sees a picture of a person fishing. He glances at the caption. It reads, "Dave Kilhefner fishes Diamond Lake." Big deal. *Grande pacto*. The buyer picks up another magazine, thumbs it open and reads, "After researching weather patterns and feeding behaviors of Diamond Lake's rainbows, Dave Kilhefner tied on a black Mack's Lure Smile Blade Fly, which closely resembles the most reliable food source in May."

Which magazine is giving the potential buyer the most value?

When I put together a feature package for a magazine, I write the captions last. But I never minimize the caption's importance.

A book or a magazine has multiple points of entry: text, cover photos, author photos, author bios, first paragraphs, pull quotes, sidebars, feature photos, captions, advertisements and more. If any of these elements are poorly crafted, they become weak spots. When we write better captions, we make our editors smile and the publisher can afford to make the next payment on his Mercedes.

It helps to know what each editor likes. Let's hear from them:

One newspaper editor in a nuclear-free zone said he likes one- or two-sentence captions. "We don't have enough space," he said. But he finished by telling me he would rather cut words than have to add to it.

A magazine editor from the Beehive State said his major pet peeve is not having the full name or the proper spelling of a person's name. And he hates an ellipsis. It should never be used in place of a comma. If you don't know what an ellipsis is, look it up.

An editor, whose home state proudly honors the brown thrasher, said writers need to pay more attention to the proper spelling and usage of place names.

He went on to say, "Ideally, a caption creates interest for the reader. If a photo includes someone bowhunting elk, it would be more useful to note a fact, tip or statistic about pursuing elk with a bow than simply listing the hunter's name and the fact that they are bowhunting elk."

Captions are a really big deal for one of my favorite editors from the Beaver State. "The first thing readers look at is the photo. If it's compelling, they will read the caption. If the caption is compelling, they MIGHT read the article. I could stop right there, but I won't. The first thing the reader wants to know is "What am I looking at?" So the first sentence of the caption explains in present tense what is going on (not what was going on when it was taken)."

Here are some rules to remember when wrapping up a photo submission.

1. If the photo is worthy of consideration for publication, it is worthy of a caption.
2. Each photo should have a number that corresponds to a number on the caption.
3. Each caption should answer the 5 Ws (who, what, when, where and why).
4. Include the photo credit as you would like it to read.
5. Include the caption page at the end of the article file.
6. Include a contact sheet with caption names keyed to the caption page.

The fevered editor is often overworked, underpaid and under deadline. Our Beaver State editor said, "When I'm done with this layout and all that's left are captions, I'm not in a thinking mode anymore. Make it easy on me, or you and generations of your family will suffer."

...Gary Lewis

*Gary is a two-time past president of NOWA, currently serving on the Craft Improvement committee. If you would like to submit a craft improvement article, contact Gary Lewis at [garylewisoutdoors@gmail.com](mailto:garylewisoutdoors@gmail.com)*

# CRAFT IMPROVEMENT/CONFERENCE DONORS

## GOT AN ASSIGNMENT? READ BEFORE YOU WRITE

Short & sweet simple tip: When you sit down at the keyboard to write that article you've been putting off while you've been killing closer snakes, read that assignment letter again. You may find the editor has offered a tweak or wrinkle to your original query. I'm sometimes unpleasantly surprised to see how far a finished article has drifted from the query and the assignment.

So please save us both some needless work for which neither of us will get paid extra, and check that road map again before you back out of the garage.

...Duane Dungannon, Editor, Oregon Hunter  
([www.oregonhunters.org](http://www.oregonhunters.org))

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### Non-member Donations

Buck Knives  
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Pastime Fishing Adventures, Donald Koskela  
Thom Powell

On behalf of NOWA Members, thank you...Jo Wilson



...Mary Szafranski enjoying view from Diamond Lake Dock, Keith Szafranski photo



...Manzanita and Lichen, Diamond Lake, OR, Keith Szafranski photo

## STEALING OUR PUBLIC LANDS

Recently the House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee passed H. R. 2316 and 3650 (both bills passed on a near straight party line vote, Republicans for, Democrats against. Both are attempts to usurp Federal control of National Forest Lands under the guise “states and local governments know best how to manage our forests.” Truth is, both are thinly-veiled back-door first steps to stealing our public lands, transfer National Forest and BLM lands to various states. Should they become law based on the economic reality alone, that states simply cannot afford to manage the tens of millions acres involved and our public lands will be sold off to the highest bidders and we who enjoy hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, biking, whatever, will be shut out. Folks the clock is ticking get your heads out the sand, voice your opposition to this insanity loud and clear before it’s too late.

While the ramifications of such a mass land transfer are complex, two things you should know. Laws vary state to state but in most cases the state land boards by law must sell off any state lands not turning a profit. Some states ban recreation on state lands. Obviously, either way, we sportsmen and recreationists LOSE.

If you do not believe states have already sold off millions of acres state lands consider the following examples:

Arizona granted 10.5 million acres at statehood, now has 9.3 million left...

Colorado granted 4.8 million acres at statehood, now has 3 million left...

Idaho granted 3.7 million acres at statehood, now has 2.4 million left...

Montana granted 5.7 million acres at statehood, now has 5.2 million left...

New Mexico granted a whopping 13.5 million acres now has 9 million left...

Oregon granted 3.5 million acres, now has 1.6 million left...

Utah, where all this nonsense originates, granted 6 million acres, now has 3.4 million left...

Wyoming granted 4.2 million acres, now has 3.5 million left...

And get this:

At the time of statehood Nevada requested Congress to allow them to handpick 2.1 million acres of the “best” land available. Congress granted the request. And guess what? The politicians then sold all but 142,000 acres to themselves and their rich and powerful buddies for a whopping \$1.50 per acre...Imagine.

Do the math, that’s 54 million acres granted at statehood to 9 western states, which have sold off 16 million acres or about 30% of the original land grant. Is there any reason to doubt similar sell-offs will continue should the state land boards suddenly find

themselves with tens of millions of acres which by law must turn a profit?

Using my home state of Montana as example. During the last legislative session, a bill promoted as “we must stop the state from acquiring anymore land” but in reality was an Ag sponsored billed aimed at curtailing hunters and anglers from gaining access to locked-out public lands thru Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks purchases—you know useless parcels such as Wildlife Management Areas and State Owned Fishing Access Sites (heaven forbid we allow the bastards to continue to grow public land and water access). Referred to as “No New Gain” the question then is “what happens to the 30 million acres our politicians are drooling to get their greedy little hands on?”

Given Montana’s huge land area, relatively small population (less than 1 million), not much money lying around to cover even basic services (I live on a pot-holed, wash-boarded gravel county road which if we’re lucky sees a grader once each year) which struggles to manage 5 million acres state trust lands. Granted 30 million more, it doesn’t take a genius to figure the only way out is to sell, sell, sell.

More or less the same scenario exists for all the other western states.

For a far more level-headed and complete take on the issues check out Randy Newberg’s ongoing You Tube series: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLDxutimd-JsEtFEIVd4kfF-hn3EMTBRRuC>

Randy’s packed a whole lot of information into a series of short videos (like 2-7 minutes each) and, unlike your brash newsletter editor, somehow manages to do so while barely raising his hackles.

NOWA Supporting Members, *Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Bass Pro Shops and others are knee deep in the fight to keep Public Lands Public. If you agree, please let them know you value and support their efforts.*

...Chuck Robbins

## JOHN KRUSE

### AMERICA OUTDOORS RADIO LAUNCHES ON 21 STATIONS

America Outdoors Radio, presented by Northwest Sportsman Magazine, launched June 4th on 21 stations in five states, covering major markets like Seattle/Everett, Spokane, Portland,



# MEMBER NEWS

and beyond. The hour long show will focus on fishing, hunting and the shooting sports. The host and producer of the show is John Kruse, who will continue to host his regional outdoors radio show, Northwestern Outdoors, which is heard on 56 stations in the northwestern United States.

Northwest Sportsman ([www.nwspportsmanmag.com](http://www.nwspportsmanmag.com)), a monthly glossy magazine, is the premier source of actionable fishing and hunting opportunities in the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. With input from top guides and expert sportsmen, the magazine gives readers intelligent advice on how to harvest more fish and game that month, as well as provide insight into major issues affecting fish and wildlife.

When asked why he was rolling out a second show John Kruse replied, "There's a lot of interest in these topics. You've got 33 million Americans who fish, 14 million that hunt, and 21 million who enjoy target shooting."

America Outdoors Radio is also sponsored by Northwest Sportsman's sister publications, American Shooting Journal, California Sportsman Magazine and Alaska Sporting Journal. It is being distributed through ftp downloads and by satellite courtesy of the Talk Media Network. You can find out more about the show at [www.americaoutdoorsradio.com](http://www.americaoutdoorsradio.com) Stations interested in carrying the show can contact John Kruse at [john@northwesternoutdoors.com](mailto:john@northwesternoutdoors.com)

Since its June launch AOR has added three new stations in five states. The hour long show covering fishing, hunting and the shooting sports will now be heard on News Talk 1150 KAGO in Klamath Falls, Oregon as well as KLCK 1400 in Goldendale, Washington and KCNR 1460 in Redding, California.

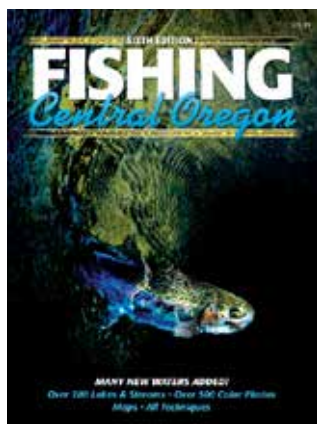
## GARY LEWIS

### FISHING CENTRAL OREGON SPORTS/OUTDOOR RECREATION

ISBN: 978-0-9761244-8-1;  
Softbound: 8-1/4" x 11";  
228 pages; Price: \$29.99

Want to know where to fish in Central Oregon? Want to know the best times and places to catch fish right now?

This 6th edition of FISHING Central Oregon features over 500 color photos highlighting more than 200 lakes and streams. A large number of aerial views provide perspective on area lakes. Detailed maps show access points, boat launches, campgrounds, day-use areas and best fishing



spots. Descriptions of each lake and stream include fish species, the regulations, techniques and best times to fish

In this 6th edition, Gary Lewis enlisted Brooke Snaveley to update many of the chapters from previous editions. Lewis added about 20 waters and updated many chapters including those originally written by Raven Wing. Robert H. Campbell contributed an all new look at Elk Lake.

Also included: How To Fish, recipes, charts, info on float tubes and boats and hiring guides, valuable information from partner advertisers and much more. FISHING Central Oregon, the 6th Edition, is a great addition to any angler's library. Keep a copy at home, on the coffee table, and put one in the boat!

Gary Lewis Outdoors PO Box 1364, Bend Oregon 97709

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

## SCOTT LINDEN

### FIOCCHI FRIENDS LAUNCHES 4TH YEAR ON WINGSHOOTING USA TV

Wingshooting USA TV sponsor Fiocchi USA launches its fourth annual



"Fiocchi Friends" photo contest when the television program debuts this season's new episodes on ten networks this week. The good-natured competition is open to anyone who wants to submit a photo of their hunting dog.

"Many of the accompanying stories revealed how close bird hunters are to their four-footed companions," said Wingshooting USA creator/host Scott Linden. Fans of the show submit their photos at Fiocchi USA's Facebook page ([facebook.com/Fiocchi.of.America](https://facebook.com/Fiocchi.of.America)), and in years past images have run the gamut from intense concentration to hilarious, including dachshunds in military regalia and a "hunting cat." Some winners are chosen by number of fan votes, others by a Fiocchi committee. They will be announced in early September.

Last year's contest attracted hundreds of photos of dozens of breeds, with many images worthy of a magazine cover. In fact, more than a dozen of the finalists' photos were featured in the 2016 Fiocchi catalog, the most coveted of prizes. Winners also receive Fiocchi gear, and a chance to be featured on Wingshooting USA.

**2017 NOWA CONFERENCE, SANDPOINT, ID  
BE THERE!!!**

# NOWA FUNDS/DIAMOND LAKE UPDATE

## NOWA FUNDS TO ENHANCE MEMBER BENEFITS AND RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS

In his open letter to the Editor in the February 2016 Newsletter, 30-year member Dave Vedder called upon the NOWA Board to develop creative ideas for spending the funds in the organization's Endowment Trusts, an amount approaching \$60,000.

It's important to understand how this amount accumulated. Long-time members will recall several decades ago that NOWA's coffers were virtually empty. Through astute financial planning, former executive directors Ron Kerr and then Debbie Kerr succeeded in building up about \$40,000 in reserves.

In addition, four years ago the Board authorized the Finance Committee (consisting of Dave Kilhefner, Ron Kerr, and me) to invest these funds in a way that minimized risk while virtually assuring an annual 5%+ dividend cash flow. Since then the value of the investments has grown almost 50% while at the same time creating \$3,000 each year for the board to spend at its discretion. For the future, the goal of the Finance Committee is to build the endowments over the next 5-7 years to a target of \$100,000 while at the same time spending each year the annual dividend income, which should reach almost \$6,000 annually during this time period.

Dave Vedder rightfully raises the question: what do we plan to do with these funds? The answer is two-fold: to enhance member benefits and to recruit new members.

### **Programs to develop more membership benefits include:**

- Authorize up to \$1,000 for the conference planner to pay conference speakers for their travel costs, accommodations, meals, and a small stipend; this amount was paid out for the first time this year.
- Provide two Stan Jones scholarships at \$99 each to pay the conference fee for the awardees; in years past there was either none or only one scholarship awarded.
- Provide fellowships to help financially strapped members attend the annual conference. Confidentiality and discretion will be assured.
- Provide EIC prize money to contest winners for categories that are otherwise unsponsored. This year the endowments provided an amount of \$1,778. In the future, we hope to increase the overall financial awards for the EIC contest winners
- Pay if necessary for one-night accommodations and meals for board members who must come to the conference one night early to attend the board meeting. Last year the Endowments paid \$1,000 to cover these expenses. This year Adela, our new executive director, arranged for these expenses to be comped by our host.

- Provide funds for the annual wine conference social.
- Provide funds for the annual operating expenses if expenses exceed revenue; last year the Endowments paid \$1,200 to get NOWA through a difficult financial situation.
- Provide funds to upgrade the NOWA Newsletter
- Source of funds for special member benefit projects that may be approved by the board during the year and are not included in the annual budget.

### **Programs to recruit new members:**

(Note: none of these items have been approved by the board and are currently concepts or nice-to-dos that have been proposed by members and are only in the discussion stage.)

- Place ads in magazines and newspapers announcing that NOWA's EIC Contest is also open to non-members living in the NOWA geographic area. This will hopefully bring in new members and make NOWA known to outdoor media producers unfamiliar with our organization.
- Pay membership fees to kindred organizations such as Outdoor Nation to make NOWA known to a broader range of outdoor media types.
- Provide financial stipends to potential new members unable to afford annual dues and conference fees.
- Print and send new recruiting brochures to journalism schools throughout the NOWA geographic area.

These are just a few ideas being considered to use our Endowment funds. Members are encouraged to submit other suggestions, which will be considered at the next (electronic) board meeting.

Thank you, Dave, for raising this issue and beginning this dialogue.

...Peter Schroeder

## DIAMOND LAKE TIGER TROUT

For the first time ever, tiger trout will soon be swimming in Diamond Lake's crystal blue waters.

Biologists hope these sterile trout prey on any invasive fish once they are large enough next spring. Tiger trout are a hybrid between a female brown trout and a male brook trout.

Diamond Lake will get 5,000 tiger trout in the six to seven-inch size range the week of June 6 with another 13,000 fingerlings a few weeks later. ODFW purchased the trout from Cold Springs Trout Farm, a private Utah hatchery, through grant funding from the Umpqua Fisheries Enhancement Derby and Sport Fish Restoration.

...Continued

# DIAMOND LAKE UPDATE/FISHING NEWS OUTLET

Another 300,000 rainbow trout fingerlings were stocked the week of June 6 and should be legal-sized this fall. Rainbow trout fishing right now is excellent and the fish are biting well.

Tiger trout angling is catch-and-release only while the rainbow trout limit is five legal-sized (eight inches) trout per day with two daily limits in possession and just one trout per day over 20 inches.



ODFW treated Diamond Lake with rotenone in 2006, ridding it of an estimated 90 million tui chub, an invasive bait fish that reproduces rapidly. In 2008, biologists discovered golden shiners, another illegally introduced bait fish in the lake. Late last fall, a single tui chub was found during routine monitoring.

ODFW worked with the Umpqua National Forest, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Douglas County to form a joint action plan for managing the lake and its fishery. The plan includes monitoring and a fish stocking strategy.

“We all felt tiger trout were the way to go,” said ODFW District Fish Biologist Greg Huchko. “Because these fish are sterile, there isn’t a risk to North Umpqua River native fish. And once they’re about 14 inches, they should begin to prey on golden shiners and tui chub.”

Huchko hopes the tiger trout will take advantage of shiners’ and tui chubs’ life history. Both are minnows that spawn at smaller physical sizes and prefer to congregate in large schools close to shore.

“Tiger trout aren’t afraid to hunt in just a few inches of water, particularly in the early morning and late evening, so we’re hoping they’ll follow the shiners, and any chub, into the shallows,” Huchko said.

June 1, ODFW seasonal employees began intensive fish species monitoring at Diamond Lake with funding help from partners.

The two technicians will remove golden shiners and any tui chub via beach seines, fyke nets, electro-fishing, and trap nets. They will also monitor the tiger trout and rainbow trout populations by creel and diet surveys and operate a smolt trap near the lake’s outlet.

Contact: Greg Huchko, 541-440-3353; Meghan Dugan, 541-440-3353

...Duane Dungannon

## FISHING WIRE SEEKS TOURNAMENT NEWS, PRODUCT NEWS AND MORE

The Fishing Wire, a daily news service reaching more than 155,000 subscribers, is a useful spot for airing industry news, tournament information, new product releases, conservation concerns and lots of other data relevant to recreational fishing and boating nationwide.

Material can be sent in MS Word format to [frank@thefishingwire.com](mailto:frank@thefishingwire.com). We can often post material received before 5 p.m. Central Time in the next day’s issue. There is no charge for posting one-time material, but we reserve the right to use only releases of our own choosing.

We also welcome regular releases from Corporate Members, who pay an annual fee to post as much product and company news as they like year around.

New subscribers are always welcome, and there’s no charge for receiving the Fishing Wire daily in your email. Visit the website [www.thefishingwire.com](http://www.thefishingwire.com) and hit the “Subscribe” button to subscribe.

For information on becoming a Corporate Member, contact editor Frank Sargeant at [256 498 0444](tel:2564980444), or [Frankmakol@gmail.com](mailto:Frankmakol@gmail.com).



...River Trickle, Keith Szafranski photo

## BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS AND ANGLERS

### RNC Promotes Transfer of Public Lands

A recent decision by the Republican National Committee's platform panel to endorse an amendment promoting the transfer of public lands to individual states prompted the following response from Backcountry Hunters & Anglers President and CEO Land Tawney:



"Backcountry Hunters & Anglers is profoundly disappointed, therefore, in the vote by Republican delegates to transfer ownership of our public lands and waters to the states. This decision fails to uphold the interests and values of American citizens and, if implemented, would have severe negative repercussions for our cherished landscapes, the fish and wildlife that inhabit them, and the outdoor opportunities enjoyed by millions."

### Industry Leaders Rally to Support BHA's 'Stream Access Now'

Access to streams and waterways is the most important factor in public participation in - and the perpetuation of - outdoor traditions such as angling and hunting.

Public access opportunities, however, are far from guaranteed. Laws governing ownership of streambeds vary widely from state to state. Well-moneyed efforts to further lock out everyday sportsmen from public rivers are advancing, with several major losses occurring in recent years. This impacts not only individuals but also an entire industry.

Until now, no national sportsmen's group has tackled the issue of stream access.

At ICAST/IFTD, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers launched a national campaign, [Stream Access Now](#). BHA has emerged as the leading sportsmen's voice on issues related to conservation of our public lands and waters - and our ability to access these places. **Stream Access Now** focuses not only on engaging and informing anglers and other sportsmen about stream access; it also works to combat the greatest threats to access, state by state.

Alongside some of the most influential brands in the angling industry, BHA launched a campaign to raise funds and awareness around the issue of stream access. This will enable us to uphold, enhance and expand access to flowing waters - our birthright as Americans and a mainstay of the outdoors industry.

Contact: Katie McKalip, [mckalip@backcountryhunters.org](mailto:mckalip@backcountryhunters.org)

## BASS PRO SHOPS

Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium poised to celebrate and inspire wildlife conservation with immersive habitats, and inter-



active displays.

Johnny Morris, founder of Bass Pro Shops and leading conservationist, in partnership with noted conservationists from around the country, has unveiled details for a world-class destination experience in Springfield, Mo. *Wonders of Wildlife* will open late summer 2016 as one of the largest, most immersive conservation attractions in the world.



Anchored by an all-new aquarium adventure and dynamic wildlife galleries, the 315,000-square-foot experience recreates natural environments, with an incredible and artistic eye for detail, inviting visitors to become fully embraced in a diversity of textures, colors, lighting, sounds and smells of nature from swamps to rainforests. Visitors of all ages will engage with nature like never before. Through thoroughly immersive environments and vibrant and exciting live animal habitats, Wonders of Wildlife showcases the beauty of wildlife and celebrates the critical role responsible hunting and fishing play in conserving the great outdoors, honoring past accomplishments and ongoing efforts.

The attraction consists of an all-new 1.3-million-gallon aquarium adventure showcasing 35,000 live fish, mammals, reptiles and birds in a tour through the world's underwater habitats; completely immersive wildlife galleries that bring visitors eye-to-eye with the greatest collection of record-setting big game animals ever assembled from North America, Africa and the Arctic; and a conservation education center for youth programs, conservation groups and events.

### All-new Aquarium Adventure and Fishing Heritage Hall

Wonder of Wildlife's centerpiece is an entirely new aquarium designed by renowned aquarium architect Michael Olesak that plunges guests into a thrilling tour of the world's underwater habitats with more than 35,000 animals. Visitors will encounter over 800 species of sharks, rays, jellies, eels, sport fish and more as they are transported to some of the wildest aquatic habitats on earth.

Visitors first enter a breathtaking 60,000-square-foot entry hall, home to a dramatic 300,000-gallon "open ocean" habitat teeming with pilot fish, blacktip reef sharks, leopard rays and more. Guests can become awe-inspired by a collection of boats fishing legends were made on, including the very first Tracker and Ranger boats, as well as historical boats used by Jimmy Buffet, and Ernest Hemingway.

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# SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS

In addition, guests can view renowned author and angler Zane Grey's famous boat, moved to the Museum from New Zealand. A living "bait ball" and vertical coral reef drop-off aquarium complete the impressive Heritage Hall, which also serves as the ticketing and lobby area.

The new **International Game Fish Association Fishing Hall of Fame** highlights some of the sport's most accomplished men and women through a display of personal artifacts and masterfully recreated replicas of world-record freshwater and saltwater fish.

The International Game Fish Association, which consists of members in more than 125 countries, has hosted this interactive collection at its global headquarters in Dania Beach, Florida, for the past 16 years.

Relocating the exhibit to Wonders of Wildlife provides substantially more exposure and engages more of IGFA's members and the public.

## **All-new wildlife galleries and Hunting Heritage Hall**

Walk amongst the largest land mammals on earth, go eye-to-eye with the Arctic's top predator and discover the greatest collection of record-setting big game animals ever assembled in this sprawling 50,000-square-foot showcase of amazing mammals from around the world.

### **Hunting Heritage Hall.**

Meticulously recreated lifelike environments offer visitors a portal to the wild, educating them about the importance of conserving the icons of the animal kingdom. Inspired by Johnny Morris' visits to the great natural history museums of America, this all-new showcase takes the concept even further with lifelike 4-D dioramas that include the realistic sights, sounds and smells of the world's awe-inspiring habitats from North America, Africa and the Arctic. A journey through the wildlife galleries brings guests into lifelike natural settings enriched by hand-painted artisan murals, foliage and waterfalls. Every detail has been painstakingly crafted to transport you into the wilderness.

Meet the King of Bucks, a rotating collection of more than 200 game animals including world records and the largest collection of white-tailed deer specimens in the world.

Marvel at Arthur Dubs' record collection of sheep from around the world set amongst a dramatic rocky mountain cliff.

Behold the 50-inch horns and world-record beauty of The Chadwick Ram, considered the finest North American big game specimen ever collected.

Displays highlight the work of America's leading conservation groups including Ducks Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation and many others.

### **Heads and Horns.**

Boone and Crockett Club's world-famous National Collection of Heads and Horns – Relive history through more than 40 historically significant North American big game mammals that originally helped spark America's conservation movement when it debuted in New York's Bronx Zoo in 1922.

Established by the Boone and Crockett Club, a wildlife conservation organization founded by Theodore Roosevelt, the collection originally exposed thousands to big game animals at a time when their numbers were dwindling, drawing national attention to the plight of wildlife after decades of unregulated harvest and irresponsible land use practices. Amazed by the natural beauty, an inspired and determined public ensured subsequent legislation proposed by Club members to protect wildlife and habitats were given top priority.

Guests will see world-record bears, bison, caribou, elk and other big game animals while learning about scoring techniques, histories and principals of ethical hunting. This influential collection is relocating from the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, to be part of the Wonders of Wildlife experience.

### **America's Conservation Capital – A must-see for outdoor enthusiasts**

Wonders of Wildlife is just one component of a sprawling campus home to a number of unique amenities and experiences.

**The John A. and Genny Morris Conservation Education Center** – A 50,000-square foot meeting space for the conservation leaders of today and tomorrow.

**The Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility (WOLF) School**, a comprehensive outdoor learning school operated in partnership with Springfield Public Schools, Missouri Department of Conservation and Bass Pro Shops, is a national model for outdoors education. The school educates and inspires future conservation leaders by offering lucky fifth-grade students a full-time curriculum for an entire school year. While students spend significant time in nature, fully equipped classrooms and labs offer everything they need to learn while teaching them the importance of protecting the outdoors.

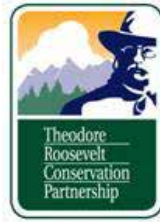
**The White River Conference Center:** Elaborate banquet spaces with a signature wilderness atmosphere are available for national conservation organizations as well as local community groups throughout the year. Conferences, meetings, lectures, workshops and special functions can be accommodated with a full kitchen and hospitality team to support catering and events.

For more information please contact: Jeremy Andereck, [jandereck@pciwr.com](mailto:jandereck@pciwr.com)

# SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS

## THEODORE ROOSEVELT CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

Recently the House Natural Resources Committee [vote on two bills that are an affront to America's public lands](#): One from Rep. Don Young would allow millions of acres of national forest land to be sold off and managed exclusively for timber production. Another from Rep. Raul Labrador would transfer management rights to state-appointed officials who, shockingly, would not be required to have professional forestry expertise.



Overall, these bills [threaten sportsmen's access to our national forests](#).

It is critically important that you contact your House Representatives and urge them to **oppose** H.R. 3650 and H.R. 2316. Make no mistake, these are the first votes on legislation that would legitimize the sale or transfer of your public lands!

[Sportsmensaccess.org](#), the online hub where hunters and anglers can take action against the transfer or sale of federal public lands to individual states, has been updated with new resources on the would-be impacts of transfer and highlights meaningful opposition to this idea that has sprung up across nine Western states.

The homepage now leads off with the Sportsmen's Access petition and a new video, narrated by hunting TV host and public lands evangelist Randy Newberg, which scrubs out the myths about proposed state management of public lands. "It doesn't matter how many promises are made, the financial realities would force states to sell off our public lands," says Newberg. "There goes access to hunting, fishing, camping, and our way of life."

Sportsmen, Westerners, and the media will also find the real facts on what state takeover of public lands would look like in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming. Each state page contains a link to download a fact sheet, plus an exhaustive list of public statements of opposition from elected officials, local leaders, and the 115 organizations that stand with sportsmen. An infographic about the threats to multiple use of our public lands, a mandate that keeps fish and wildlife on the landscape, is also available for download.

This week, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership will deliver the Sportsmen's Access petition, which recently broke 28,000 signatures, to surrogates representing presidential candidates Donald J. Trump and Hillary Clinton at a media event in Fort Collins, Colo. As part of a forum with journalists covering hunting, fishing, and the environment, Donald Trump, Jr., will talk about his father's conservation priorities, and Congressman Mike Thompson (D-Calif.) will address Clinton's policy goals for

issues important to sportsmen.

"America's hunters and anglers need more champions in Washington and statehouses across the country—lawmakers who understand that access to public lands where fish and wildlife can thrive is fundamental to our sports, our heritage, and the outdoor recreation businesses that create jobs and prosperity in local communities," says Whit Fosburgh, president and CEO of the TRCP. "But, beyond that, we need our elected officials to recognize that sportsmen see state takeover of our national public lands, and our inevitable loss of access, as a cold-dead-hands issue. This stack of pages containing the names of 28,000 Americans opposed to this bad idea should serve as a visual reminder."

A diverse coalition of sportsmen's groups and outdoor brands have rallied against the transfer or sale of public lands since January 2015, and public outcry has grown since the takeover of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon earlier this year. State legislatures in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Wyoming rejected land grab proposals in 2016, yet the House Natural Resources Committee, in a move that was out of touch with Westerners and sportsmen, voted last week to advance two bills on land transfer to the House floor.

To learn more about the latest movement on these and other bills that threaten access for hunting and fishing, visit [sportsmensaccess.org](#).

Contact: Katie McKalip [kmckalip@trcp.org](mailto:kmckalip@trcp.org)

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION

### RMEF on Public Lands Transfer

In light of recent legislative efforts seeking the sale or transfer of federal lands to state ownership, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation strongly maintains its opposition to such proposals. "Nearly one-third of our nation's land is in public ownership and that includes the majority of key elk habitat," said David Allen, RMEF president and CEO. "Transferring or selling these lands to states will do nothing to solve federal land management issues. It may also close the door to public access for hunters, anglers, hikers and others. We all want better public lands but this concept is not the answer. We take this issue very serious."

### RMEF Land Transfer Official Position

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation remains opposed to the wholesale disposal, sale or transfer of federal land holdings. Federal public lands comprise vital habitat for elk and other wildlife species. They are where we hunt, fish, camp, hike, ride and recreate. Transferring ownership of federal lands to states is not a solution



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to federal land management issues; it is a shell game to avoid the heavy lifting of establishing proactive land management policies in the United States.

## **What is the core issue motivating the transfer of these lands?**

**Lack of Active Management** – People are frustrated with public land management for a variety of reasons, including: catastrophic wildfires, diminished access for recreation and sustainable resource development, incoherent game management policies that favor individual species over balanced wildlife conservation, endless litigation preventing active land management, executive orders creating national monuments and more.

## **What prevents active management of these lands?**

**Lawsuits** – This is the era void of adult conversations taking place, avoiding any balanced remedies achieved. There are others who subscribe to “*keep land management issues tied up in litigation*” while the clock runs out; no matter what, do not negotiate, compromise or work together and nothing changes. Sadly, this is the era of political posturing using our natural resources as pawns; meanwhile the greater American outdoors is losing and so is the public. An overreaching use of environmental agendas exists to eliminate any consideration of multiple use in many public forests and the health of those national forests is suffering as a result.

**Lack of Resolve** – Some within public land management fundamentally oppose active management of forest and range resources in favor of “preserving landscapes.” RMEF believes certain landscapes must be conserved and managed to develop the types of diverse ecosystems elk and other wildlife need to thrive. Man inhabits the landscape thus we have an obligation to steward and manage our natural resources. Additionally, there is a diverse public who wish to recreate in the outdoors yet many are being restricted or limited today by special interests and agendas that strive to either substantially diminish use of our public lands or eliminate it all together.

## **Why can't states manage these lands?**

States cannot afford to manage federal lands on multiple levels. Land transfer proponents argue states can manage lands at less cost per acre than do their federal counterparts, while at the same time generating revenues for economic development and public schools through a “best use” determination. Recent studies show states would need to increase timber harvests, mineral and other resource development well beyond sustainable levels to afford the management of these lands. And states would be forced to defend the same frivolous lawsuits the federal government currently faces, not to mention adherence to overreaching uses of the Endangered Species Act and other federal policies are not being discussed.

One question not being addressed at all is what will happen to hunting, fishing, camping, trapping, grazing and other current public land uses in some states should those states assume control over 100 percent of public lands within their borders? The simple answer is those activities will soon cease, causing a cascade of other complications and issues for wildlife and our public lands. The simple truth is groups like the Humane Society of United States (HSUS) and others would relish the idea of exerting political influence and litigation in various states to eliminate many uses of our public lands. This must never happen.

## **What are the solutions?**

First, acknowledging the true problem is a must. We have critical land management issues that require solutions. Second, a commitment to truly resolve these issues must supersede special interests. RMEF believes the solutions lie in addressing obstacles to proactive land management and providing federal land agencies the leadership, tools and direction to properly manage lands for a variety of environmental, recreational and economic interests.

A true dialogue and course of action to provide real forest management reform and multiple uses of public lands and forests is a must. The shell game of transferring or selling public lands is not a solution. These are public lands, owned by the public and it must remain that way.

## **Wildlife Habitat, History Permanently Protected in Montana**

A 320-acre property in southwestern Montana, vital to wildlife and linked to the pages of U.S. history, is now permanently protected thanks to a successful collaboration between the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, a conservation-minded family and the U.S. Forest Service.

The former Holland Family Ranch is located west of Dillon and was previously an inholding in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. It lies squarely on the Nez Perce National Historic Trail, where Chief Joseph led his Nez Perce tribe away from its pursuers in 1877.

Elk use the property as calving grounds as well as spring and summer range. It serves as an important wildlife movement corridor between the Big Hole River Valley and the Continental Divide for elk, mule deer, moose and black bear. It is also home to Canada lynx, wolverine, a wide variety of other animal and bird life, and includes more than two miles of fisheries, wetlands and surrounding riparian habitat.

RMEF recently conveyed the tract to the Forest Service thus providing both new and improved public access for hunting, fishing and other recreational activities.

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The Land and Water Conservation Fund, Cinnabar Foundation, Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust and RMEF provided funding for the project.

## Idaho Elk Country Permanently Protected, Public Access Improved

RMEF teamed up with conservation-minded landowners and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to permanently protect vital wildlife habitat in southeast Idaho.

Thanks to funding provided by BLM's Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) Recreational Access Fund and RMEF's Torstenson Family Endowment (TFE), RMEF transferred 398 acres of prime elk country approximately 15 miles east of Idaho Falls to the BLM to expand the 34,000-acre Tex Creek Wildlife Management Area (TCWMA).

"This land provides vital winter range for upwards of 7,000 elk and mule deer as well as important riparian habitat for a wide variety of other species," said Blake Henning, RMEF vice president of Lands and Conservation. "It also permanently protects the land, improves landscape connectivity for wildlife and both creates and improves public access for hunters, hikers and others to enjoy it."

To date, RMEF worked with BLM and the IDFG to add more than 3,250 acres, or approximately 10 percent of the overall acreage, to the TCWMA.

RMEF utilized more than \$85 million in LWCF funding across 62 projects in ten different states in partnership with federal agencies to protect, conserve and open access to some of the most vital elk country in the United States.

"We are grateful for landowners who recognize and cherish the conservation value of their land. We are also appreciative of BLM's efforts in providing LWCF funding for this worthy project," added Henning.

Contact: Mark Holyoak, [mholyoak@rmef.org](mailto:mholyoak@rmef.org)

## MACK'S LURE

### Mack's Lure Acquires Shasta Tackle Company

A strategic merger between two leaders in the kokanee market

**Mack's Lure, Inc.**, manufacturer of the famous Wedding Ring® and Smile Blade®, today announced that it is acquiring **Shasta Tackle Company**, makers of custom trout, kokanee and salmon lures, including the popular Cripplure, Hum Dinger, Sling Blade and more.

The purchase of Shasta Tackle Company, based in Redding,

Calif., further increases Mack's Lure, Inc.'s share in several fishing tackle markets and kokanee, in particular.

What an exciting time for both companies and their customer base, said Bob Schmidt, owner and president of Mack's Lure, Inc. This is two leaders in the kokanee market combining their strengths and ideas to offer anglers even more exciting products, as well as allowing Mack's Lure to grow more rapidly and get in touch with an even larger base of anglers.

For 28 years, we have built a strong, deep-rooted, fast-growing company, but as business evolves, it has become more and more apparent that we needed a strong, well-established strategic partner to continue on our path, said Gary Miralles, founder of Shasta Tackle Co. "We found that partnership with Mack's Lure."

The acquisition with Shasta Tackle Co. is monumental for Mack's Lure, Inc., in that it further enhances our niche in the trout and kokanee markets. There are many followers of both companies, many of whom use both company's products in their presentations, so combining them is a plus for everyone.

Effective immediately, all Shasta Tackle Co.'s products, while still maintaining their established product names, will be operated, manufactured and distributed as a wholly owned subsidiary of Mack's Lure, Inc. Miralles is joining the Mack's Lure, Inc. staff in a product development and promotional capacity.

This partnership will give me more time for product development and the freedom to focus more on the marketing and promotional side of the business, Miralles said. "This merger will help to launch Shasta into a new level of growth; giving it the foundation to expand and grow in its existing markets and enter into new markets, as well.

I am truly excited about the future, so stand by everyone this is just the beginning.

*For more information, contact Mack's Lure at (509) 667-9202 or [media@mackslure.com](mailto:media@mackslure.com). More information is also available online at [mackslure.com](http://mackslure.com). All Mack's Lure press releases can be found online at [mackslure.com/press-releases.php](http://mackslure.com/press-releases.php).*



## BOAT US

### Tips for Boaters Facing Summer Thunderstorms

Recreational boaters and paddlers understand that late afternoon thunderstorms are common during the summer boating season. A recent incident involving two TowBoatUS Fort Lauderdale captains and their rescue of four kayakers pre-fishing a local tournament offers some lessons learned on how to survive an afternoon storm.

Just before 2 p.m. on Friday, June 24, under severe thunderstorm

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watch, Captains Eric Laury and Steve Reuss ran for cover as a large, fast-moving storm approached. Safe in a marina close to Hillsboro Inlet, they began to “wait out Armageddon,” as Reuss described the strong storm. Minutes later the US Coast Guard reported three overturned kayakers in the water about two miles south of the inlet.



With 3-foot chop, 40-knot winds and near constant lightning, both captains immediately headed out to provide Good Samaritan aid. Normally the response boats, which have red hulls and white “TowBoatUS” letters on the side, are used for towing disabled recreational boats. After a short search Captain Reuss quickly located and safely took aboard two kayakers in the near zero-visibility conditions.

Captain Laury, reporting severe wind gusts “trying to lift” the boat beneath his feet, soon found and retrieved two other paddlers with overturned kayaks. It was later learned that these two paddlers had hailed the original mayday with no knowledge of the other two distressed kayakers, and the slightly erroneous report of three distressed kayakers yielded the safe return of all four.

To share some lessons learned, BoatUS has three safety tips for any mariner or angler facing a powerful, summer thunderstorm:

1. Don't let your guard down: “Sometimes during the summer we see boaters lulled into a sense that calm seas always prevail, but these kayakers were prepared,” says TowBoatUS Ft. Lauderdale spokesman Barney Hauf. “They had life jackets on, carried a handheld VHF radio and a Personal Locator Beacon.”

2. Don't leave the boat: While caught out on the open water and unable to seek cover, the paddlers stayed with their overturned vessels. “They fastened themselves to each other and to their equipment to stay together,” said Captain Reuss. Staying with an overturned boat gives rescuers a larger target to find.

3. Watch your weight: Small craft are most prone to overloading. Says BoatUS Foundation Assistant Director of Boating Safety Ted Sensenbrenner, “Kayaks weighted with a lot of gear can lose buoyancy. No matter what kind of boat, know your vessel's capacity rating.”

For more information on boating safety, go to [BoatUS.org](http://BoatUS.org).

Contact: Scott Croft, [scroft@boatus.com](mailto:scroft@boatus.com)



...Top 2 photos, Milt & Joell Keizer, bottom photo, Keith Szafranski

**2017 NOWA CONFERENCE, SANDPOINT, ID**