

# Fishing & Hunting

Journal



**FREE**

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- BOTTOM FEEDER FRENZY
- DOE HUNTING TACTICS
- LIGHT LINE WHITE PERCH
- HUNTING ACROSS THE POND
- TURKEY RESULTS



**Andy Simpkins bagged this nice 22 inch wide Buck last November in Baltimore County. Photo courtesy of Clydes Sport Shop.**



**This Snakehead was arrowed in Furnace Creek, Glen Burnie by Charlie Batze and George Johnson Jr. bow fishing on 5/4/13.**

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**‘Reprisal’ was on the scene at the MWA tournament in Rock Hall last month with Captain Buffalo Strong at the helm and his son Jamie as the mate. Second mate Drew is in the fore front with the big grin.**



**Alan Shaffer a regular customer of ‘Fish Fear Us Charters’ sent Captain Bob this picture of his turkey this past spring.**



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## “HOOKED ON FISHING”

### Shallow Water Striper Tactics

By Lenny Rudow

This spring, we've seen an awesome shallow water striper bite. That's a bit unusual, since stripers don't usually orient to shallow water structure so early in the year. And by shallow, I mean really shallow—five feet of water and less. If this trend continues, we'll be catching stripers in the 18" to 28" class in skinny waters right through Thanksgiving. So it seems to make sense to do a review of some shallow water tips and tactics.

STEALTH is incredibly important when you're fishing the shallows. If you've ever gone flats fishing in Florida, you were probably told by the guide not to talk loudly, slam hatches, or make any other loud noises whenever fish were within casting range. And if you did make a commotion when fish were near-by, you probably saw the swirl of their tail as they swam away. Stripers are no less sensitive to sounds here in the Chesapeake region, but since we can't usually see the fish, we don't realize just how many we spook by being loud.

Whenever you're approaching a shallow water spot, come off plane at least 100 yards away and idle in quietly. If you have a two-stroke outboard, shut it down in gear (they make significantly more noise in neutral than they do in gear) and plan your drift accordingly. Minimize shifting into gear, will all types of engines. Warn everyone onboard to keep their voices low, beware of slamming hatches, and basically just remain as quiet as possible.

LURE CHOICE is another important consideration. As a general rule of thumb, jigs are a top producer in the shallows. Use jerkbaits with experienced anglers onboard (the five-inch chartreuse GULP! Jerk Shad is my favorite) and swimbaits with less experienced anglers (since they have an action of their own without added input from the fisherman). Crankbaits work well in the shallows, but you'll lose some fishing time and kill a few throw-backs thanks to their treble hooks. Top-water is without question the most exciting lure to throw, though you usually won't catch as many fish by tossing topwaters as you would with jigs or cranks. Note, I say



Low light periods like sunrise and sunset are prime-time for shallow water casting.

usually—there are exceptions to this rule.

As far as colors go, the old adage “if it ain't chartreuse it ain't no use” has a lot of truth to it. This should be your go-to color. Some days, however, white will out-perform it. Try root-beer in tannic-stained tributaries, and on occasion bubble-gum pink works well. Tip: always try bubble-gum when casting for speckled trout in the shallows. At time, they'll hit it like nothing else. And when the

water is murky try dark purple, but remember that turbid water is not the best for shallow water casting.

TIMING is, of course, another important factor. Sunrise and sunset are by far the best times to hit the shallows, and heavy cloud cover can extend the bite through the day. Incoming and flood tides are also prime-time. Fishing the

See Rudow Page 5



Jerkbait-style jigs are a top producer, in the shallows.

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# Fishing & Hunting Journal

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## FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Christians have always had their critics. This was true in the first church when they were accused of drunkenness, cannibalism and subversion against their government. In fact our Lord Jesus was dogged by the scribes and Pharisees throughout his earthly ministry. They accused him of being a friend of sinners and publicans, even to the point that he was called a glutton.

In our day the same is true. If you live for the Lord and hold up His standard you will receive criticism. People will attack your motives, ridicule your faith and mock that which is holy. The question arises, "how does a Christian deal with criticism?" Jesus reminds us in 1Peter 2 that most of the criticisms against Christians are foolish. Critics are like crickets - they do most of their chirping in the dark!

The life of God's people should reflect the love of the Lord Jesus. Our lives should draw people to the Saviour. I've often reminded our church members that most people won't come in the doors of a church and most will never read the bible. Therefore, we are the only bible that many people will ever read, and all of us have a testimony, whether good or bad.

As a young man, one of the first poems I ever heard was:

You're writing the gospel, a chapter each day,  
by deeds that you do, by words that you say.  
Men read what you write, faithless or true.  
What is the gospel, according to you?

The greatest advertisements for righteousness are the lives of Christian people. How we respond to criticism either inspires others or repels them. In a world that is often hostile to our Christian faith, let's respond with the love of Christ.

**This was the faith of our fathers and I trust it is yours.**  
Mel Brindley

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# Rudow ...

Continued from Page 3

shallows during mid-day on a dead low tide is usually a dead-end.

WIND can make a major difference when you're fishing the shallows, particularly in a tributary. The down-wind side of a tributary will often hold more fish than the up-wind side, because the wind chop will push bait up onto structure like rip-rap and contain it there. But this is only true up to a point; when there's enough wind to churn up the water, head for the up-wind side of the tributary where the water isn't as turbid.

Also look for spots where the wind-driven chop and the tidal current collide. When you have an incoming current and the wind is blowing in the exact opposite direction, for example, you may find miniature standing rips off of points that stick out where the wind and current both hit at or close to a 90-degree angle. These rips are often goldmines for shallow-water fishing.

ACCESS to deep water is an often-overlooked feature that makes for awesome shallow water hotspots. As you plan your route for a day of shallow water casting, look for points, rip-rap, and other structure that's within shooting distance (say, 70 yards or so) of water 10' or deeper.

The depth of the structure itself really isn't too imperative; often you'll hook keeper-sized stripers in a mere foot or two of water, if there's good structure to attract them. But the fish like to have a deeper haven to retreat to close by. If that structure is surrounded on all sides by hundreds of yards of two foot deep water, it isn't likely to attract and hold many fish of any real size. If, on the other hand, there's a deep channel within casting distance, expect the big boys to move in.

Bonus Tip: Remember that red-hot run of red drum we had on the middle bay last year? A lot of us are crossing our fingers that it continues this season. If you'd like to target these fish in specific, try casting small spinnerbaits. Willow-blade spinnerbaits with red/white three- or four-inch bodies were the hot ticket last season, so they're likely to produce again this year. And yes, the stripers will hit 'em, too.



These two happy young ladies, Laura and Kelly had a great recent trip aboard the 'Southpaw' with Captain Jeff Eichler out of Kent Island, MD.



Brittany Nicole Cowger with her 3 point piebald buck taken last November at sunrise in Easton, MD. This was her first time hunting and she was in the woods for a total of twenty minutes. Photo Courtesy of Shore Sportsman in Easton, MD.



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## "TACKLE BOX TIM"

### Light Line White Perch

By Tim Sherman

The following is a bold yet true statement: White perch are the number one pursued panfish in Maryland's portion of the Chesapeake Bay. There are several reasons why they are targeted. First, they can be caught throughout most of the year. Second, they are extremely abundant from the mouth of the Potomac north to the upper reaches of the Susquehanna River and most tributaries. Third, they are so darn fun to catch. Fourth, they are relatively easy to catch. Fifth, because perch swim in large schools, they are a great species to use when introducing someone to fishing. And finally, they make for a great fish fry. So what's not to like about white perch?!

I have always tried to match my tackle to the size of the fish I am catching. In my early days of fishing I'd use the stereotypical medium class spinning tackle 10-pound-test line and a 1 ounce sinker when bottom fishing

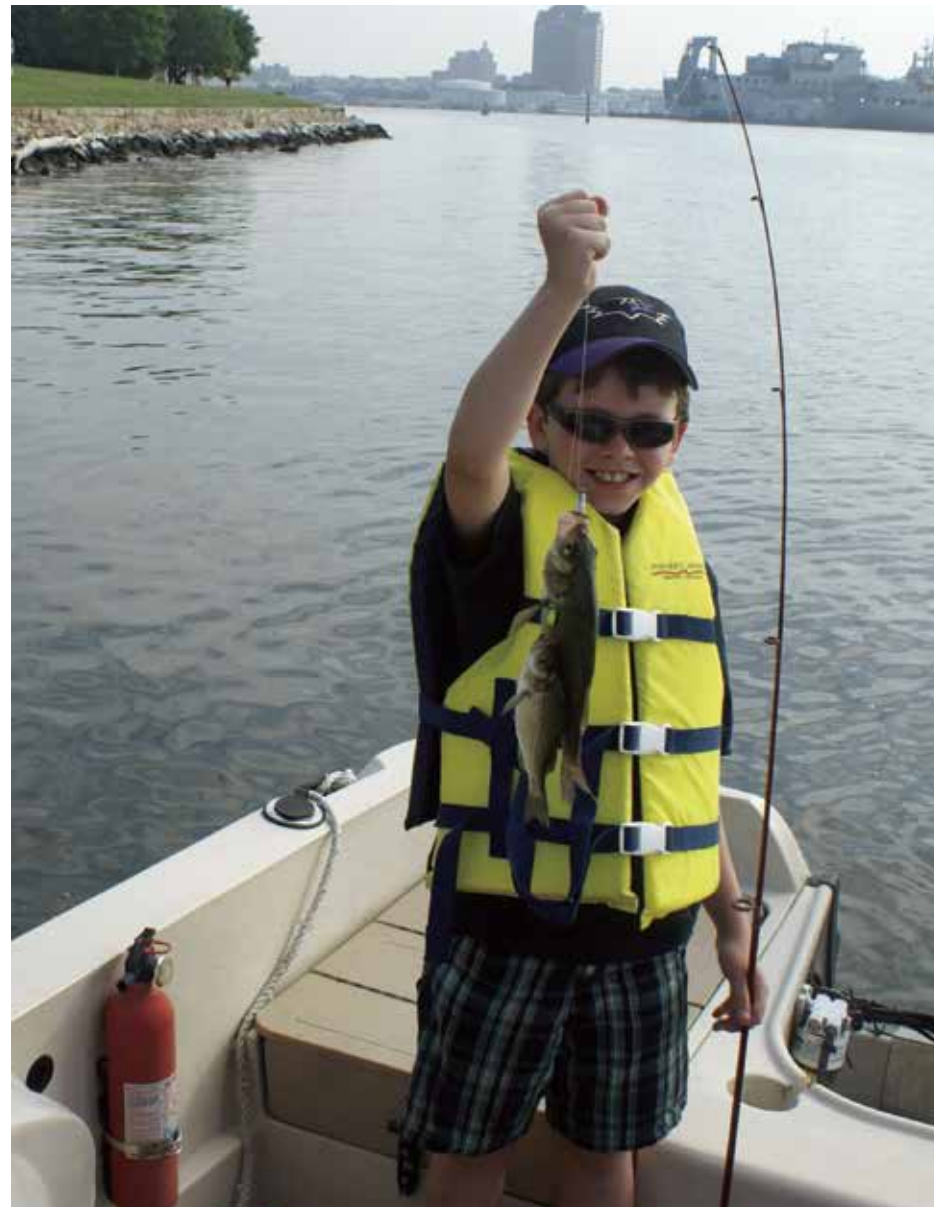
for perch. At some point I learned how to lighten up. Today I use ultra light tackle, 6-pound-test line, and soft plastic jigs when perch fishing, and will also use the same class tackle if asked to go bottom fishing for them. I choose this tackle because I get to feel the fight these hearty fish can muster. With medium class tackle, I feel that I am merely winching them in after I set the hook.

There aren't many folks who will go out to their favorite bay white perch hole with ultra light tackle. However, it is loads of fun. There are a few things you can leave at home. There is no need to take bulky wire bottom rigs. Instead learn to tie bottom rigs with 12 to 15-pound-test monofilament or fluorocarbon line. Tie on a barrel swivel on one end. Then tie two standoff loops, and a surgeon's loop on the bottom for the sinker. You can also leave the 1-ounce and heavier sinkers at home. With 6-pound-test line and a hand-tied bottom rig, you will be able to fish to depths of 25 feet with a 1/4-ounce sinker.

I've never been one to use small hooks. Even with white perch, I use a

size 4 hook. I would much rather miss a few bites because the hook was too big than to gut hook a small perch that I planned to release. To make releasing perch easy, I pinch the barb of the hook down. Hold the hooked fish

overboard, then simply turn the hook upward and fish should slide right off. When I look for jig heads, I also look for those with at least a size 4 hook in 1/8 and 1/16-ounce sizes. These are hard to find, and you may have to ask



Ezra Johnston shows a double header white perch with ultra light tackle in Baltimore's outer harbor.

Continued on Page 7

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your local tackle shop to have these jig heads custom made. However, it is worth the effort and minimal expense to not hurt the resource.

When it comes to soft plastic bodies, I prefer those in the 2 1/2-inch size with a skinny tail. Straight rat like tails and those with a slender fork tail qualify. Why do I like this class of small plastic? For no other reason than that is what white perch prefer. I've tried jiggging with twister tail grubs, but more often than not they are ignored. Tiny paddle tail baits do take up the slack when the perch shy away from skinny tail lures. Try a 2-inch sassy shad or crappie slider.

I fish my plastic jigs rigged in tandem. I start with an arm's length of 12-pound-test fluorocarbon line. From there I tie on a 1/8 or 1/16 ounce football jig head to each end. I have 1/8-ounce rigs and 1/16-ounce rigs. I typically do not mix the heads. I'll tie a surgeon's loop in the line so that I have a long end and a short end to the rig. The short end is usually 12-inches long. If you tie the loop so that the ends are equal length, the rig will tangle itself.

In my personal fishing, the artificial lures make sense. I have a small boat in the grand scheme of things. I'm running the trolling motor once I reach the fishing spot and do not have time to cut bait and bait hooks. I am also fishing shoreline cover where drifting with bottom rigs surely would cause more frustrating snags than fish. However, jiggging at a mid bay hot spot does prove as effective as bait fishing.

With all the pluses about white perch, you can only reap those benefits if you can find them. Most folks think it's as easy as dropping a baited hook or tandem rig on an oyster bar or hard bottom area. These are high percentage locations, but perch need to be patterned, much like rockfish and largemouth bass. Water temperature plays a key role in finding perch. In early June, perch are found in shallow water. Many times I'll catch them merely feet from the bank in

2 feet of water. As the water temps rise with the heat of summer, perch move deeper. I look for spots in at least 10 feet of water. I'll keep moving deeper if the 10-foot deep spots don't pan out. In late fall and early winter, I've found schools of white perch in 20 to 30-foot depths.

Try lightening up your tackle this summer when fishing for white perch. Imagine the fight you'll have on an ultralight outfit when a 10-inch perch grabs your bait or jig. Then double that excitement when a second one jumps on the second hook. You will in all likelihood not fish for white perch with heavier tackle again.



**Joe Faber has Turkey fever with this 23.2 lb beauty. 10 5/8 beard. Photo courtesy of Winks Sporting Goods.**



**Chief Hal Sailor of Delmar Police Dept and crew with a nice late spring season catch of big stripers aboard the 'Open Ticket' with Captain Rob Newberry..**



**Paul Collins of Annapolis with his 30 lb striper caught on the 'Kingfish II' on April 25 in the Tangeir Sound'**



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## “HUNTING PASSION”

### Low Impact Doe Hunting

By Mike Monteleone

I'll be honest: I get excited about shooting does. As much as I'd like to pretend that it was strictly for the sake of good management, shooting does has as much to do with the thrill of bowhunting, keeping my skills sharp for buck, and filling the freezer as it does for any other reason. Some years ago, the DNR made the entire state of Maryland an “Earn a Buck” state. In order to harvest the second buck you needed to harvest two does. So, after I killed my first buck on opening day it was time to find a few big baldies. After 2-1/2 days of chasing some big old ones, I now could focus again on hunting bucks. As an added bonus, I had pulled it off without harming my buck hunting one bit!

I think it is safe to say that with the increase in quality deer management practices and the overall trend toward more liberal doe harvests, (Including state-mandated doe harvest as mentioned), hunters are shooting more does than ever before. Regardless of a hunter's motives for harvesting does, I also feel confident in saying that most hunters want to accomplish the job in a way that does not adversely affect their buck hunting.

As I've said before, mature bucks are tough enough to harvest when they don't know they are being hunted. When they do, the difficulty increases dramatically. And as smart as mature bucks are, whenever a hunter enters the woods specifically to shoot a doe, bucks have no way of recognizing this fact, to them, any human invading their turf represents a serious threat. So it stands to reason that the fear of harming one's buck hunting discourages many would-be doe hunters from chasing does.

Luckily, there are steps we can take to greatly minimize any damaging effects from harvesting does. My close friend and I put a few of those steps to the test. We had to work together to devise a plan that would keep doe harvests high while keeping our hunting impact low. Since we maintain a high buck harvest success rate, and have already captured over 20 different bucks on trail cams since the close of the 2012 season, it's safe to say that the plan worked.

#### Bucks vs. Does

The first step in keeping the local bucks ignorant is realizing the differences do exist between mature

bucks and does. Outside of the rut, bucks are much more solitary animals. During the non-rutting phases of deer season, bucks display a high regard for their own personal safety. They have a strong tendency to form their own bedding and trail systems. Assuming their deer habitat is expansive enough, they seldom interact with family groups much outside of the locations of prime food sources. Even when it comes to food, it's not uncommon for bucks to feed by themselves in remote corners or even select an inferior food source that provides increased safety.

This limited amount of information alone is very helpful. Simply because we know that family-group trails typically endure more traffic, it's easy to differentiate between them and a buck trail. The beaten-down “cow paths” through mature sections of woods are not likely locations in which to meet Mr. Big, unless you're talking about peak rutting dates. When further investigation reveals a mixture of adult deer and fawn tracks, we can be even more confident. On the flip side, bumping into a buck on a faint trail that is adorned with rubs paralleling a thicket is much more likely.

Still common sense must be used. In areas where deer habitat is limited, mature bucks and family groups often must share the same trail systems. In this case, it's either share or be increased to exposed danger.

Funnels are another obvious example. By definition, a funnel is a feature or combination of features that constricts deer movement through a relatively narrow area. Under these conditions, bucks and does can be forced to share the same trail. As with most things, identifying doe trails require some common sense.

#### Hunting “Outside In”

After targeting doe sign, hunting the fringes may be the next most important factor in keeping bucks ignorant of what you are doing.

Hunting from the outside in is an

effective way to keep your bucks blissfully ignorant. Because does do not place the same premium on avoiding humans as bucks typically do, good stand sites can often be found on edges of prime deer habitat where human levels are comparatively higher.

Outside of the early stages of the fawning period (late spring, early summer), does live by a very matriarchal society. Dominate does lay claim to the best habitat. Together with their daughters and granddaughters, they will occupy these areas and even drive other family groups from them. Because of this, family groups are often dispersed across a given habitat.

Observing food sources will often show areas where subordinate family groups utilize the more wide open fields comparatively close to human activity. Because these locations are typically void of significant non-rutting buck activity, they can be great locations in which to tag a doe without disturbing bucks.

By investigating an afternoon or two in long-range surveillance of good food sources, you'll not only identify the fringe areas offering

the best odds, but you'll also be able to pinpoint the best trails. After that, slipping in during midday and erecting a stand becomes easy. Assuming that one keeps disturbances to a minimum, quick success is often the result.

Spending time watching does is well worth it. Many hunters don't seem to respect does. Because they see does more often than trophy bucks, they seem to think they can take one anytime they want. However, hunters frequently find that the job can be very tough. Because does aren't as concentrated and tend to have a lot of trails entering the more exposed fields, surveillance in these areas is even more important.

To compound the difficulty, mature does can be a real thorn in a hunter's side. If a stand is placed in the wrong spot, a doe might easily wind or spot the hunter. When this happens, the doe is apt to stamp and snort like crazy. And even after the hunter leaves the area, does often remain extra edgy for a while. That makes getting it right the first time very important. If we don't, our best bet is usually to move the stand. Shifting a stand 50 yards or so up the trail may work, but that also involves stirring up the woods more.

See Monteleone Page 9



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# Monteleone ...

Continued from Page 8

## Moving Inside the Woods

The same "outside in" approach can be used for stands that are inside the woods. Most hunters know that mature bucks prefer thick cover. When given a choice between staying in cover and taking a more open woods trail, most bucks will choose cover almost every time. Of course, there are situations in which bucks have to take the open route, but that still leaves many areas void of trophy buck activity.

When a patch of ground contains thick cover and open woods, targeting the heavily used trails is a good bet. This is especially true if the trails are located a good distance from cover and appear to be void of buck sign. And if these trails connect to family-group bedding areas, it makes them better choices still. However, these trails should offer access and departure routes that avoid bumping deer. When all of these ingredients come together, we have the markings for a great "outside in" doe stand.

## Do Not Disturb

We must also strive to avoid edu-

cation does. As mentioned earlier, mature does can be a real pain once they bust a hunter. I'm sure every hunter reading this story has been tormented by an old doe at one time or another, so showing does the same respect we show mature bucks is important for several reasons.

To begin with, it's always easier to harvest any deer that doesn't know it is being hunted. As much as we tend to put trophy bucks on a level far above any other creature, mature does are harder to dupe in some ways than bucks. Before you begin calling me ugly names, think about how a mature doe travels. She'll often take several steps and stop to scan the surrounding area. Then she'll take a few more steps and repeat the process.

Since fawns are vulnerable to predation, does instinctively want to protect their young. As a result, they are on full alert most of the time. And once a doe realizes that a hunter has invaded her woods, she seems to make it her mission to constantly be on the lookout and alert all the creatures about the alien presence.

To avoid being detected, playing the wind, selecting trees with ample cover, having good routes to and from your stand site, and staying out of the does line of sight will go a long way toward filling your doe tag.

Furthermore, the sight of feeding and relaxed does helps a buck lose some of his caution. Simply put, when other deer are calm, a buck is more apt to let down his defenses and act the same way. However, if one deer is jittery, all of the animals around that deer will also be nervous. Indirectly, turning a doe into a ball of nerves can harm our chances of tagging the big boy, even when he has no clue we are there.

## Final Thoughts

Most hunters today are aware of the advantages of keeping deer populations below the habitats carrying capacity. Furthermore, most hunters today strive to attain tighter buck to doe ratios. These two practices alone can increase our odds of tagging a true brute of a buck.

For those interested in managing their hunting land, we can even take things a step further. Several studies have shown that does are primarily responsible for yearling buck dispersal.

Depending on the habitat structure, a doe will drive her male fawns away and force them to setup new home ranges when they are between six months of age and 1-1/2 years old. By targeting and removing does with buck fawns, these young bucks are much more likely to continue living on their home property and not a mile away.



Mike Miller was fishing aboard the 'Canvasback' with Captain Bob Ritchie when he hooked onto this monster during the annual MWA tournament.



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## “FISHIN’ BACK EAST”

### BOTTOM FEEDER FRENZY

By Jim Gronaw

OK, it's summer time now, and most of us have gotten off, hopefully, to a pretty good fishing year. Opening trout and striper days have come and gone, and many of us enjoyed great bass fishing earlier in the year. For the freshwater guy, we still have an entire season of multi-species action. Those who know me well will find me at many small and local lakes in quest of big bluegills. But I have some other plans for some select days, and nights, ahead. Yup, I'm gonna' do it, gonna' take that leap...I'm going carp fishing!

I got into this carp cult about three years ago when I saw a bunch of guys at a few southern Pennsylvania lakes who were catching the big goldfish literally by the ton, and enjoying 'big fish' action everyday. In truth, many freshwater anglers have not caught a fish exceeding the 20 pound mark. However, for these guys, it was a pretty common occurrence, and most of them had banked numerous 'thirtys' in their carp career. Big fish sounds like fun to me, so I just slopped on in with the rest of the bottom feeders.

Although I often make light of the carp angling crowd, let point out some very sobering truths to this sport. For one, these anglers that do it in the European style are very exact and skillful in their

involved and they stated at 4 AM in the morning, with the intention of fishing well into that night. Food and beverage were also high on the list of desired items and at gatherings in the past we had enjoyed brats, fried chicken and the ever popular pizza. Specific areas are



#### What is there 'not' to like about catching these big fish?

game...they take it seriously, and they constantly seek to improve their tactics. Secondly, they take better care of their equipment than any trout or bass angler I have ever known, and have no problem at spending thousands of dollars on the best baitrunners, rods, bite alarms and other items essential for success. And additionally, carp anglers can be somewhat secretive in their ways and means to put big fish on the bank. Preparation and chumming efforts are hard work, and if a carpster can put a couple of twenties on the bank in one day, chances are he earned those fish.

At the last fish-in I attended of the local chapter of the Carp Mafia, there were six anglers in-

pre-baited with feed corn that has been soaked in water with some salt to preserve and other flavorings in the mix. Several spots are often baited, since other anglers, fishing for other species, are often on the scene at public lake venues. This way, Mafia members have several areas to choose from in any given day of fishing. Mkes sense, and it keeps the options open.

Sophisticated bite alarms and rod pods or bank sticks are set up and weighed rigs are tossed out with corn or boilies ( a small, firm dough type morsel) baited on small hooks from size 2 to 8. An in-line device is threaded above the hooked bait that holds 'pack bait'... a concoction of oats, dough, meal

and various fruits and morsals that is packed around the 'feeder' and acts as a additional attractant to the cap, bringing them to your baited hook. When the carp picks up the baited hook, he feels the hookpoint, and bolts off in classic, spooky-carp fashion, often setting the hook on it's own. The bite alarm screams and the anglers hops up and sets the hook with a long spinning rod and the bait runner spinning reel engages into the 'fighting drag' mode. Then the fun begins!

Although most carp fishing in American waters does not have to be this sophisticated, the overall catch rate will increase dramatically once you learn to fish in this manner. You see, In European waters, almost all carp venues are on small, private lakes that seldom exceed 10 acres, and the fish are fed continually to achieve maximum size. These 'day-ticket' venues cost money, sometimes a lot, and if you want a 30 or 40 pound mirror carp, chances are pretty good you can buy your way to one in the many pay lake setups across the pond. A high number of the bigger fish have often been caught many times, and they are wary and supper spooky. So, the Euros develop a vast multitude of baits and flavorings to attract these giants.

But in many of our local waters, carp are so common and so unpressured that they do not need all this. Still, I took the plunge and bought some gear to enjoy the sport. Once everything is setup, out come the easy chairs and snacks and the bull stories from trips of the past. It becomes a social thing, and kidding and ribbing is the norm. I am very much a rookie at the game, but I have seen enough of it to know that I like it a lot. My son, Matt and I have been

See Gronaw page 13



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Carp Commander Bob Elias with a girthy carp on his secret bait.

## Gronaw ...

Continued from Page 12

doing the occasional carp gig for the past few summers...great fun! And, if you are really worried about the company you keep or the reputation you'll get...then don't fish for carp!

So, for starters, you might want to hit the web up with these sites... Big Carp Tackle, Bank Fishing Systems, Resistance Tackle and Carp Anglers Group. You'll be amazed at the depth at which these highly skilled anglers go to catch fish that are much larger than what most of us catch. The reason I like it is simple...I like catching big fish!



My son Matt Gronaw with a seriously big carp using Euro tactics.

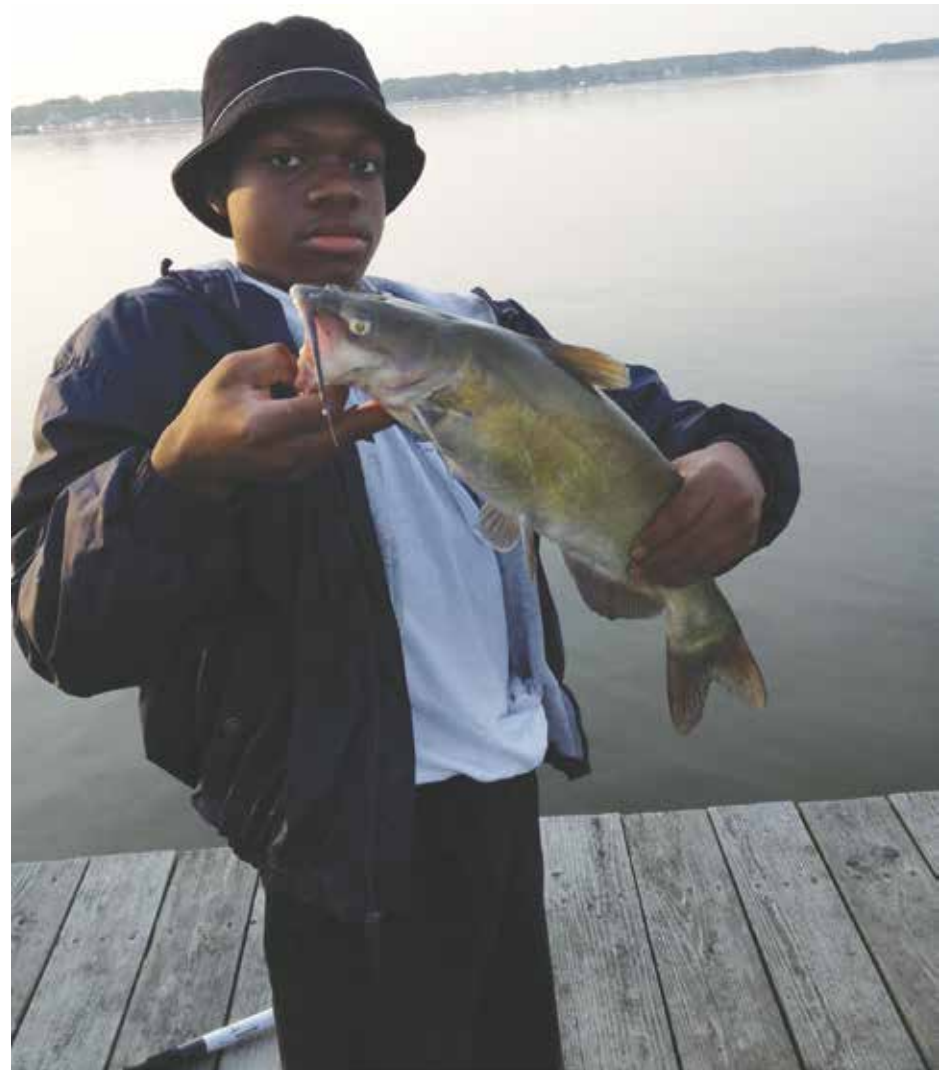
## State record rainbow trout caught in Berkeley County, WV

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - A state record rainbow trout was recently caught by Tony Corbin of Gerrardstown, W.Va., according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the Division



of Natural Resources. Corbin caught the 30.5-inch, 17.31-pound fish from a private pond in Berkeley County on May 2, 2013. He caught the record rainbow using a swimbait on 10-pound test line.

Corbin's catch establishes a West Virginia record for weight. The previous weight record for rainbow trout was a 15.65-pound fish caught by Aaron Propps from another private pond in 2005. The state record length remains a 31.7-inch rainbow caught by John P. Arnett in 1993 at Stonecoal Lake.



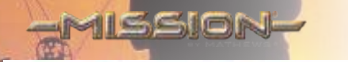
Torone Samuels with his 7 lb catfish caught in the Back River Neck on June 9th 2013

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## Delaware Adjust Minimum Size for Flounder

Anglers catching summer flounder in Delaware waters are able to keep smaller fish this season when the regulations changed on Tuesday, June 11. The changes allow anglers to keep four fish per day with a minimum size of 17 inches, with no closed season. Under the previous regulations, the minimum size for keepers was 18 inches.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission approved a coastwide recreational summer flounder harvest limit that allows for changes in Delaware's summer flounder regulations. The regulatory changes provide added opportunities for anglers while managing the flounder population at a sustainable level.



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*This happy angler was fishing aboard the 'Kingfish II' out of Deale Island with Captain Harry when he bagged this nice flounder and croaker last month.*

## Hunters report record Spring Turkey season harvest

Hunters reported harvesting a total of 3,344 wild turkeys during the 2013 spring turkey season, surpassing the previous record harvest of 3,136 set in 2005.

This year's harvest was 7 percent above the 2012 harvest of 3,132, and well above the 10-year average of 2,925. These results indicate that Maryland's turkey population remains healthy and hunters are enjoying some of the best spring turkey hunting in many years.

High turkey populations coupled with good weather likely contributed to the record-setting harvest. Turkey numbers have been on the rise in some areas due to several years of above-average reproduction. In particular, large increases in counties such as Harford, Anne Arundel, Montgomery and Frederick, helped to boost the total harvest. In addition, pleasant weather throughout the State during most of the season most likely increased hunter participation and helped them locate and call in cooperative gobblers.

Garrett County reported the highest harvest again this year with 386 turkeys, followed by Washington with 309. Rounding out the top five counties were Charles (270), Allegany (269) and Dorchester (245).

Youth hunters took advantage of the special Junior Turkey Hunt and reported taking 246 turkeys, setting a Junior Hunt record for the second consecutive year. The Junior Hunt was open statewide on Saturday, April 13, and in select counties on Sunday, April 14.

Spring turkey hunters were able to hunt on Sundays in seven counties again this spring. Sunday turkey hunting was limited to April 28 and May 5 in Allegany and Garrett counties, but was permitted throughout the season in Calvert, Caroline, Charles, Dorchester and St. Mary's. A total of 143 turkeys were harvested on Sundays.

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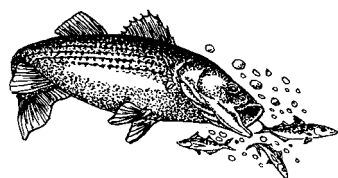
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## Coastal Report

By Capt. Mark Sampson

Many years ago I was preparing to fish a light tackle mako tournament and for some reason I decided it would be best to scale down the size and strength of the leaders we'd be using to better match the 20-pound test line that was on my reels. Lighter line, lighter leader, it seemed like a good idea at the time but when we put it to application it didn't pan out so well. After working in a 300-and-some pound mako I found out the hard way that the light leader didn't allow us to apply enough pressure on the fish to hold at the boat. The fish surged, the leader popped and the tournament lost. The rules only required 20-pound line, we could have used our normal leaders and easily held that shark like a dog on a leash instead of a buffalo on a string. Another lesson learned the hard way!

Just as a chain is only as strong as its weakest link so to is the connection between fish and fisherman once a fish is hooked-up and fighting at the end of the line. To be successful anglers must stay keenly aware of where the weak link is between them and their quarry and do everything in their power to minimize the chance of that link failing before the fish is landed. And just to make things a little more interesting, anglers should also know that the weak link changes throughout different stages of the fight.

To quickly conquer a fish anglers strive to apply as much pressure as they can. If you had a bluegill on a heavy rope you could just pluck it out of the water, but since anglers use relatively light line, leader and hooks they can only apply so much pressure at any one time, which is where the "sport" in "sport fishing" comes from. In the tournament we were using 20-pound line and one might

think that would have been the maximum amount of pressure we could have applied to the fish until we got hold of the leader - but that's not quite the case.

**Knots** - Since almost no knots maintain 100% of the breaking strength of the line, in most cases the weakest link between victory and defeat isn't the line that anglers have on their reels but the knot that connects their line to their swivel, leader, hook, or lure. So if the fish pulls hard enough it's first the knot at the end of the line that's more likely to fail than the line itself. This provides good reason for anglers always strive to tie the strongest knots possible.

**Line** - Since anglers usually know the breaking strength of their line they're able to set their drags to properly slip before the line breaks. But whether the breaking strength is 2 or 130-pounds, a tiny nick in any line could become the weak link between fish and fisherman. So, understandably, the first order of business after hookup is to get that line out of the water and onto the reel thus eliminating that link from the chain.

**Leader & Swivels** - Once a big fish has been brought to the boat the next order of business is usually for someone to grab the leader and direct it to the gaff, net, or maybe just hold it there for a couple photos before release. Either way, unless you do something stupid like I did in the aforementioned tournament, whoever has the leader in hand should be able to exert a lot more pressure on the fish than the angler ever did because the breaking strength of the leader is usually much greater than the line. But just because you go from 20-pound line to 200-pound leader doesn't necessarily mean that the weak link is suddenly 200-pounds, there's more to it than that. If a two-part leader is used, the different components will likely have swivels tied or crimped

between them. Any swivels used should always have a breaking strength higher than the line and leader so that they do not become a weak link between man and fish. Anglers must also keep in mind that the knots and crimps used to connects leaders together or leaders to hooks will have a breaking strength less than the leader itself. So just because someone is holding a fish on 200-pound leader in no way means that they can exert that much pressure on the fish without expecting failure.

**Hooks** - The last connection between victory and defeat is the hook and anglers who think that they can really haul on a fish just because they have a heavy leader and good knots might be in for a surprise when they start pulling and lose the fish because the hook pops free. Hooks come in all strengths and fish are often lost when too much pressure is applied at the boat and they straighten out. Even if the hook

is extra strong, if it's not planted firmly in a hard part of the jaw it will sometimes easily tear out just as soon as a little extra pressure is applied to the leader.

**The Angler** - In some cases, the weakest link between victory and defeat over a fish is not the tackle it's the angler. Imagine having 130-pound class tackle, 600-pound leader, good knots, strong hooks, and a 60-year-old angler all hooked up to a 500-pound tuna. Where do you think the weak link in that program is? Just as all the tackle components must be of the right size and strength for the task ahead, so to must the tackle be matched to the angler's own physical abilities.

Weak links cannot be eliminated, but by using good line, proper size hooks and leader, and good connections they can be minimized. Then, by identifying and keeping aware of potential problem spots between man and fish, anglers can adopt fish-fighting strategies to reduce the chance of losing fish due to weak link failure.




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## Clean Chesapeake Coalition Files to Intervene on Conowingo

by Daniel Menefee - courtesy of the Chestertown Spy -

A group of Maryland counties challenging the science and efficacy of the 2010 EPA cleanup mandate for the Chesapeake Bay has filed a Motion to Intervene with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in the relicensing of the Conowingo Hydroelectric Dam.

"The Coalition's formal intervention in the FERC relicensing of the Conowingo Dam is a significant step towards improving the health of the Bay and protecting Bay restoration efforts and expenditures below the Dam," wrote Ron Fithian, chair of the Clean Chesapeake Coalition and President of the Kent County Commissioners, in a press release on Monday.

The dam's operator, Exelon Generation, is in a yearlong application process with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to renew its license before the current one expires in September of 2014. Exelon is currently in settlement negotiations with 23 anonymous parties that will determine how sediment and nutrient pollution is managed for nearly five decades.

But the Coalition has been barred from the negotiations so far and is what prompted the Motion to Intervene on Monday.

The Coalition was formed last November to challenge the science of the EPA's Total Maximum Daily Load mandates established in the state's Watershed Implementation Plan — because the mandate did not adequately consider a remedy to the 185 million tons of sediment and nutrient pollution that menaces precariously behind the dam.

The Coalition has advocated dredging the dam as the most expedient and cost effective way to improve water quality in the Bay. The Coalition is vying to secure a multi-state commitment to dredge, which could significantly lower the \$14.5 billion price tag to Maryland's local governments to implement their WIPs. The savings could reduce the WIP costs to other states as well, the Coalition says.

"Unmanageable amounts of nutrients and sediments are being scoured from the Conowingo Reservoir and flushed into the upper Bay during storm events," Fithian wrote. "Local WIPs will be difficult to justify and Maryland's Bay restoration efforts will continue to be undermined if this single largest source of pollution is not addressed during the FERC relicensing."

The dam contributes nearly half of all the nutrient and sediment pollution into the Chesapeake Bay from Susquehanna River.

The Coalition says the WIPs in all Bay impacting states could be recalibrated once the benefits of restoring storage capacity at the dam can be measured

in the water quality.

The EPA estimated in their 2010 Chesapeake TMDL Report that removing sediment from the dam would cost just a penny per pound.

"The objective of the Coalition is to pursue improvement to water quality of the Chesapeake Bay in a prudent and fiscally responsible manner," the press release said.

The Coalition argues that massive sediment discharges from the dam have become more frequent over the years as the dam nears storage its capacity of 204 million tons. There is currently 185 million tons of sediment backed up at the dam, which collects 2.5 million tons annually. But storm events were never factored in the EPA report in 2010, or in a report from the U.S. Geological Survey in 1997, the Coalition said.

In September 2011 Tropical Storm Lee scoured four million tons of sediment into the Bay over a nine-day period.

"Neither the EPA estimates in the 2010 TMDL nor the USGS estimates made in 1997 take into account the nutrient and sediment loading that comes from the scouring of the bottom of the Susquehanna River Basin that occurs at the five major dams in the basin during significant storm events," the Motion to Intervene said.

"The TMDL is flawed in that the dam is already full and will load the Bay when any big storm hits, which is an inevitable, albeit unpredictable, future occurrence," said Gordon P. Smith, one of the attorney's representing the Coalition.

Maryland's WIP plan was the result of a lawsuit won by Chesapeake Bay Foundation in 2010 that compelled the EPA to enforce the 1972 Clean Water Act. Under a consent decree, states in the Chesapeake Watershed, from New York to Virginia, were required to implement WIP plans that brought the Bay into compliance with the Clean Water Act by 2025.

But Pennsylvania, the largest source of sediment and nutrients flowing into the Susquehanna, is balking at the TMDL and WIP mandates with slow implementation and litigation. Almost immediately after the TMDL report in 2010, the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, joined by the American Farm Bureau Federation, filed suit against the EPA to challenge the legality of the TMDL process under the Clean Water Act and the science in the mandates.

"EPA relied on inaccurate assumptions and on a scientific model that EPA itself admits was flawed," the AFBF suit alleged. "...the TMDL violates the Administrative Procedures Act's prohibition of 'arbitrary and capricious' agency action."

"The AFBF asserts that EPA violated the APA requirement that agencies allow meaningful public participation on new rules," the AFBF suit alleged.

Because of the litigation in Pennsylvania, Coalition members are concerned that Pennsylvania will not have implemented its WIP plans in time before the dam has reached its capacity — and that costly efforts to communities in Maryland below the dam could be wiped out if a major storm or hurricane

passes over the region.

Cecil County Councilwoman Diana Broomell testified in January before the Environmental Matters Committee in Annapolis that any gains made by Cecil's local WIP could be washed away by a single storm event.

"We could invest the \$600 million in our WIP plan to put all the measures in, and one storm event would undo all that good," Broomell said.

In the Motion to Intervene, the Coalition again referenced the EPA's 2010 TMDL report, which pointed to New York and Pennsylvania as the largest source of pollutants into Bay.

"In 2010, EPA estimated that 48% of the nitrogen loading to the Bay, 29% of the phosphorus loading to the Bay and 36% of the sediment loading to the Bay come from Pennsylvania and New York," The Motion to Intervene said. "It is beyond dispute that there is no larger source of nitrogen loading to the Bay than the loading that comes from the Susquehanna River. EPA estimated that only 20% of the overall nitrogen loading to the Bay originates in Maryland."

"EPA estimated that only 20% of the phosphorus loading and only 17% of the sediment loading to the Bay originates in Maryland. Thus, EPA...reported in its conclusion that the nutrient and sediment loading from the Susquehanna River is significantly greater than the nutrient and sediment loading from all Maryland sources," the Motion to Intervene said.

Any agreements brokered in the relicensing negotiations could have considerable cost implications for more than 50 million people, from Virginia to New York, who live in what is defined as the Chesapeake Water Shed, said the Coalition's chief counsel, Charles "Chip" MacLeod.

"This is why local government intervention in the relicensing of Conowingo is a critical activity to the future water quality of the Chesapeake Bay."



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## Despite Big Bloomberg Money, Veto Protects Gun Rights in Nevada

By Alex Newman a correspondent for The New American

Despite a massive influx of funds from billionaire New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, an anti-gun extremist using his fortune to bankroll nationwide attacks on the Second Amendment, Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval vetoed legislation last month that would have mandated "universal background checks" on gun purchases. Gun-rights activists successfully mobilized to stop the bill, inundating the Republican governor's office with phone calls asking him to veto it.

The defeat of the controversial legislation was viewed as a major development with implications that extend far beyond Nevada's borders. Gun-rights supporters celebrated the veto, saying it showed that out-of-touch billionaires and their bogus polls were

losing the nationwide battle to strip Americans' God-given right to keep and bear arms. Anti-gun zealots, meanwhile, howled about the embarrassing defeat and vowed to press forward with their attack on the Second Amendment.

If the S.B. 221 legislation had been signed into law, all firearm purchases would have to be approved by authorities, essentially making firearm ownership a revocable privilege rather than a constitutionally guaranteed right. Even more alarming to critics were the potential abuses of the background check system to compile records of all gun owners and create a database — historically a precursor to confiscation. Officials continue to claim that records of the check are promptly destroyed in accordance with the law, but experts are not buying it.

"The instant background check is gun registration," Gun Owners of America chief Larry Pratt told The New American, adding that it was crucial for citizens to continue fighting back against efforts to infringe on the Second Amendment. "The government will not answer when we ask how they are destroying the names and addresses, as required by law, of those that have been checked. They just don't respond; 'so sue us' is kind of the attitude that they have."

The controversial bill would have also turned mental-health workers into mandated government informants by requiring them to report patients who may be a threat to themselves or others. Among other major concerns, analysts contend that as soon as a lawsuit is filed against a psychiatrist for failing to report a patient who later did something wrong, the norm will become reporting virtually everyone who seeks therapy.

Critics of such mental-health provisions come from all across the political spectrum. Among them: psychiatrists and others who warn that people in need of assistance would be less likely to seek it if they could lose their gun rights; advocates of patient confidentiality; experts concerned about Big Psychiatry's increasingly outlandish claims that almost every sort of human

behavior should be labeled a "mental illness," and more.

Already, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the psychiatric industry claim that some 50 percent of Americans will suffer from mental disorders, an allegation blasted as ludicrous by credible psychiatrists. The potential for abusing "mental health" diagnoses to restrict individual rights is enormous, experts say, citing mountains of data.

In a statement, Gov. Sandoval outlined his reasons for vetoing the legislation. While expressing support for many of the bill's goals, the governor said the background check provisions would "constitute an erosion of Nevadans Second Amendment rights under the United States Constitution." It could also subject otherwise law-abiding citizens to prosecution, he added.

Law enforcement leaders in the state agreed with the governor's analysis and requested a veto. According to the Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association, the mandatory background check provisions on private sales "place an unreasonable burden on law-abiding citizens, with the potential to make them criminals." The association also said the scheme would be "unenforceable" by law enforcement and would "do little to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals."


Another problem with the legislation, Gov. Sandoval continued, was a change in state law that would shift the burden of proof in prosecutions of people who sell firearms. Current law makes it a crime to transfer firearms if there is "actual knowledge" that the buyer is a "prohibited person." If the bill had become law, sellers would be prosecuted just for having "reasonable cause to believe" — a radical change that the governor noted could subject law-abiding Nevadans to criminal prosecution.

As such, after receiving at least tens of thousands of calls from citizens seeking a veto, the governor decided not to support the controversial legislation. "Senate Bill 221, while laudable in its efforts to strengthen reporting requirements concerning mentally ill persons, imposes unreasonable burdens and harsh penalties upon law-abiding Nevadans, while doing little to prevent criminals from unlawfully obtaining firearms," he said in the veto statement.

Gun rights activists who helped rally opposition to the bill promptly celebrated the victory, but warned that the nationwide battle to preserve the Second Amendment was far from over. Gun Own-

See Gun Control page 19

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## Perfect Brine For Your Smoked Trout Recipes



Smoking is a great way to cook trout. This is an easy and very tasty brine. I like to soak the fish in the brine for about 12 hours (in the refrigerator). The following ingredients list is ideal for 2 cleaned and gutted rainbow trout of about 2lb each in weight (pre-gutting weight).

### Ingredients

- 1/2 a cup for rock salt
- 1/3 cut of soft brown sugar
- 2 table spoons of lemon juice
- 5ml of garlic powder
- 5ml of onion powder
- 5ml of Chinese five spice
- 1.5 litres of water

## Book of the Month

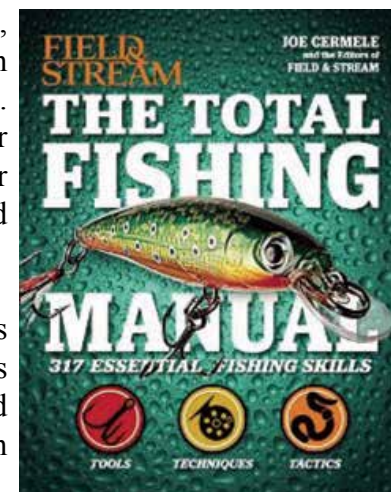
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## DNREC's Shad Hatchery aids restoration of species in Nanticoke River

DOVER – DNREC's Nanticoke Shad Hatchery produced and stocked approximately 558,000 American shad fry this spring, continuing to create momentum for a successful species restoration program, the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife announced today. Located on the banks of the Nan-

ticoke River near the confluence with Broad Creek, the hatchery operates during the spring of the year to restore American shad numbers in the Nanticoke, Delaware's primary tributary to the Chesapeake Bay.

Working with local landowners who provided stream access, Division of Fish and Wildlife staff collected adult American shad from their spawning grounds on the Nanticoke River and Deep Creek. The fish were transported to the hatchery, where they were placed in a 4,000-gallon circular tank to spawn naturally. The eggs were collected and hatched, with the fry "marked" and then stocked at about three days

of age. To preserve genetic integrity of the Nanticoke stock, the hatchery spawns adult American shad that are native to the Nanticoke River.

Predation by other fish species on shad eggs and newly-hatched fry occurs at high levels in the wild. By eliminating natural predation on the eggs and fry at this critical stage of their life cycle, the hatchery process provides protection and "jump start" their rate of spawning at was completed, the adult shad were released back into the Nanticoke River to return another year to spawn.



provides the shad a which increases survival. Once the hatchery ed, the adult

American shad are valued as a food fish and were often consumed after being smoked. Female shad are prized for their roe (egg sacs), which are considered a delicacy by many. Shad are ecologically important and provide a forage base for many top predatory species such as striped bass and largemouth bass. American shad provide recreational fishing opportunities as well, and pound for pound will deliver a strong fight on hook-and-line. The shad fishery on the Nanticoke and its tributaries is currently closed to harvest as part of the restoration process, although catch-and-release fishing is permitted.

Since 2000, the shad hatchery has stocked more than 5,500,000 American shad in the Nanticoke River. Sampling of shad fry and returning adult shad in the river indicate that the shad population is starting to recover, with a substantial percentage of the fish originating from the hatchery. The goal is for the increasing numbers of returning shad to lessen the need for the hatchery by naturally producing a higher percentage of young and returning shad.

For more information about shad, please contact Mike Stangl, DNREC Fisheries Section, at 302-739-9914.

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## Gun control ...

Continued from Page 17

ers of America, widely considered the most principled gun-rights organization, pointed out that citizens made the difference — defeating big money from out-of-state Astroturf groups like Bloomberg's "Mayors Against Illegal Guns," which spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on its effort in Nevada.

"Despite Bloomberg's fortune, his anti-gun MAIG simply doesn't have the grassroots behind it," noted Gun Owners of America in an e-mail blast to supporters announcing the victory. "The Governor was inclined to veto the gun control bill all along, but gun owners can be sure that — had the poll results gone the other way — he could have been easily persuaded to bow to Bloomberg's pressure."

The implications of the veto extend far beyond Nevada, however. "Nevada is a key state as it is home to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D) and to 'swing vote' Senator Dean Heller (R)," GOA continued. "Defeating Universal Background Checks in the Silver State — with overwhelming numbers of callers opposing it — sends a powerful message from a Purple State, that Americans do NOT want additional gun control!"

As has become typical in the ongoing assault on gun rights, anti-Second Amendment forces were quick to trot out easily debunked polls claiming that "90 percent" of Americans support schemes to require government permission before a person can exercise his or her unalienable rights. Bloomberg and his gun-control group, which has numerous mayoral members embroiled in outrageous scandals, were particularly furious about the victory for gun rights.

"Rather than sign sensible legislation that keeps guns out of the hands of convicted felons and the mentally

ill, Governor Sandoval has decided to preserve the loopholes that they use to buy guns," whined Bloomberg in a press release, citing bogus statistics and polls to support his extremist views. "The state legislature and 86 percent of Nevadans support comprehensive background checks, but this veto means that criminals and the dangerously mentally ill will continue to get a free pass in Nevada."

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), a key figure in the crusade to further restrict gun rights who spoke with Gov. Sandoval about the bill, was upset as well. "I am deeply disappointed in Gov. Sandoval's decision to veto this bill," he was quoted as saying in the Washington Post. "People convicted of a felony or suffering from a severe mental illness should be prevented from buying a gun with a simple background check."

While states like Colorado, New York, and Connecticut have passed statutes infringing on the right to keep and bear arms in recent months, others have gone in the opposite direction, with some expanding gun rights and a few even nullifying unconstitutional federal gun control rules. Kansas, as one recent example, passed nullification legislation earlier this year making it a crime for federal agents to enforce certain unconstitutional restrictions on gun rights within the state. Meanwhile, South Dakota passed a law allowing teachers to carry firearms at school.

However, as The New American has been reporting for months, President Obama and his anti-Second Amendment allies are quietly working to foist more restrictions on America through "executive actions." Recent news reports also suggest that anti-gun members of Congress are preparing for another showdown after their embarrassing Senate defeat in April. If gun rights are to survive in the long term, analysts say, Second Amendment proponents will have to stay on high alert.



Adam Lowe and his younger brother Josh Lowe went on their first Rockfish trip out of Tilghman Island aboard 'Hard Ball'. Adam reeled in a 41.5 inch tagged Rockfish. Josh reeled in a 40 inch Rockfish. Both received a Citation from Maryland DNR. Adam's fish was tagged in New Jersey on 3/18/2008, and was released in the Delaware Bay. The fish was 30.69 inches at release, and was a 2001 class fish.

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2	5:44	8:37	6:08	8:17
3	5:45	8:37	6:09	8:16
4	5:45	8:36	6:09	8:15
5	5:46	8:36	6:10	8:14
6	5:46	8:36	6:11	8:13
7	5:47	8:36	6:12	8:12
8	5:48	8:35	6:13	8:10
9	5:48	8:35	6:14	8:09
10	5:49	8:34	6:15	8:08
11	5:50	8:34	6:16	8:07
12	5:50	8:34	6:17	8:05
13	5:51	8:33	6:18	8:04
14	5:52	8:33	6:19	8:03
15	5:53	8:32	6:20	8:02
16	5:53	8:31	6:21	8:00
17	5:54	8:31	6:21	7:59
18	5:55	8:30	6:22	7:57
19	5:56	8:29	6:23	7:56
20	5:56	8:29	6:24	7:55
21	5:57	8:28	6:25	7:53
22	5:58	8:27	6:26	7:52
23	5:59	8:27	6:27	7:50
24	6:00	8:26	6:28	7:49
25	6:01	8:25	6:29	7:47
26	6:01	8:24	6:30	7:46
27	6:02	8:23	6:31	7:44
28	6:03	8:22	6:32	7:43
29	6:04	8:21	6:32	7:41
30	6:05	8:20	6:33	7:40
31	6:06	8:19	6:34	7:38



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## “THE LAST WORD”

### Hunting across the Pond

By Steve Huettner

As the dog days of summer descend across the old line state, what is a dedicated hunter to do? One can only spend so much time practicing at the range, watching food

plots grow, and arguing on internet message boards about season lengths and bag limits.

For a growing number of sportsmen, summer means getting on a plane and flying across the Atlantic to hunt the Dark Continent of Africa. Several decades ago a safari (Arabic for journey) meant several days of travel followed by three to four weeks hunting which meant those of only extremely well means could experience the sights and sounds of Africa. With the advent of modern day air travel and the proliferation of hunting outfitters in Africa; one can experience a taste of Africa in roughly the same time as the typical family summer vacation for the cost of a guided rifle elk hunt out west.

Hunting in Africa is divided into two types: plains game and dangerous game. Dangerous game involves hunting animals that can do harm (buffalo, rhino, elephant, leopard, lion, croc, and hippo). Dangerous game hunts usually involve more days required and higher cost as opposed to plains game. For most first time safari hunters, a plains game hunt in South Africa and Namibia are the primary destinations. The hunting season for the most part runs from April through August, which is winter in southern Africa. Comfortable temps during the day, cool evenings, plenty of sun and little humidity make for pleasant days afield.

Information on who to book an African safari with has never been easier. There are several shows every January and February throughout the US where African outfitters sell hunts for the upcoming sea-

son. Several internet forums provide excellent information (accuratereloading.com is on one of the best), along with booking agents that specialize

in booking African safaris hunters give the first time safari hunter plenty of options. Air travel to South Africa and Namibia is relatively painless with flight out of Atlanta, Dulles and JFK on a daily basis.

Hunting in Africa requires the use of a professional hunter. A professional hunter is someone who has attended some type of formal training (each country has different standards) and is responsible for your well being while in country. He is knowledgeable

for animals that you shoot. Be warned though, once you draw blood on an animal you are responsible for the trophy fee (whether you recover the animal or not). The professional hunter and trackers will go to the great lengths to find any wounded animal.

One of the great things about hunting plains game in Africa is that you don't need any specialized equipment. A rifle or bow, a good set of boots and some binoculars is all you will need. Rifles and bows that you use for whitetails are more than sufficient for most African plains game, with calibers like the .270, 7mm, 30/06 and .300 all able to get the job done.

Plains game hunts can either be booked with you paying the day fee and then deciding on what type of animals you would like hunt when getting there, or paying for a package ahead of time. For those that like to know their exact costs, the package hunt proves popular. Package hunts are usually 5, 7, or 10 days and one single price covers your day fees and the trophy fees for 5-7 animals choose by the outfitter.

One question that is commonly asked is how to get trophies back and the costs associated. Your first option is whether you want the finished work done in Africa or here in the US. If you have the work done their costs a bit less but shipping the finished product may be more expensive. If you want mounts down back here in the states or want European mounts you just

pay for what's called dip and ship (the raw trophies are shipped to you). Shipping costs are based on the size (volume) of the crate, so cost depends on how many trophies you take.

So as the dog days of summer arrive, consider using the frequent flier miles, and taking a week's vacation to experience hunting in Africa. There is nothing like enjoying an adult beverage around the fire after a hard day of hunting in the African bush; listening to the sounds and looking up and seeing the Southern Cross. I always tell people once you get that African dirt on your boots, you are forever hooked.



about the animals you are hunting, oversees daily operations of the camp, ensures your trophies are properly handled, and ensures you are safe in happy while in their care.

There are two types of costs associated with hunting in Africa; day fees and trophy fees. Day fees cover all daily expenses while you are in camp (services of a professional hunter and tracker, your lodging, meals, drinks, laundry, transportation, etc). Trophy fees involve the cost associated with killing that particular animal (which can range from \$200 to \$4000). All hunt able species in Africa have a value attached to them, which means you only pay

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**Farm For Sale** 303 acres Chaptico, MD 5 bedroom main house, 2 tenant houses, pond, 3 tobacco barns. \$1,250,000 Chris Holland, Addison Herring, Inc. 301-627-4655

**Eastern Shore, Virginia;** building lot along Occonannock creek, Exmore. 5 minutes to public boat ramp. 35k; possible owner financing. (717)632-3864

**Goose / Duck Pit** for lease in Kennedyville, MD (Kent County) Call for more info 301-325-5500

**Dorchester county** on tedious creek 29 acres great sika and waterfowl. Two story house can be renovated. \$149,900.00 410-490-0084

# HAMMING IT UP!



Gracie Hamm (9), Karli Hamm (8) and Hadlee Hamm (6) joined their dad, Capt. Bo aboard his charterboat the 'Brawler II' for a day of liveling. The Chesapeake City girls wasted no time in showing dad how it's done.

# BE A CHUMMER THIS SUMMER!

## CHUM by the Log, Bucket or Bushel

## ALEWIVES by the Flat or Bushel

## All Sizes of Circle Hooks!

Black Saltys,  
Minnows,  
Bloodworms,  
Earthworms,  
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Necks

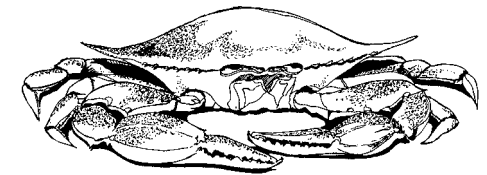


CHUM by the Log, Bucket or Bushel  
ALEWIVES by the Flat or Bushel  
All sizes of CIRCLE HOOKS

*Shakespeare* CHUMMING  
SINCE 1897 OUTFIT

BWS1100, 6' 6" or 7' UGLY STIK ROD  
Ball Bearing SS Spinning Reel,  
4 ball Bearings 17# or 20# Line... \$64.95  
Rod & Reel Chumming Combos as low as \$39.95

# LET'S GO



# CRABBIN'!

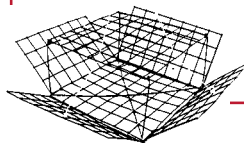
## Foxy-Mate Topless Crab Traps



Model 120T \$10.99 each  
- \$109.95 Doz.  
Foxy-Mate Crab Traps  
Model 66 \$6.99  
Each \$69.95 Doz.

1000 Foot Trotline... Nylon... \$36.95  
500 Foot Tarded Trotline... \$21.99

## Pasadena 4-Door Crab Traps



\$7.99 Each  
\$84.95 Doz.



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1000' Snood Trotline \$179.95

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Folding Crab Traps  
\$8.95 Ea. \$89.95 Dozen

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