

OUTDOORS DIGEST

### Upcoming S.D. State Park Programs Provide Recreation, Education

PIERRE — Educational and recreational programming in South Dakota's state parks will be increasing during the busy summer camping season. A number of parks are offering programs that allow visitors to join a guided hike, cook over the campfire or learn the history of a favorite park.

- Walk in the Woods, Good Earth State Park at Blood Run near Sioux Falls, Friday, July 12 at 10 a.m. CDT. Info: 605-987-2263
- Little Naturalist Program: Pretty Plants, Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve near North Sioux City, Friday, July 12 at 10 a.m. CDT. Pre-register/Info: 605-232-0873
- Legend and Lore, Chief White Crane Recreation Area near Yankton, Friday, July 12 at 7 p.m. Info: 605-668-2985
- Youth Duathlon, Big Sioux Recreation Area near Brandon, Saturday, July 13 at 8:15 a.m. CDT. Info: 605-582-7243
- Nature Hike, Good Earth State Park at Blood Run near Sioux Falls, Saturday, July 13, 9 a.m. CDT. Info: 605-987-2263
- Dutch Oven Cooking, Randall Creek Recreation Area near Pickstown, Saturday, July 13 at 10 a.m. CDT. Info: 605-487-7046
- Outdoor Cooking from A to Z, Oahe Downstream Recreation Area near Fort Pierre, Saturday, July 13 at 10 a.m. CDT. Info: 605-223-7722
- Birding Basics, Newton Hills State Park near Canton, Saturday, July 13 at 10 a.m. CDT. Info: 605-987-2263
- Parrot Program, Newton Hills State Park near Canton, Saturday, July 13 at 11 a.m. CDT. Info: 605-987-2263
- Family Sand Volleyball Tournament, Lake Thompson Recreation Area near Lake Preston, Saturday, July 13 at 3 p.m. CDT. Info: 605-847-4893
- Insect Hike, Fort Sisseton Historic State Park near Lake City, Saturday, July 13 at 3 p.m. CDT. Info: 605-448-5474
- Dutch Oven Gathering, Big Sioux Recreation Area near Brandon, Saturday, July 13 at 3:30 p.m. CDT. Info: 605-582-7243
- History Hike, Newton Hills State Park near Canton, Saturday, July 13 at 7 p.m. CDT. Info: 605-987-2263
- Constellations and Stories, Good Earth State Park at Blood Run near Sioux Falls, Saturday, July 13 at 9:30 p.m. CDT. Info: 605-987-2263
- Umonhon Culture Program, Good Earth State Park at Blood Run near Sioux Falls, Saturday, July 13 at 7:30 p.m. CDT and Sunday, July 14 at 2 p.m. CDT. Info: 605-987-2263, Pre-register: 605-362-2777

All programs are free; however, a park entrance license is required to enter most parks. For more information on activities in the S.D. state parks, visit [www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov), contact the individual park office or call 605-773-3391.

### State Parks Offers

#### Summer Nature Camps

PIERRE — Four South Dakota state parks are hosting nature day camps for kids ages 7-12. The camps are a great way for kids to explore surrounding recreation areas and focus on the outdoors.

North Point Recreation Area near Wagner is hosting a camp at Wagner Lake City Park on Monday, July 15 at 6:30 p.m. CDT. Participants will have an opportunity to kayak! Call 605-487-7046 for more information.

Lake Poinsett Recreation Area near Arlington is hosting a day camp from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. CDT on Tuesday, July 16. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy a day of outdoor activities. Call 605-983-5085 to register.

"Nature Explorers" is the theme at Rocky Point Recreation Area near Belle Fourche on Wednesday, July 17 from 9:30 a.m. to noon MDT. Campers will have the opportunity to catch insects, discover tracks, smell flowers, identify animal droppings and look at birds through binoculars. Call 605-641-0023 for more information or to register.

Big Sioux Recreation Area near Brandon is hosting a day camp from 9-11 a.m. CDT on Thursday, July 18. Participants will learn about nocturnal animals with a hands-on lesson, complete a crafts project, hike and participate in games. Pre-registration is encouraged. Call 605-594-3824.

While the camps are geared for kids ages 7-12, younger children may attend if accompanied by an adult. Children are reminded to wear clothing appropriate for the weather and to bring bug spray, drinking water and shoes comfortable for walking. Sandals are not appropriate. No snacks or refreshments will be provided, but children are welcome to bring their own.

For a complete list of state park events, visit South Dakota state parks on the web at [www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov)

### Neb. Capitol's Peregrine Falcons Receive Names

LINCOLN, Neb. — The two male and one female peregrine falcons raised at the Nebraska Capitol this year now have an enduring connection to the state where they were hatched and raised.

Two contestants submitted the winning entry in the Name the Chick Contest. The names Meadowlark, Goldenrod and Cottonwood were chosen. The names were suggested because they are Nebraska's state bird, state flower and state tree, respectively.

Jeanne Hibbert of Sprague and Willie Braun of Lincoln submitted the winning entry.

The winning entry was one of six finalists selected out of 290 entries, which were voted on by the public. More than 850 votes were received. The two winners receive a stuffed toy peregrine falcon and a year's subscription to NEBRASKAland Magazine. The young falcons have recently taken their first flights over the Capitol.

The Capitol falcons have successfully produced young in seven of the last eight years: one in 2005, three in 2006, four in 2007 and 2009, three in 2010, one in 2011, and two in 2012.

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### Of The Outdoors | Gary Howey

# Bow Fishing On The 'Mo

BY GARY HOWEY

Hartington, Neb.

Off to my left, I caught movement, something, large, a dark shadow, verily visible below as it moved just below the surface, gliding through the murky water of the Missouri River. The shadow moved off to the left side of our boat as Team Outdoorsmen Adventures Member Marlyn Wiebelhaus drew back his bow and readied for the shot.

Our crew, Team Member Larry Myhre (Sioux City, Iowa) our camera operator, Wayne State College Intern Morgan Ruterbories (Clearwater, Neb.), Marlyn and I were bow fishing for invasive/ rough fish species and filming another of our Outdoorsmen Adventures television segments.

We were bow fishing on the Missouri River, the longest river of North America, the 100 miles of the National Recreational River. The river forms the border between southeastern South Dakota and northeast Nebraska as it makes its way down stream towards Sioux City where it picks up speed, making it's way on

down to St. Louis.

Bow fishing is about the only way we're able to put a dent in the populations of these fish, as they are seldom caught on hook and line.

The Missouri River and other bodies of water have been invaded by invasive species, which includes numerous species of fish,

Eurasian Milfoil and Zebra Mussels which have made their way into the river, possibly escaping from ponds they were stocked in or from bait buckets or in boat live wells, becoming a huge problem, moving up river until their progress is blocked by the dams.

In order to stop further their spread, both the Nebraska and South Dakota Game & Parks have implemented several special restrictions which include, the draining of all water from live and bait wells before leaving the body of water, preventing the transportation of the small invasive species, those almost invisible to the eye and the cleaning/removal of vegetation from watercraft when leaving the water.

The majority of these invasive fish species are plankton feeders, competing heavily with the native Paddlefish who live in the river.

Bow fisherman can take rough fish



PHOTO: LARRY MYHRE  
**Team Outdoorsmen Adventures Marlyn Wiebelhaus of Wynot, Neb., is pictured with one of the Bighead Carp taken while bow fishing in southeast South Dakota on the Missouri River.**

throughout the year, with bow fishing for game fish being open from July 1st running through Dec. 31.

Marlyn, the owner/operator of Wiebelhaus Guide Service, [wiebelhausguiding.com](http://wiebelhausguiding.com) is an avid archer, spending over one hundred days on the river guiding bow fisherman for rough fish and Paddlefish.

Just how good is Marlyn with a bow, well, he's held or holds around twenty Nebraska and South Dakota bow fishing records, as well as having several deer registered in the Pope and Young record books.

The fish I mentioned earlier was beginning to go deep when Marlin released his arrow, connecting with the huge Big Head Carp which immediately charged past the boat heading deep, going down river quickly, putting heavy pressure on the line attached to the big reel of his recurve bow.

Marlyn lurched off the elevated platform, doing his best to slow the big fish, yelling for me to put another arrow in it as it looked to be pulling loose.

Before I could get to him, the huge fish, tore loose, heading deep, as far away as possible from what had held

it on the surface for a short time.

Big Head Carp can be huge and are extremely powerful fish, with even the smaller ones, tough to handle when shot with a bow. We estimated the fish that came loose to be at least thirty-five pounds, which is a big fish, yet shy of the seventy-nine pound six ounce Nebraska state archery record.

Since Wiebelhaus has spent so much time on the river, his ability at shooting a bow is unbelievable and he's fussy about what he takes aim at, as it has to be "big" for him to even give them a second look.

It was late June, a time, when in most years, the huge schools of Big Head Carp, Buffalo and other invasive species become hard to find. Not this year as the white mouths of those feeding fish cruising just below the surface were visible everywhere.

Since, the last time I picked up my bow fishing rig was over a year ago, when we'd filmed our last show with Marlyn, it took me a few shots to get back in the groove, but when I did, I poked a good one, the big fish turned, charging down river, surprising me with it's speed and power. Before I could grab the line and slow him

down, it hit the end of it, breaking the cap off my bow reel and dragging it and my arrow down stream. Perhaps, someday, somewhere down near St. Louis or beyond, they'll find the fish, still dragging my gear behind it.

Luckily for me, Marlyn has plenty of spare gear in his boat, helping me out, loaning me one of his spare reels, allowing me to get back into the game.

The fish were working just below the surface, stacking up behind the many snags in the river. Marlyn, using his trolling motor, mounted to the 5 foot elevated deck on the front of his boat, quietly maneuvered us into position for the shot, making it seem more like a spot and stalk hunt as these fish were spooky, with any vibration sending them into the depths.

The action continued for over an hour, when we made the decision to head towards the Gavin's Point dam to check out the fast water to see if any fish were cruising the water below the turbines.

As we motored around the point separating the fast water from the spillway, fish could be seen all along the rock point.

Anchoring the boat along the shoreline, we started hammering the rough fish cruising the shoreline.

Shot after shot connected with several species of rough fish, including, Big Head Carp, Buffalo, common Carp, Long Nose Gar, Short Nose Gar and Silver Carp, the flying fish on the Missouri River.

Our day ended with thirty-one fish in the box weighing over two hundred pounds, which would be used for trapping bait, which was not a bad day on the river.

Bow fishing is a great sport, helps to get rid of some of the invasive species and if you score them and deep fat fry them, they're pretty darn good eating.

So, grab your bow and a reel with some "really" strong string, tie on a fish arrow and give bow fishing a try.

*Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is a former tournament angler, fishing and hunting guide. Howey is the Producer/Host of the award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series which can be seen in Yankton the series airs on channels 2 & 98 Saturday at 6:30 pm and Sunday at 7:00 am. He and Simon Fuller are the hosts of the Outdoor Adventures radio program Monday-Saturday at 6:45 am on Classic Hits 106.3 and ESPN Sports Radio 1570. If you're looking for more outdoor information, check out [www.outdoorsmenadventures.com](http://www.outdoorsmenadventures.com) and like Outdoorsmen Adventures on Facebook.*

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### TROPHY SPOTLIGHT



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
**Trevor Griffith caught this 15-pound, 4-ounce Northern Pike on July 1 below Gavin's Point Dam.**

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