

OUTDOORSUPDATE

OF THE OUTDOORS:

Dog Days Of Summer Will Be Here Soon

BY GARY HOWEY
Hartington, Neb.

Last winter was a nasty one and we couldn't wait until it warmed up, well it won't be long and your wish will be answered.

With July just a week away, temperatures will start to rise, along with the humidity, making for perfect conditions for nasty weather and tougher walleye fishing conditions.

Fish have a lot of different conditions they have to adjust or relate to this time of the year including: rising water temperatures, rising/falling barometric pressure, high water, low water and the bright sunlight all making walleye fishing during the Dog Days of summer tough.

Keys to locating and catching fish this time of the year with the best location to look for being, your deeper water and areas where there will be less sunlight penetration.

As water temperatures rise, walleyes and other species of fish will head into deeper water searching out areas with more comfortable water temperatures.

These deep-water haunts provide the cooler water temperatures that the fish need to survive when things heat up.

There are several reasons that the fish relocate into the depths. One is because their food source, the baitfish has moved down bringing the predator fish with them.

There are several methods that help you to take these deep-water fish, those that have worked well for me are: livebait rigging, leadcore line, snap weights or downriggers dragging crankbaits.

During this time of the year, fish movement can vary drastically, especially just prior to a severe weather change.

Fish detect the weather change well before it happens. They have a lateral line, a series of sensitive nerve endings extending from behind the gills to their tail that allows them to detect any change in the barometric pressure.

Once they realize that a severe weather change is about to occur, walleyes and other species of fish will go on a feeding binge prior to the arrival of the storm, then move deep, lying dormant on the bottom until our weather conditions stabilize.

If you're fishing these dormant fish after a storm has passed through, you'll need a lot of patience and a precise bait presentation, such as a Lindy Rig.

I've had my best luck on these inactive fish by presenting my bait right in front of the walleyes nose and staying there until they get tired of it and mad enough to bite.

Since the sun is at its highest point this



Walleyes will move deep as the Dog Days of Summer approach. Columnist Gary Howey caught this walleye using a Lindy rig while fishing Mille Lacs, Minn.

PHOTO: JERRY CARLSON

time of the year and walleyes are very light sensitive, they're going to be more active in periods with minimal sunlight.

Which would be: early morning and late evening, as the sun is at its lowest point and sunlight penetration is the least during this time of the day.

Not all walleyes will stay deep throughout the day, as there are times when the conditions are right, walleyes will move shallow.

One of these is on those very windy days as there's a good chance that walleyes will move up shallow to feed in the on top of humps rock piles and sandbars.

Because the surface of the water is being rippled by the wind, reducing the sunlight's penetration, making the shallower water more comfortable, allowing walleyes to move shallow to feed.

Another time during the heat of the day that you'll find walleyes shallow would be when heavy winds are pounding into points or the shoreline.

With the wind hammering against a shoreline, a mud line is created, dramati-

cally cutting light penetration along the shoreline.

Looking at this muddy water, it may be hard to believe that walleyes would be able to find bait in the muddy coming back off a shoreline.

As a diver, I've had the opportunity to be in these areas when a mud line was created.

The muddy water can be on the first six inches, and depending on the point or shoreline can be clear from that point to the bottom, which allows the walleyes the opportunity to move up during the day and feed.

River, fish will also be in the deepest holes as well as in shallower areas where there's heavier current as this cools and oxygenates the water making it a more hospitable environment for walleyes.

During the heat of the summer in a river, an increase or decrease in water, will cause fish to make sudden location changes that you might want to take advantage of.

With a drop in water levels, fish will be forced into the remaining deep holes, con-

Rapid City Named Top Town For Sportsmen

BY GARY HOWEY

Each Year, Outdoor Life Magazine ranks the Top 200 towns for sportsmen and this year, Rapid City came out on top.

Thanks to the close proximity to some of the best and most varied hunting and fishing in the nation, combined with high scores in socio-economic categories, Rapid City, South Dakota's 2nd largest city has a low unemployment rate, low cost of living a growing population and a reasonably high medium household income.

This along with the 2.3 million acres Black Hills National forest that serves as the city's sporting playground, help to make Rapid City a great place for outdoorsmen and women.

The hills are the home of an abundant wildlife population with whitetails, mule deer, elk, turkey, bighorn sheep and mountain lions.

The reservoirs and streams in the area are the home of trout, perch, bluegills, and pike.

Also making the top ten was Pierre. Located on the Missouri River, Pierre gives anglers excellent fishing opportunities for walleye, salmon and smallmouth bass.

There are numerous hunting opportunities including upland game, waterfowl and big game.

Those of us that live in the area have always known that where we live couldn't get any better, now all outdoorsmen and women know just how good it is to live in these areas.

concentrating them in smaller areas. If there's an increase in water flow, they'll move up stream, up against the sandbars and shallower to feed, taking advantage of the new influx of baitfish and other aquatic creatures that are being flushed into the system.

Dog Days of summer usually mean you'll need to go to deep-water presentations, but under the right conditions, walleyes can be shallow giving anglers the opportunity to fish them with bottom bouncers and spinners, Lindy Rigs or by pitching jigs and crankbaits.

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is a syndicated outdoor writer and the producer/host of the *Outdoorsmen Adventures* television series. *Outdoorsmen Adventures* can be seen throughout the upper Midwest or on the Internet at www.MyOutdoorTV.com. For more information on the outdoors go to www.outdoorsadventures.com.

East River, National Wildlife Refuge Deer Seasons Proposed

CHAMBERLAIN — The South Dakota Game Fish and Parks Commission proposed to double the number of three-tag deer licenses available for the upcoming 2010 East River Deer Season compared to 2009.

The Commission proposed to offer 520 fewer one-tag and 3,875 fewer two-tag licenses, but to offer 2,550 more three tag licenses.

The Commission also proposed to offer landowners the opportunity to double two free antlerless licenses in any unit that has leftovers after the second drawing. The 2010 Legislature passed a law that requires GFP offer the free landowner tags.

The Commission also proposed a change that would allow licensed deer hunters for the

Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge to hunt antlerless deer from Jan. 1-9, 2011.

Residents who want to provide written comments on the East River Deer and National Wildlife Refuge Deer Season proposals may do so until 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 7. Comments may be mailed to Game, Fish and Parks Commission, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD, 57501, or e-mailed to wildinfo@state.sd.us. All comments must have the sender's full names and addresses in order to be included in the public record.

Comments may also be presented in person during the GFP Commission public hearing, which is scheduled for 2 p.m. CDT on Thursday, July 8th at the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre.

S.D. Instructor Awards Announced

PIERRE — An individual from Martin and a five-member team from Milbank are being honored for their service and contributions to the Hunter Safety and Firearms Education (HuntSAFE) program of the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department.

Gary Rayhill of Martin was selected as the recipient of the HuntSAFE individual instructor award for 2009. Selected for the HuntSAFE instructor team award was the Milbank team of David Cizadlo, David Dockter, Rick Hentges, Bernie Hermans and Dennis Skoog.

Rayhill has been an active HuntSAFE instructor for more than 30 years. He was nominated by Bennett County Conservation Officer Tom Beck.

"Gary takes his commitment to youth and conservation a step further than most," Beck wrote in nominating Rayhill. "Gary is active in 4-H shooting sports and dedicates considerable time to this activity. Gary also volun-

teers his time to conservation groups, such as Pheasants Forever and Ducks Unlimited."

Grant County Conservation Officer Jamie Pekelder nominated the five-member team of Cizadlo, Dockter, Hentges, Hermans and Skoog.

"I am always impressed with how smoothly these instructors work together," Pekelder said. "Each instructor has an individual method of teaching, but when they are put together it creates an exceptionally good class."

"Our volunteer instructors come from many walks of life, but all share a passion for hunting and hunter safety," said Curt Robertson, GFP HuntSAFE coordinator. "We're grateful for the commitment and dedication each instructor gives to the HuntSAFE program every year."

For Scent Elimination, Is Carbon Out?

BY BABE WINKELMAN

There's been a lot of talk in hunting circles about carbon-based hunting clothing, which is supposed to eliminate human odor by adsorbing scent molecules. Today there are some legal questions about whether it really works as advertised; and whether the carbon clothing can truly be "re-activated" in your clothes dryer.

I'm neither a chemist nor an odor-filtration expert, so I won't begin to speculate on the effectiveness of carbon. I'm just a straightforward hunter who has never worn carbon-based hunting clothing. I play the wind, wash my hunting clothing in Scent-Away detergent, shower with no-scent soap, and spray myself and my gear down religiously with Scent-Away spray. I use earth-scent wafers too, for an extra level of confidence.

Still, I know that I produce human scent through perspiration. Everyone does. And while I might begin my hunt as scent-free as possible before dawn, by the end of the day (especially on warm days) I believe I smell completely different to an animal — because I have perspired.

One of the perks of working in the hunting industry is being in-the-know when new, exciting hunting gear comes out — sometimes even before it gets to the stores. One of our partners on the "Outdoor Secrets" television hunting show is Hunter's Specialties. They recently hosted their annual Pro Staff meeting in

Missouri, where they unveiled an impressive new line of odor-control hunting clothing called Scent-Away Tek 4.

Scent-Away Tek 4 puts odor control where it's needed... right next to the skin. It's a base layer. The clothing uses silver antimicrobial yarns that basically inhibit the growth of odor-causing bacteria. That's really what "B.O." or body odor is: bacteria that's allowed to multiply and form a colony. 10 bacteria become 20, which become 200, which become 200,000 and begin stinking to high heaven!

When perspiration hits the Tek 4 material, the silver basically says to the sweat [on a chemical-reaction level] "OK, you bacteria aren't going to multiply on my watch!" This means you can sweat like crazy in this base layer and not stink it up like you would with non-silver clothing.

Now there have been other silver-based clothes out there, but a bunch of them just treat the clothing with silver spray or silver immersion. This works for a while, but with treated material the silver can get washed away after just a handful of wash cycles. With Tek 4, the silver is literally bonded into the threads and it lasts for the whole life of the garment, and there's up to 33% more silver than other brands. It works as good the day you buy it as the day you wear it out.

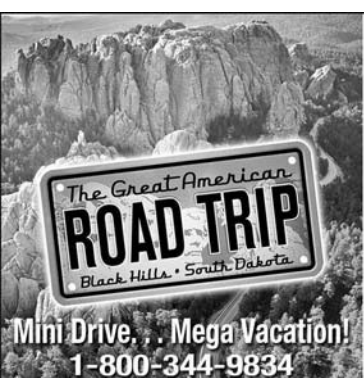
In addition to the silver, Tek 4 helps keep your odor controlled through moisture management. This stuff is extremely breath-

able, so it wicks the moisture away from your skin to keep you dry and comfortable. Plus, because silver is one of the most thermally-conductive elements on the planet, Tek 4 helps keep you warm during those frigid November deer hunts. As for comfort, I can only tell you this... I'm wearing it as my PJ's at night because it's like putting on silk.

I'm anxious to make Tek 4 standard equipment any time I'm hunting big game. I'll take any edge I can to outwit the keen noses of deer, elk, coyotes and more. Like I said before, I play the wind and believe it's the most critical thing a hunter can do to succeed. But shifting breezes and thermal currents can turn a perfect stand site into a bad one in the blink of an eye. That's why I'm always thankful for companies like Hunter's Specialties — who take a scientific approach to scent control. Tek 4 clothing with silver technology, combined with my go-to Scent-Away spray, hand wipes and wafers, will make smell as invisible as possible during this year's hunting season. And this hunter can tell you... I can hardly wait!

Good Hunting!

Babe Winkelman is a nationally-known outdoorsman who has taught people to fish and hunt for nearly 30 years. Watch his award-winning "Good Fishing" and "Outdoor Secrets" television shows on Versus (VS.), Fox Sports Net, Wild TV and many local networks. Visit www.winkelman.com for air times where you live.



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OUTDOOR REPORT

Early Registration For Mickelson Trail Trek Closes July 1

PIERRE, S.D. — Early registration for the 13th Annual Mickelson Trail Trek being held September 17-19 closes July 1. Riders can still register after July 1; however, merchandise will not be available.

The annual supported ride highlights the George S. Mickelson Trail as it winds through the heart of the Black Hills, from Edgemont to Lead/Deadwood. The ride began in 1998 to celebrate completion of the rails-to-trails project. The Trek continues as a means to introduce new bicyclists to the trail and thank supporters for their long-standing enthusiasm for the Trek.

Riders on the Trail Trek will cover 109 miles over three days, from Friday, Sept. 17 through Sunday, Sept. 19. Registration before July 1 with merchandise is \$170; without merchandise \$140. Registration after July 1 is \$170 and merchandise is not available.

The registration fee for the three-day ride includes the trail pass, shuttle service, refreshments and some meals during each day's ride. Riders are responsible for accommodations and mechanical support. The ride is open to all bicyclists 14 years of age or older.

Pre-registration is required and may be completed online by visiting www.mickelsontrail.com and following the "Trail Trek" link. Registration cutoff is Sept. 1, 2010. For more information on the Mickelson Trail or the three-day Mickelson Trail Trek, visit www.mickelsontrail.com or contact the Black Hills Trails office at 605-584-3896.

North Point Recreation Area Near Pickstown Closed

PICKSTOWN — The campground at North Point will be closed through June 30. A temporary campground with 75 campsites will be set up at North Point between Prairie Dog Bay and St. Francis Bay. The temporary campground will include vault toilets, picnic tables and fire rings. The North Point dump station will remain usable. Campsites will be offered at a reduced rate of \$12 per night and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis through June 21. Beginning June 22 and extending through July 8, the temporary sites will be reservable through the state parks' reservation system online at www.campsd.com or by calling 1-800-710-2267.

Campers with reservations at North Point Recreation Area between now and June 30 are asked to call 1-800-710-2267 and select option No. 2. Campers can transfer their reservations to the temporary campground at North Point, transfer to other available state recreation area campgrounds or cancel and receive a full refund.

Black Hills Deer Season Finalized

CHAMBERLAIN — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission voted to reduce the number of deer tags available to Black Hills deer hunters for the upcoming 2010 season.

Deer herd population data indicates the Black Hills deer population continues to decline and significant reduction in the antlerless harvest is needed to increase the deer population to acceptable levels for both hunters and landowners.

The 2010 Black Hills Deer Season will see 100 fewer resident and 8 fewer non-resident "Any Deer" licenses, 500 fewer resident and 40 fewer non-resident "Any Whitetail" licenses, 300 fewer resident and 24 fewer non-resident "Antlerless" deer licenses and 1,400 fewer resident and 112 fewer non-resident "Antlerless Whitetail" licenses compared to last year.

Trapping Regulations Changed

CHAMBERLAIN — Trappers will no longer be able to claim or mark a potential public land trap site before the mink trapping season opens due to a vote by the South Dakota Game Fish and Parks Commission.

The prohibition states that no person may place any trap (set or unset), stake, cable, chain, wire or other device used for the purpose of attaching a trap or otherwise attempt to claim or mark a trap site on any public road right of way or public lands or waters open to trapping within 30 feet of water from October 1 to the day before the opening of the mink season.

The Commission also voted to extend the March 1 deadline for trapping on or in muskrat houses to March 15.