Press&Dakotan

Of The Outdoors | Gary Howey **On The Glacial Lakes Of S.D.**

BY GARY HOWEY Hartington, Neb.

It is a part of the state where dozens of lakes, some of which were once small sloughs, now large lakes. Some of them with local name others that have no name, offering some of the finest fishing found in the upper Midwest.

Not far from Watertown, South Dakota, where I was born and raised, where I graduated from in the late sixties, with the rivers and lakes, allowing a young kid the opportunity to develop a love of the outdoors and where my heart lies.

Where every opportunity I have I return to, spending time on one of the many lakes created when the glaciers moved through the area over 20,000 years ago..

This is where, last week, Team Outdoorsmen Adventures member Brendan Branick (Sioux Falls), our Wayne

State College intern Natalie Barber (Scottsbluff, Nebraska) and I would spend

on the

water



Gary some time HOWEY with Tim

Chandler. Tim has the Glacial Lakes Hunting Lodge and Guide Service located in the heart of some of the finest fishing in South Dakota between Watertown and Florence South Dakota where he offers guide service for open water and ice fishing, pheasant/waterfowl hunting, excellent accommodations and camping pads.

We would spend a couple of short days in the Glacial Lakes of South Dakota as we fished while filming for one of our Outdoorsmen Adventures television segments.

The numerous lakes in the area hold excellent fish populations, including walleyes, pike, perch, crappie and smallmouth bass. If you are looking for some great fishing, this is a place you will want to check out. If, by chance the bite is off on one lake, you do not have to move far down the road to find a lake where the fish are biting.

After stashing our extra gear in the lodge, we were ready to hit the water and it did not take Tim, long to hook the boat up and we were on our way to one of the lakes just



OUTDOORSMEN PRODUCTIONS PHOTO Team Outdoorsmen Adventures member Brenda Branick of Sioux Falls is pictured ith a northeast South Dakota walleye that fell for his shallow diving Rapala.

down the road from his lodge.

Like many of the lakes in the region, the lake we would be fishing was once a slough, and as we made our way down the road to where we would launch the boat, a good one hundred acre lake stretched out before us

As Tim, skillfully backed the Skeeter boat down the road and into the lake, our crew readied our gear and checked the lake out.

The crystal clear, water, made ideal growing conditions for weed growth, something walleyes and other game fish love to spend time in, searching for their next meal.

After a short, run across the lake, Tim cut the big motor and maneuvered the boat into the shallower water where rushes could be seen protruding out into the water along the shoreline.

We would be pitching shallow running Rapalas towards the outer edge of the weed line, working them short by a thun-

slowly back towards the boat.

Tim, operating the bow mount trolling motor kept us in within easy casting distance of the weeds, allowing Brendan and I to work the entire edge of the weed bed.

On his third cast, Brendan connected with a big fish, it made several hard runs and as the fish came alongside the boat, Tim scooped up our first fish of the day, a beautiful twenty-five plus inch fish, which we released it back into the water.

Brendan kept pounding the fish, most eighteen inches plus fish until a loud clap of thunder got our attention. Not wanting to be on the water if lightning followed the thunder, we started to pack it in. Unfortunately, we did not do it quite fast enough as we were caught in a deluge that soaked us from

head to toe. Even though

our trip was cut

derstorm, we were able to bring a nice bunch of fish that would be our meal the following evening.

That evening, we joined Tim and his wife Chris for supper, with steaks, potatoes salad and the works, a great way to end day one fishing with Glacial Lakes Guide Service on one of Northeastern South Dakota's many lakes.

That evening another storm rolled through, with the wind changing directions and because a different wind would change the fish's pattern on the lake we fished the night before, we decided to try another of the lakes where the wind would be in our favor.

After a short drive, going past one of the landmark that brought back many memories from my childhood, as the huge concrete pheasant and donkey were still setting on the corner. As a kid, Tinker Town was where Dad took us for lunch before the pheasant opener, which was one of the big events in a kid's life who lived in South Dakota.

On the new lake, we would be using bottom bouncer, spinner and crawlers, slow trolling along the depth changes coming off the shoreline.

As we worked our way through a narrow part of the lake, my rod took a dive indicating a good bite, rearing back; setting the hook, I felt some extra weight on the line.

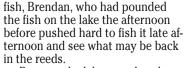
When the fish broke the surface, it was not a walleye, but its cousin a chunky perch. One, in any of the lakes we had fished throughout the upper Midwest, would be viewed as a trophy fish but as Tim put it, "not a bad perch, it is a good one, but there are several lakes in this area that hold excellent numbers of perch much bigger than that.'

Tim, with his eyes fixed on the locator, skillfully moved the boat from one spot to another, allowing us to pick up a few walleye.

As the wind changed, it looked; drifting with the wind would be a good option in the south end of the lake where we joined several Iowa boats that were drifting live bait

rigs. We had the opportunity to land several nice walleyes before forced off the water by high winds.

Working our way back to the lodge, we made plans for a late afternoon as the winds were going to change directions, dying later in the day. With dozens of lakes we might



Because the lake was close by the lodge, it seemed like a good idea to kick back, wait for the wind to die down, and try that lake.

As the day before, Brendan had made just a few casts, set the hook, yelling "Fish on" as another nice walleye was given up from the weed bed.

Several good walleye later, with the sun disappearing in the western sky and a gorgeous full moon made an appearance, we realized this trip was drawing to a close. With Natalie and I heading back to the real world and work while Brendan who had not gotten enough fishing would head north to meet with friends and family for a few more casts on several more of the hundreds of lakes in the region.

Northeastern South Dakota is a great vacation destination with beautiful lakes, visitor attractions, events parks, camping areas and some of the finest multi-species fishing you will find anywhere.

It is and will always be where my heart is and where I long to return to year after year, a great place to visit and even better place to live!

If you are looking for some excellent fishing and would like more information on all the great fishing opportunities in northeastern South Dakota, contact Tim Chandler at Glacial Lakes Hunting Lodge & Guide Service at 605-881-6448. 605-758-8743 or on the web at glaciallakesguideservice.com

Gary Howey, a Watertown native, now residing in Hartington, Nebraska, is a former tournament angler, fishing and hunting guide. He is the Producer/Host of the award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series airs on KTTM/KTTW-TV Fox, Sioux Falls/Huron, S.D. Saturday @ 6:30 am. It can also be seen on MIDCO Sports Network, Sioux Falls, S.D. Thursdays at 5:30 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am. He and Simon Fuller are the hosts of the Outdoor Adventures radio program on Classic Hits 106.3, ESPN Sports Radio 1570 in Southeastern South Dakota and KCHE 92.1 FM in Northwest Iowa. If you are looking for more outdoor information, check out www.outdoorsmenadventures.com.



OUTDOORS DIGEST

- One U.S. Coast Guard approved safe during the boating season," said **GF&P:** Leave Fireworks Gust

At Home Over Holiday

PIERRE — The upcoming Fourth of July holiday is always a busy time in South Dakota's state parks and recreation areas. If you plan to celebrate at the parks. Game, Fish and Parks Department officials ask you to please leave fireworks at home.

According to Doug Hofer, state parks director, campgrounds are traditionally very busy with campers and other visitors enjoying the parks during the Independence Day period.

Discharging fireworks is prohibited on all lands owned or leased by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. The ban includes state parks. recreation areas. lakeside use areas. game production areas and nature areas. Discharging fireworks is also illegal within the boundaries of the Black Hills Forest Fire Protection District, national forests and national parks in South Dakota.

For more information on the South Dakota State Parks, visit www.gfp.sd.gov or call 605-773-3391.

Operation Dry Water June 27-29, 2014

PIERRE — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) is participating in a national effort called Óperation Dry Water, June 27-29, 2014, to promote safe and sober boating across South Dakota.

"GFP conservation officers conduct routine boating safety patrols throughout the year," stated Brandon Gust, GFP boating law administrator. "Operation Dry Water offers an opportunity for conservation officers to spread the message of safe and sober boating."

As a reminder, drinking and boating is not illegal in South Dakota. However, the same laws apply when operating a boat while under the influence of drugs or alcohol as they do when operating a motor vehicle. "Never choose to boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Designate a sober operator to ensure everyone stays

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Approximately 17 percent of all boating fatalities nationwide are alcohol-related. As part of the national effort, GFP will conduct additional boating safety patrols across the state this summer to promote safe and responsible boating practices.

Boaters also want to check safety equipment before heading out on to the water. Fire extinguishers, life jackets, throwable seat cushions and other equipment must be in proper working condition. For more details on boating safety tips. please visit http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/boating/default.aspx.

Boating Safety In South Dakota

PIERRE - The boating season is well underway across South Dakota and with the Fourth of July holiday just around the corner, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) wants to remind boaters about staying safe on the water.

When making plans to get out on the water, make plans to be a responsible boater

· Check the weather forecast. Always wear a life jacket.

· Never choose to boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Complete an approved boating safety

course and become a more knowledgeable boat operator.

· Do not overload a boat. Know the capacity of the boat and stay within those lim-

Boat with a partner and inform family or friends of your boating plans.

· Check safety equipment on board boats 16 feet or longer:

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and wearable personal flotation device for each person on board the boat.

One U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable flotation device (seat cushion or ring buoy).

- One U.S. Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher of B-1 type or larger. - One whistle or other sound-produc-

ing mechanical device capable of a twosecond blast audible for at least one-half

Seven Neb. Rec Areas Will Allow Fireworks

LINCOLN, Neb. — Visitors to seven state recreation areas will be allowed to touch off fireworks on Independence Day. according to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Those visitors should use extra caution with fireworks wherever dry conditions and high fire hazard exist Branched Oak State Recreation Area (SRA) near Malcolm. Fort Kearny SRA near Kearney, Memphis SRA near Memphis, Fremont SRA near Fremont, Two Rivers SRA near Venice, Pawnee SRA near Emerald and Wagon Train SRA near Hickman will permit fireworks from 8 a.m. until midnight on July 4 only. Signs at recreation areas will point the way to designated fireworks sites and their boundaries will be clearly marked. Use of fireworks elsewhere in state areas or at other times is prohibited.

Only fireworks approved for sale in Nebraska by the state fire marshal are permitted, and visitors must dispose of fireworks safely. Minor children must be supervised when discharging fireworks. Use, possession and the discharging of fireworks is at the sole risk of the users.

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