

OUTDOORS DIGEST

Of The Outdoors | Gary Howey

Proposals Encouraged For  
Lewis & Clark Rec Area

PIERRE - Entrepreneurs interested in operating a resort inside one of South Dakota's most popular state parks can now submit their proposals.

A prospectus for the operation of Lewis and Clark Resort, located inside Lewis and Clark Recreation Area near Yankton, is now available online and through the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP). The prospectus details the terms and conditions under which interested operators may submit a proposal for consideration and also includes a detailed business opportunity, the requirements necessary to submit a proposal along with a draft concession agreement for a term of 10 years. Proposals must be received by Sept. 16, 2015, at 3 p.m. CDT.

"Lewis and Clark Recreation Area is an extremely popular outdoor recreation destination for South Dakotans as well as residents of neighboring states," said Doug Hofer, state parks director.

The 1,045-acre Lewis and Clark Recreation Area consists of four multi-lane boat ramps, 409 paved electric campsites, two swimming beaches, four boater beaches and many other amenities such as bath/shower houses, picnic shelters and playgrounds. The resort has 17 housekeeping cabins, 24 motel-type rental units and a group lodge capable of housing over 20 guests.

The Lewis and Clark Recreational Area also has a marina; the marina concession is a separate entity. Chris Donlin, Pickstown, S.D., was approved as the concessionaire in January and is currently operating the popular marina. A copy of the prospectus is available by contacting GFP at 605.773.3391

Anglers Reminded Not To  
Move Lake Water

PIERRE - The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' (GFP) would like to remind anglers of the new rules regarding fish and bait transportation.

Bait can only be transported away from a water body in domestic water (tap water, well water, bottled water, ice). Boat anglers can wait until they reach an immediately adjacent fish cleaning station to put their bait in domestic water. They can dump out the lake water and fill their bait bucket up with water from the fish cleaning station or water they brought with them.

A shore angler can do the same if they are able to access the domestic water source at a fish cleaning station that is immediately adjacent or if they bring domestic water with them.

Unused minnows should be poured into the fish grinder at a cleaning station or drained and disposed of in the trash containers at the boat launch or cleaning areas. It is a violation of state statute to dump unused minnows into a water body in South Dakota.

The new regulations are featured online at [sdleastwanted.com](http://sdleastwanted.com); here anglers can also learn more about transporting their bait through a three minute video tutorial.

East River, West River,  
National Refuge Deer  
Seasons Finalized

PIERRE - South Dakota West River deer hunters will have fewer days to hunt antlerless deer in 2015 after the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' (GFP) Commission voted to eliminate the nine days of antlerless hunting beginning the Saturday after Christmas. However, East River deer hunters will retain those nine days of deer hunting and be allowed to hunt with unfilled antlerless deer tags during that nine day time period.

Hunters will see a slight increase in the number of East River deer hunting licenses for 2015 with 250 fewer one-tag licenses, and 1,050 more two-tag licenses as compared to 2014. The Commission also established an antlerless deer unit within Yankton County; south of SD Highway 50 and west of US Highway 81. The East River deer hunting season will run from Nov. 21 to Dec. 6, 2015.

West River deer hunters will see a slight decrease in the number of licenses available for the West River deer hunting season in 2015 with the number of one-tag licenses reduced by 250 for residents and 20 for nonresidents as compared to 2014. A total of 16,440 one-tag, 1,620 two-tag licenses are available for residents and 1,319 one-tag, 130 two-tag licenses are available for nonresidents.

Proposal To Remove Bald Eagles From S.D. Endangered List

PIERRE - A proposal from the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' (GFP) Commission would remove the bald eagle from the state's threatened and endangered list.

The bald eagle was listed as a federal endangered species in most of the lower U.S. states in 1978 due to the impact of DDT accumulation in fish (DDT is an organochloride used as a pesticide). DDT and other pesticide contamination in fish eaten by bald eagles caused egg-shell thinning, premature egg breakage, embryo deaths and poisoning of adult birds. This species was also listed as a state endangered species on South Dakota's list of threatened and endangered species in 1978. Bald eagles recovered throughout the U.S. due to banning of DDT, reintroduction programs, habitat protection and protection from illegal killing and poisoning.

Although no bald eagle reintroductions were conducted in South Dakota, this species has steadily increased from the first known successful nest in the state in 1993 to more than

100 nests today. A subset of nests is monitored each year by state, federal, tribal and private entities to estimate production and to detect any regional or statewide changes to the nesting population. The department participates in an aerial mid-winter bald eagle survey to estimate wintering birds on standardized routes along the Missouri River. Periodically, the department also conducts aerial searches for nests on likely bald eagle habitat, such as along rivers.

This species was down listed from state endangered to state threatened in 2003. In 2005, as part of an inter-agency effort to plan for the needs of endangered or threatened species that depend on the Missouri River, GFP completed the "South Dakota Bald Eagle Management Plan." The management goal for nesting bald eagles in South Dakota is an average of 25 active bald eagle nests per year, with a five-year running average. Because the state management goal has been met and exceeded, the department recommends that protection

under the state endangered species law is no longer justified. This species will continue to be protected by the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Bald eagle recovery represents an endangered species success story at the state and national levels.

It is important to realize that these birds are still protected and the killing of one will remain a federal and state offense as all this proposal does is remove them from the State Threatened Species list. Bald eagles are protected in multiple state

and federal laws.

The Commission will finalize this proposal at their July 1-2, 2015, meeting at the RedRossa Convention Room in Pierre. Written comments can be sent to [wildinfo@state.sd.us](mailto:wildinfo@state.sd.us). To be part of the official public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. on July 1. Please include your full name along with the city and state of residence. If you would like to comment in person, the public hearing will be held July 1, at 2 p.m. CDT at the RedRossa Convention Room in Pierre.

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# A Fly-In To Carroll Lake

BY GARY HOWEY  
Hartington, Neb.

As the Otter floatplane lifted off the water, banking to east, a sea of blue appeared on the horizon. We were flying into Sunset Country Ontario, Canada to fish Carroll Lake. What appeared on the horizon proved what I had heard about the province to be true, that there are more than 250,000 lakes in Ontario with about one-fifth of the world's fresh water.

Our destination was The Lodge at Carroll Lake, a lake twenty-two miles long that lies one hundred sixty five miles northeast of Winnipeg, Manitoba, in the Woodland Caribou Park on the Ontario and Manitoba border.

As we approached the lake, the Otter, came around, with the Lodge and cabins coming into view, looking much like a photo you would see in National Geographic.

The lodge and cabins, nestled amongst the pine and birch trees, lay along the shoreline of the calm waters of the bay.

The Otter slipped into the dock where passengers Tami Brinkman (Mitchell), Randy Smith (Yankton), Chad Tramp (Ankeny, Iowa), Larry Myhre (Sioux City, Iowa) and I were greeted by Steve Brinkman and his crew.

The main lodge, a huge building with a large stone fireplace would be where we would eat our meals prepared by the Lodge Chef.

We would be at the camp for two days and were anxious to test the waters for some of the excellent fishing available in these Ontario waters.

It would not be long before Steve, Larry and I launched in one of the Lodge boats with Randy and Chad following in another, we were about to experience a trip of a lifetime.

The weather prior to our arrival did not seem to be in our favor, as it rained hard for several days. We were not sure what to expect as cold fronts had been moving into the area on a regular basis, which always indicates a tough bite. We were pleasantly surprised when shortly after we arrived in the narrows. Steve, who was rigged for the occasion, pitched his jig towards the shoreline. On his second cast, he felt the extra weight indicating a pickup. He set the hook as an angry walleye shook his head violently, attempting to dislodge the jig. The fish was a healthy seventeen-inch fish and the first of a hundred or so we would boat before our trip was through.

As we drifted through the narrows, my line peeled off the reel, winging my one-eighth ounce jig into the shallow water along the shoreline. Two cranks into the retrieve, my rod bucked in my hands as another of the Carroll Lakes walleyes came to the boat. Larry connected shortly thereafter, as did both anglers in our second boat.

There was not a moment when one of our groups was not bringing a fish into the boat. All were sixteen to seventeen inch walleyes as well as occasional pike.

Steve, wanted us to see all that the area had to offer, so we headed for the falls where the water cascaded over the rocks into the lake. Once again, it was "fish on" as one or more of our group was bringing a fish to the boat.

As I set the hook on another walleye, I glanced over to the second boat, where Randy was also battling



TEAM OUTDOORSMEN ADVENTURES PHOTO  
**Team Outdoorsmen Adventures Member Larry Myhre (Sioux City, Iowa) is pictured with one of the perch caught while fishing at the Lodge on Carroll Lake in Ontario, Canada.**

a fish. As I landed my fish, he lifted a chunky perch into the boat. Randy, who had fished at the Lodge before, and his partner Chad, were putting the hurt on the walleyes, as it seemed as if one of them was continually bringing one into the boat.

Larry's jig seemed to be much more attractive to the pike, the water wolf of the north, as he hooked several of the hard fighting fish before connecting with a walleye. Pike are voracious feeders, tremendous fighters and because of their razor, sharp teeth and sharp gill plates are notorious for destroying tackle. Many of the walleyes we landed were scarred, indicating they had gotten a bit too close to the pike roaming the area.

There was a tremendous number of fish in the waters in front of the falls, as both boats were catching, three-pound walleyes, pike from the "hammer handle" size on up to ten and twelve pounds, perch up to three-quarter pounds as well as other species.

I reared back, firing a jig toward the fast water of the dam. As my jig drifted to the bottom, my line went off to the side, indicating something had inhaled my bait. I expected the fish I had hooked to be another of the hundreds of walleyes we had been catching. However, once I reared back on the rod, setting the hook, it was obvious this was no small fish.

Because of the size of the fish we had been catching, those in the two to three pound range, my drag had been set fairly tight. As I applied pressure to the fish, my rod tip plunged downward towards the water, putting pressure on my six-pound test line. Loosening the drag, I fought to keep the fish out of the rocks. Slowly but surely, I was winning the battle, tiring the fish out and when I finally got the fish near the boat, I was not sure what I had hooked.

"It's a whitefish, a big whitefish!" Steve indicated as he slid the net in under the fish. Could have fooled me, I had no idea what it was. We estimated the fish at seven pounds, which is big for a Master Angler whitefish in



PHOTO: LARRY MYHRE  
**Columnist Gary Howey is pictured with a seven-pound whitefish caught on a Fly-In trip to the Lodge on Carroll Lake, Ontario.**

Ontario, is twenty-two inches.

Someone in the two boats was always battling a fish as we boated well over a hundred walleyes in the day and half we were there with the bite picking up about the time we were to leave.

We pounded the walleyes, every time we went out, keeping a few for lunch and releasing the rest. A day and a half just is not enough time to take in all that the Lodge on Carroll Lake has to offer. As we waited on the dock for the Cessna floatplane to take us out, Steve made a few casts from the dock, landing a small pike and the largest walleye of the trip, a four-pounder.

Soon the sounds of our plane could be heard as it approached the lake, set down and neared the dock. As we prepared to leave, our surroundings were lit up by the vibrant Ontario sunshine, making us wish for a couple more days at the Lodge.

My trip to the Lodge on Carroll Lake was my first fly-in to Ontario and hopefully will not be my last.

For more information on the great fishing at the Lodge at Carroll Lake, you can contact Steve Brinkman at 605-999-7467, on line at [brinkman-steve@hotmail.com](mailto:brinkman-steve@hotmail.com) or on the web at [CarrollLakeLodge.com](http://CarrollLakeLodge.com).

More information on the fishing opportunities found in Ontario can be found at [www.gofishinontario.com](http://www.gofishinontario.com)

*Gary Howey, Hartington, Nebraska, is a former tournament angler, fishing and hunting guide. He is the Producer/Host of the award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series, seen on the MIDCO Sports Network Thursday at 5:30 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am. He and Simon Fuller Co-Host the Outdoor Adventures radio program on Classic Hits 106.3, ESPN Sports Radio 1570 in Southeastern South Dakota and Northeast Nebraska. In Northwest Iowa, it airs on KCHE 92.1 FM. If you are looking for more outdoor information, check out [www.outdoorsmenadventures.com](http://www.outdoorsmenadventures.com).*

## Upcoming Events

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

what	when	where
	June 6-14, 2015	NFAA Easton Yankton Archery Center (East Hwy 50)

Public Parking will be available at Best Western Kelly Inn. Please reserve parking at the Archery Center for those with mobility challenges.

**JUNE 7**  
4:00PM-5:00PM.....OPENING CEREMONY  
Parade of Nations, Native American Performers & Performing Bison  
Location: Easton Field\*

**JUNE 8**  
9:00AM-4:30PM.....OFFICIAL PRACTICE  
Location: Easton Field & First Dakota Field\*  
5:30PM.....ARCHERY PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR  
Location: Yankton Archery Center's Large Classroom

**JUNE 9**  
9:00AM & 1:30PM.....QUALIFICATION ROUNDS  
Location: Easton Field & First Dakota Field\*

\*First Dakota Field & Easton Field are Located Directly Behind the Yankton Archery Center.

Save the Date!

**JUNE 13 & 14**  
FINAL ELIMINATIONS & MEDAL MATCHES  
Location: Yankton Archery Center

ADDITIONAL SCHEDULE UPDATES WILL BE POSTED THROUGHOUT THE EVENT

Get Involved: Volunteer Shifts Available!  
Sign up online: [Yankton2015WAYC.org](http://Yankton2015WAYC.org)  
(Click the Registration tab)

Questions? Contact us at: ☎ 605-260-9279 ☐ [Yankton2015WAYC.org](http://Yankton2015WAYC.org)

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