

OUTDOORS DIGEST

OF THE OUTDOORS | GARY HOWEY

Flying Carp On The James River

Neb. Dove Hunting Season Opens Today

LINCOLN, Neb. — Dove season opens Sept. 1 in Nebraska, giving hunters a great opportunity to introduce a novice to wing-shooting. Doves may be hunted statewide from Sept. 1 - Oct. 30, except no hunting is allowed on state and federal refuges and sanctuaries. The aggregate bag and possession limits for mourning, white-winged and Eurasian collared-doves are 15 and 30, respectively. Also, Eurasian collared-doves may be hunted Oct. 31 - Aug. 31, 2013. The bag and possession limits are 15 and 30, respectively.

Nebraska residents 16 years and older and all nonresidents are required to have a 2012 Nebraska hunting permit and a habitat stamp for all dove hunting. A 2012 Harvest Information Program number is required for dove hunting Sept. 1 - Oct. 30 but not required for the Oct. 31-Aug. 31 Eurasian collared-dove season. Some doves have been banded. Hunters who find a leg band on a dove should contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) banding office toll-free at 800-327-BAND or report it at reportband.gov.

And some hunters will be asked to save a wing from each dove during the first week of the season and mail the wings postage-free to the USFWS. Data from the wings will be used to estimate annual productivity of the dove population.

Sunflower, millet and wheat generally provide good dove-hunting opportunities. They have been planted at several wildlife management areas across the state. For a list of WMAs, and more dove-hunting information, visit OutdoorNebraska.org, then click on Hunting, Upland Game, Doves and 2012 Forecast. Permits may be purchased at OutdoorNebraska.org.

BY GARY HOWEY
Hartington, Neb.

A couple of weeks ago, we decided to see just how many of the Silver/Flying Carp were in our area, so we headed for the Jim River just east of Yankton.

As we motored down the Jim River, hoping to find and film Silver/Flying Carp, one of the invasive species, known to inhabit this and other waterways in southeastern South Dakota, we weren't prepared for what was about to occur.

If you aren't familiar with the numerous invasive species that have invaded our waters and spreading into our waterways, this will be an enlightening column.

Some of these aquatic nuisance species include; Eurasian Milfoil, Zebra Mussels, Asian Carp, Bighead Carp, Silver Carp and others, have spread from one body of water to another by hitching a ride on boats/trailers, in livewells and bait buckets. When they move into new waters, they grow quickly, competing with native species such as the paddlefish while damaging our water resource.

The first invasive species that I came across on the Missouri River was a very powerful, goofy looking, big mouthed fish whose eyes were located at the bottom of their head.

It occurred when we were bowfishing below the bridge at Yankton. Using our trolling motor, we worked our way slowly along the bank when we spotted it, something white, moving towards us just below the surface. Since bow season was open for all species of fish, we took the shot and much to our surprise what looked to be a small fish below the surface turned into a powerful hard charging mass when the arrow hit it.



Gary HOWEY

Missouri River Outdoor Expo Sept. 15-16

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Missouri River Outdoor Expo, the largest outdoor expo in the Midwest, marks its eighth year at Ponca State Park on Sept. 15-16.

This free event aims to introduce or rekindle a family's interest in natural resources and outdoor recreation with more than 80 hands-on wildlife and outdoor sport demonstrations and exhibits.

Attractions include Benelli's Ultimate Shooter Tim Bradley, Trick Archer Frank Addington Jr., Dock Dogs Canine Aquatics Competition, Timberworks Lumberjacks, K-9 Friz-B-Crew, John Deere Gator Course. On Sept. 16, the Taste of the Wild Cook-Off will feature regional chefs preparing wild game cuisine for visitors to sample and cast a vote for their favorite chef.

Matt Stutzman, the "Armless Archer" and 2012 Paralympic athlete, returns to the Expo. At last year's Expo, the lowan broke the world record for longest accurate archery shot - 230 yards - using his feet.

The 2011 Expo drew more than 42,000 visitors despite the closing of the park's Riverfront area due to flooding. The Riverfront returns this year with an 1800s historical encampment, Missouri River Boat tours and live bluegrass music by the Toasted Ponies.

Other activity locations include the Resource and Education Center and the Eric Wiebe Shooting Complex, which will become the "Shooter's Village" during the Expo. The complex features all-weather ranges for pellet gun, archery, muzzleloader, 22 rifle, shotgun and slingshot. New this year will be the tomahawk and all-terrain. Participants also can experience kayaking, rock climbing, camping, fishing and bow-fishing, Missouri River boat rides, Dutch oven cooking, wild game processing and camping skills.

The Expo goes from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. each day. All activities at the event are free to the public; however, a valid park entry permit (\$5 for day pass or \$25 for annual pass) is required.

For more information, visit missouririver-expo.com.

Tennis: Gazelles Split Triangular At Mitchell

MITCHELL — The flight one doubles tandem of Sarah Rockne and Taylor Rothenberger went 2-0 to help the Yankton Gazelles split a pair of tennis matches at a triangular Friday in Mitchell.

Pierre beat Yankton 8-1 and Yankton later upended Mitchell 6-3.

The lone victory for Yankton against the Pierre Governors was the No. 1 doubles duo of Rockne and Rothenberger,

Bucks

opened a lot of holes for me and the backs," Schroeder said. "Forty-six Buck Sweep was there all night. I was just following Kellen Soulek. He's our big, main man. I just love following him. It was there all the time."

Yankton capitalized on its second interception, as Jordan Lightner hauled in an 8-yard touchdown pass from Rucker with five minutes left in the first quarter. The Bucks turned a fumble recovery into points with Schroeder's 12-yard touchdown run with 28 seconds left in the opening quarter.



Columnist Gary Howey is pictured on a recent trip on the James River tries to get out of the way of the hundreds of Silver Carp flying over and into the boat while Marlyn Wiebelhaus tries to avoid getting hit and shoot at the same time.

The goofy looking big-scaled fifteen-pound Big Head Carp gave us several strong runs before we could put a second arrow into it and subdue it. Not only are they a powerful fish, they grow to a huge size, reaching up to five feet long and weighing as much as ninety pounds.

The species we were after on the above-mentioned trip was Silver Carp, known for their aerial acrobatics as they'll jump out of the water as boats drive by and since they can grow to be three feet long and weigh up to sixty pounds, if one of these big bruisers goes airborne and hits a boater or skier, you can imagine the damage they'll do.

The Silver Carp and its invasive relatives have moved up the Missouri River and into all of its tributaries, only to be stopped by the dams.

In Southeast South Dakota and Nebraska, they are located on the Missouri, Sioux, Jim and all other streams leading to

and from the Missouri River.

On the larger bodies of waters, they might not be so recognizable as the vibration from the motors has a wider area to disperse in and doesn't affect the fish as much, but on the smaller rivers such as the Jim and the Sioux, the motor vibration in these narrower areas startles the fish forcing them into the air in huge numbers.

Our trip on the Jim River started out fairly unsuccessful, with a fish jumping here and there when I spotted a half dozen fish go airborne off to my left. Since this was the largest number I'd seen, I sped up the boat hoping to get there before the fish moved off and once I did, the increased speed and vibration caused the fish to go ballistic as they immediately started coming up behind, along the sides, in the front and into our boat.

There were at least two-dozen in the air in front of us when everything went to

pieces, as close to a hundred fish shot out of the water. One banged off my left shoulder while another did its best to slap me up side the head.

Our cameraman got the initial charge on film, but the had to move off to the side as the fish were pounding against the boat where he was sitting.

Team Outdoorsmen Adventures member Marlyn Wiebelhaus was busy trying to dodge the fish coming into the boat while at the same time trying to get a bead on the fish in the air which were coming out of the water in every direction.

The drivers seat on Marlyn's boat is located near the rear which was in direct line with the fishing flying over and coming into the boat, so I did my best to get out of the way, choosing at one point to leave the seat to keep from getting pummeled by the carp.

When the mealy was finished, we had over fifteen fish that had joined us in the boat, with the largest just under ten pounds. There was no doubt in my mind, if I hadn't abandoned the drivers seat and kept the boat running there would have been more fish in the air and a lot more in the boat.

Silver Carp and other invasive species are thriving in our waters and as of this writing, no methods of control has been found since the fish are plankton feeders and aren't easy to catch with the only a few ways they can be taken is with archery gear.

If you're looking for an exciting way trip, head up some of the smaller rivers in the area and be prepared as these fish are powerful, fly high and hit like a ton of bricks.

I might mention that taking along a hard hat might be a very good idea when you do make this trip.

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is a former guide and tournament fishing that has been an outdoor communicator for over 28 years. His outdoor television series Outdoorsmen Adventures can be seen locally during the 1st and 4th quarter throughout the upper Midwest. For more outdoors information check out www.outdoorsmenadventures.com.

Kansas

After all, the 2-10 record that Kansas managed last season didn't exactly result in a plethora of stars to showcase.

"The one area I'm most pleased with, just being a member of the offense, is seeing the level of confidence that has grown," Crist said. "Guys are playing so much more confident and when you do that you play faster, you make plays and you go out and do what you love, and guys can really show their athleticism and their talent."

The Jayhawks should be able to show off against the Jackrabbits, and perhaps even next week against Rice. But things get tougher in a hurry, with Big 12 newcomer TCU waiting in Week 3.

"Your ideal is that you go play a solid game in all three facets. You win the game and you play solid in all three facets," Weis said. "I would like to see the students, the alumni, the fan base and the football team start to have a positive connection. Part of that is us playing well."

Tennis: Gazelles Split Triangular At Mitchell

who rallied for an 11-9 win.

Against Mitchell, Rockne, Sarah Santos, Alexa Bryan and Rothenberger picked up singles wins. Rockne and Rothenberger won 10-8 in doubles, while Santos and Kaitlyn Frank won 10-5 in flight three doubles.

Yankton, now 4-6, hosts Sioux Falls O'Gorman next Tuesday starting at 4 p.m.

PIERRE & YANKTON 1
SINGLES: Eileen Leong P def. Sarah Rockne 10-3; Kate Wollman P def. Sarah Santos 10-4; Jolee Smith P def. Alexa Bryan 10-5; Aubrey Wald

P def. Taylor Rothenberger 10-3; Emily Dix P def. Kim Cap 10-2; Kelly Bruvsen P def. Maddy Logue 10-1
DOUBLES: Rockne-Rothenberger Y def. Leong-Wollman 11-9; Wald-Dix P def. Bryan-Cap 10-1; Smith-Sam Beck P def. Santos-Kaitlyn Frank 10-5
JV: Sam Beck P def. Anna Kokesh 8-2
YANKTON 6, MITCHELL 3
SINGLES: Sarah Rockne Y def. Courtney Wells 10-7; Sarah Santos Y def. Chelsea Kracht 10-3; Alexa Bryan Y def. Tatum Dean 10-7; Taylor Rothenberger Y def. Haley Smith 10-6; Halle Larson M def. Kim Cap 10-7; Sammie Pooley M def. Anna Kokesh 10-1
DOUBLES: Rockne-Rothenberger Y def. Wells-Kracht 10-8; Dean-Smith M def. Bryan-Cap 11-9; Santos-Kaitlyn Frank Y def. Pooley-Allison Buckley 10-5
JV: Allison Buckley M def. Maddy Logue 8-1; Kendra Hanks M def. Logue 8-1

Y — Evan Schroeder, 12-yard run (Sawatzke kick)		
Second Quarter		
Y — Rucker, 1-yard run (kick failed)		
H — Andy Reimer, 63-yard pass from Adam Swanziger (Matt Ondrick kick)		
Third Quarter		
Y — Sawatzke, 25-yard field goal		
Fourth Quarter		
Y — Kelly LaCroix, 5-yard interception return (kick failed)		
	H	Y
First Downs.....	30	18
Rushes-Yards.....	30-57	49-206
Passing Yards.....	130	113
Passes A/C/I.....	23/10/4	22/9/0
Total Offense.....	53-187	71-319
Fumbles/Lost.....	1/1	1/0
Sacks By.....	1-0	3-15
RUSHING: Yankton — Evan Schroeder 20-152, James Hisek 6-47, Jordan Lightner 10-19, Michael Rucker 5-4, Cody Hanzlik 1-2, C.J. Warren 1-1, Team 1-0, Levi Davis 2-(-2); Huron — Lucas Morrison 11-38, Hiser Lah 4-15, Connor Gose 1-8, Tyler Kleinsasser 2-4, Dustin Hofer 1-3, Brett Scotter 1-2, Matt Johnson 2-2, Zac Brown 1-1, Katz Hartman 1-(-1), Adam Zwanziger 5-(-10) PASSING: Yankton — Michael Rucker 8-19-0-101, Evan Schroeder 1-1-0-12, Mason Strahl 0-2-0-0; Huron — Adam Zwanziger 10-21-3-130, Katz Hartman 0-2-1-0 RECEIVING: Yankton — Evan Schroeder 4-72, Troy Huhoff 2-28, Sam Wendle 1-13, Jordan Lightner 1-8, Tanner Termanen 1-(-8); Huron — Andy Reimer 1-63, Katz Hartman 3-20, Colin Boehms 1-17, Lucas Morrison 1-15, Reagan Francon 1-9, Tyler Kleinsasser 1-6, James White 1-1, Connor Gose 1-(-1)		

Wildfire Closes Chadron State Park

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission has closed Chadron State Park (SP) because of a wildfire burning in Dawes County. The park was evacuated Wednesday night; however, the park buildings and cabins are intact and fire crews are on the scene.

Game and Parks is in the process of contacting guests who had scheduled Labor Day weekend stays in the park's cabins.

The situation at the park, located 9 miles south of Chadron, will be re-evaluated on Tuesday. Nearby Fort Robinson SP has not been affected by these latest wildfires.

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