



FREE

"The where to and how to magazine for the outdoor enthusiast."

Vol. 1 Issue 166

February 2007

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Outdoor Photos

6TH ANNUAL SUMMER BASH 2007



ELLENBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Additional chances to win any of twenty (20) \$500.00 cash prizes only to ticketholders who have returned their 2007 Summer Bash ticket stub(s) to the Ellenboro VFD by March 31, 2007.

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 Gates open on Thursday, July 26, 2007.
 (Subject To Sale Of 8,500 Tickets)



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- 12:10 - Ruger Red Label * or COEV
- 12:15 - \$2,000.00
- 12:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion * or COEV
- 12:25 - \$2,000.00
- 12:30 - 2007 Yamaha Grizzly 4 x 4 350
- 12:35 - Remington 700 BDL * or COEV
- 12:40 - \$2,000.00
- 12:45 - \$2,500.00
- 12:50 - Tikki T-3 Laminated * or COEV
- 12:55 - \$2,000.00
- 1:00 - 2007 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited
- 1:05 - Weatherby MARK V * or COEV
- 1:10 - Ruger MK II * or COEV
- 1:15 - \$2,500.00
- 1:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion * or COEV
- 1:25 - \$2,000.00
- 1:30 - 2007 Harley-Davidson Road King
- 1:35 - Weatherby Orion Upland * or COEV
- 1:40 - Remington 700 BDL * or COEV
- 1:45 - \$2,000.00
- 1:50 - Ruger Red Label * or COEV
- 1:55 - \$2,500.00
- 2:00 - 2007 Envoy 4 x 4 SLT
- 2:05 - Tikki T-3 Laminated * or COEV
- 2:10 - \$2,000.00
- 2:15 - 2007 Camping Trailer
- 2:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion * or COEV
- 2:25 - \$2,000.00
- 2:30 - 2007 Yamaha 450 Rhino 4 x 4
- 2:35 - Weatherby MARK V * or COEV
- 2:40 - Remington 1187 12 ga Super Mag * or COEV
- 2:45 - \$2,000.00
- 2:50 - Thompson/Center Encore 12 ga * or COEV
- 2:55 - Ruger MARK II * or COEV
- 3:00 - 2007 Hummer H-3
- 3:05 - Remington 700 BDL * or COEV
- 3:10 - Weatherby MARK V * or COEV
- 3:15 - \$2,500.00
- 3:20 - Tikki T-3 Laminated * or COEV
- 3:25 - Weatherby Vanguard * or COEV
- 3:30 - 2007 G-3 208 FC Pontoon Boat
- 3:35 - \$2,000.00
- 3:40 - Ruger Model 77 MK II Sporter * or COEV

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
 Friday & Saturday Evenings.
 Friday's Entertainment Features **BLACKHAWK** with Fireworks to follow.



Web not updated as of 12/18/06, but keep watching for a complete list of rules, downloadable flyers and more. www.ellenborowv.com Call to request a flyer by mail, or send your email address & we will email your flyer to you. Good Luck!

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Must be a \$100.00 - 2007 Summer Bash ticket holder in order to attend Friday night's entertainment featuring Blackhawk.
Must be at least 18 years of age to be in the campground or on the drawing grounds at any time. NO EXCEPTIONS!

*COEV=Cash Of Equal Value

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- 3:45 - \$2,000.00
- 3:50 - Ruger Red Label * or COEV
- 3:55 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion * or COEV
- 4:00 - 2007 Corvette
- 4:05 - Remington 870 12 ga * or COEV
- 4:10 - Remington 700 BDL * or COEV
- 4:15 - \$2,500.00
- 4:20 - Weatherby Orion Upland * or COEV
- 4:25 - \$2,000.00
- 4:30 - 2007 Harley-Davidson Softail Heritage
- 4:35 - Ruger MARK II * or COEV
- 4:40 - Tikki T-3 Hunter * or COEV
- 4:45 - \$2,500.00
- 4:50 - Weatherby MARK V * or COEV
- 4:55 - \$2,000.00
- 5:00 - 2007 Ford Sport Trac Limited 4 x 4
- 5:05 - Remington 700 BDL * or COEV
- 5:10 - Remington 870 12 ga * or COEV
- 5:15 - \$2,000.00
- 5:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion * or COEV
- 5:25 - \$2,000.00
- 5:30 - Polaris Hawkeye 300 4 x 4
- 5:35 - \$2,000.00
- 5:40 - Weatherby Vanguard * or COEV
- 5:45 - \$2,000.00
- 5:50 - Ruger Model 77 MKII Sporter * or COEV
- 5:55 - Remington 700 BDL * or COEV
- 6:00 - 2007 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500 Coupe
- 6:05 - Browning A-Bolt * or COEV
- 6:10 - Weatherby MARK V * or COEV
- 6:15 - \$2,000.00
- 6:20 - Remington 700 BDL * or COEV
- 6:25 - \$2,000.00
- 6:30 - 2007 Ranger Bass Boat
- 6:35 - \$2,000.00
- 6:40 - \$2,500.00
- 6:45 - 2007 Honda Goldwing GL 1800
- 6:50 - \$3,500.00
- 6:55 - \$4,000.00
- 7:00 - 10-\$1,000.00 Winners (Match WV Daily 3 Last Numbers)
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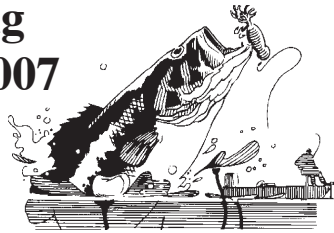
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Cover Photo

Hunting in McDowell County, David Allen used a bow to harvest this massive ten point buck. The tines were very long and helped on his Pope and Young score. The buck had a gross score of 175 3/8 and a net score of 170 1/8.

This magazine is also on the internet now for free. Back issues are on too. The address is:

www.wvasportsman.net

Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.

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FLW Winner In 1st Event

CLEWISTON, Fla. In the world of professional bass fishing, few pros fish on pure instinct as well as David Dudley. The Lynchburg, Va., pro has always had a sixth sense for being at the right place at the right time when bass are biting, especially when big money is on the line.

His uncanny talent has led him to one of the most impressive career wins in tournament bass fishing: three FLW Outdoors wins, including the Wal-Mart FLW Tour Championship in 2004 and the Ranger M1 in 2002, and two BASS wins, not to mention being the FLW Outdoors leading money winner with \$1,809,317.

On Saturday, Dudley added another winner's trophy to his mantle and another \$125,000 to his bank account by winning the Wal-Mart

FLW Series BP Eastern Division event on Lake Okeechobee.

The Castrol pro took the victory by weighing a limit for 18 pounds, 8 ounces today, giving him a four-day total of 64 pounds, 2 ounces.

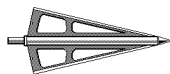
Those who know Dudley well know his fishing style is like that of a bass-seeking missile: He flies down the lake until something in his gut says, "Fish there!"

And yet, after the big checks have been handed to Dudley and the accolades trail off, he understandably seems at a loss to describe his undeniable talent in a tangible way.

"It's hard to explain," Dudley remarked after his fourth FLW Outdoors win. "To me fishing is not about a secret lure or a secret spot; it's all about instincts. Knowing when to stay and when to go, not

continue to the next page

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Game Check



A nice 8 point was shot by Jeffrey Forren. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.

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Hunting in Wirt County, Henry Hatfield, took this 9 point.

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getting bogged down in the memories of yesterday's catch or last year's tournament."

"But instinct is not something you can simply teach somebody with one lesson. Instincts are honed by time on the water, year after year, with a lot of trial and error. And the biggest things I can say about developing that instinctual feel is that even the bad things that happen on the water are good. Because they teach a lesson. You have to learn to find that silver lining in the bad experiences to make them good experiences.



A 6X5 elk was taken in Colorado by John Hedrick. Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.



Cassie Amos got her 1st buck this season. Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.

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"Also, you can't fight your instincts with your mind. You have to go with what you feel, trust it, and when it works, develop confidence in it. And when you're confident in your instincts, that's when you really hone those gut feelings."

Dudley's key move of this event came from just that kind of gut

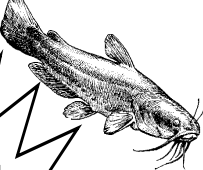

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feeling.

"I actually fished the main lake on the first day," he said. "But when that cold weather came in and the water temperature dropped, I knew the lake was not the place to be. It was time to move to deeper, more stable water."

Dudley found that kind of water in the J&S Canal system. He targeted the intersections of ditches and canals off the main canal with a Fat Free Shad and a Rabbit Dog shaky head with a Zoom Trick Worm, both tied to 10-pound-test Trilene XT.

"On day two, when I caught just 12 pounds and moved up 15 places, that's when I thought I could win," Dudley said. "I only got to fish in the canal for about an hour that day, and I caught the 12



Sophia Adams, from Reader, got her 1st deer, an 8 point.

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pounds pretty quick. I figured if I could spend the better part of two more days in there and really fish my places, I could probably move way up." Dudley rotated five key canal intersections within a six- or seven-mile range.

"I keyed on the intersections because I felt they were migratory routes back into shallower canals and ditches," he added.

Strader runner-up

Wesley Strader of Spring City, Tenn., excited the crowd packed into the Wal-Mart parking lot with an impressive 20-pound, 1-ounce catch today, but it was still not enough to get anywhere near Dudley's 64-pound mark.

Strader ended up second with a four-day total of 56 pounds, 7 ounces worth \$50,000.

Strader was one of the few anglers to venture up the Kissimmee River, despite its muddy appearance.

"I think the dirty water scared a lot of people off," Strader said.

"There was hardly anybody up there. I wish I had gone there the
continue to the next page



A nice 10 point was taken by John Holliday. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.

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first day, but I kept fooling around in that lake, and I didn't go up there until day two."

Strader's main weapon was a 5/8-ounce Yozuri Rattlin Vibe crankbait tied to 15-pound-test Izorline.

Even though Strader used the same bait the last three days, he had to adjust his water selection each day.

"Some days they were right up shallow on the bank, and other days they were pulled off on the first 2- to 4-foot drop," he said. "Every day was different, and I had to fish around a while to find them. In fact, yesterday I caught the 21 pounds where the wind was blowing in on the west bank. Today the wind shifted towards the east bank, and I caught every one of them off the east bank."

Auten third

Todd Auten of Lake Wylie, S.C.,

finished third with a four-day total of 54 pounds, 6 ounces worth \$40,000.

Auten spent a better part of the week pitching a 1/2-ounce Out-



Gary Fazenbaker shot a nice buck this season. Photo courtesy of Four Seasons in Richwood.

law jig (Texas craw color with a sapphire-blue Zoom Vibra-Craw trailer) in Taylor Creek to make the

continue to the next page



Rick Hoselton, form Minerwells, hunted in Wood County for this deer.

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top-10 cut.

That bite fizzled out on him today, so he moved to Uncle Joe's Cut and began cranking a Brian Bee's Skinny B II down the canal's 2- to 4-foot rock break.

"I was paralleling and keying on rock along the ledge" Auten said. "I'm glad I made the move because I culled out three little ones that I caught in Taylor Creek. But I wish I had done it a little earlier. They were really biting well in there when I had to leave for weigh-in." Martin fourth

Scott Martin of Clewiston, Fla., was the biggest mover of the week, coming all the way from 112th place after day two to finish fourth with a four-day total of 45 pounds, 9 ounces.

Martin spent the last two days in the J&S Canal system fishing a Yozuri Rattlin' Vibe and a Frenzy crankbait tied to Berkley 12-pound Vanish along bluff walls in the canal.

"Most of the canal has gentle



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sloping sand banks, but certain stretches have a rock bluff wall that drops straight down into 7 or 8 feet of water," Martin explained. "I was keeping my boat right up against the bluff walls and making long, parallel casts down the wall. Then I would stick my rod tip down in the water against the wall and rip that lipless bait down the wall.

"It was a reaction bite all the way," he added. "The lure had to contact the rock wall to get a bite. If my cast landed too far away from the wall, it was worthless and I'd have to reel it in and make another cast."

Dillard fifth

Jim Dillard of West Monroe, La., finished fifth with a four-day to-

tal of 41 pounds, 11 ounces worth \$20,000.

Rest of the best

6th: Tim Farley of Lula, Ga., four-day total of 40-4, \$19,000

7th: Joe Thomas of Milford, Ohio, four-day total of 40-4, \$18,000

8th: Jason Knapp of Uniontown, Pa., four-day total of 40-0, \$17,000

9th: Andy Morgan of Dayton, Tenn., four-day total of 35-15, \$16,000

10th: Pat Fisher of Buckhead, Ga., four-day total of 34-10, \$15,000



Chad Wright, 14 years old, bagged an 8 point. Photo courtesy of Outdoor Specialties in Winfield.

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Richard Oleski hunted in Ohio for this large buck. *Photo courtesy of Dodd's Sporting Goods in Ellenboro.*



John Lowther took a big Kansas Buck. *Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods near Stonecola Lake.*



Jason Minnite used a muzzleloader to bag this big 8 point. *Photo courtesy of Johnny's Outdoor World in Boaz.*

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Hunting in Ohio, Aleena Minnite, shot a great buck. *Photo courtesy of Johnny's Outdoor World in Boaz.*



Tank Priddy hunted in Texas for this 9 point. *Photo courtesy of Outdoor Specialties in Winfield.*



Raven Boggs, from Looneyville, hunted during the youth hunt.



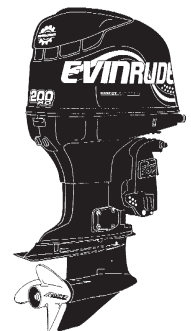
Brian Gallaway, from Mt. Clare, caught a nice steelhead trout.

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A real nice 9 point buck was taken by Eric Shock. Photo courtesy of Outdoor Specialties in Winfield.



Karli Littler, 10 years old, shot this 4 point in Barbour County.



Frances Austin had success this season with this 10 point buck.

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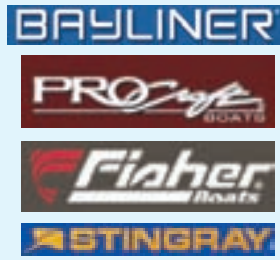
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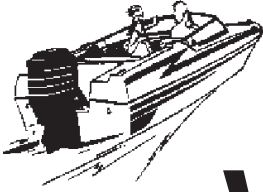
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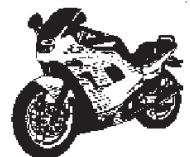
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Fish Attractants “Are They Worth It”

There has been a lot of controversy over “Fish Attractants” or otherwise known as “Fish Scents” or “Fish Formulas”. In the past, I’ve noticed that many of my former bass angling students as well as my bass guide clients have always come prepared with plenty of “Fish Attractant”, and wow! Do they ever use it! They will grab that particular bait that they are using, hold it over the edge of the boat, and really pour it on. Is that method really practical?

I’ll explain in a moment, but first let me explain a few things about



Ron Bolyard used a snare to trap this Coyote. He lives in Tunnelton.

“Fish Attractants. There are several different types of “Fish Attractants” on the market today in the multi-billion dollar bass fishing industry, and the marketing is very costly! Somewhere the companies have to sell, sell, and sell to make up for the high cost of marketing. Many commercials, whether it be TV, Radio, Magazines, Outdoor Shows, etc., have to get the anglers (like you and me) to buy this stuff! First of all let me explain the importance of “Fish Attractant”. A freshwater black bass (Largemouth, Smallmouth, or Spotted) will usually spit out a bait within 2 or 3 seconds if the bass doesn’t accept the taste (if it even picks up the bait at all!). On the other side of the coin, if a bass likes the scent or attractant, it can hold the bait up to 30 seconds or more before it spits the bait out.

Fish attractant does not really “Attract” fish, but your odds on setting the hook will be greater by using it rather than not. Now, let’s get back to Marketing once again. The companies that manufacture “Fish Attractants” or Scents want the anglers to “Use it by dousing

the bait with it.” Well, if you have lots of money, go right ahead! Most tackle shops that I’ve been to have a variety of Attractants and Scents, and they cost the angler anywhere from \$1.99 up to \$10.00.

When an angler “Douses the bait” several times, He or She is ready for another bottle soon, and that can get expensive after awhile. Now, most plastic baits on the marker today

continue to the next page



Chuck Cienawski won the 2006 gun contest with this 125 3/8 score. Photo courtesy of J & R Sporting Goods in Shinnston.

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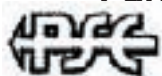
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manufactured with a scent already put in the bait. So why would you want to douse this same bait with additional "Fish Attractant"? It really makes no sense at all does it? However, there is a reason why one would want to buy and use "Fish Attractant". Just think of this; a freshwater black bass can sense 1-200th of a drop of a substance in about 100 gallons of water. Wow, what an accurate sense of taste! This just goes to say that whenever you go fishing in the morning, "Gas-Up" the night before!

Now, let's get right to the point, and hopefully this point can and will save you some of your hard-earned cash. When you go fishing, the first thing that you should do before you hit the water is to wash your hands with soap and water, this will "hopefully" clean any foreign scents off of your hands that may get on your baits when you handle them. Second, take that bottle "Fish Attractant" and pour a little bit on your hands and rub them together, like you would a hand lotion. Now you're ready for action because any bait you touch will have this "Fish Attractant" scent added to it. Just think of the money



A 16" crappie was landed by David Mike in the West Fork in Clarksburg. Photo courtesy of the Bow Shop in Shinnston

you will save from just "Pouring or Dousing" the formula over the bait. A bottle of "Fish Attractant" should now last you about 20 times as long as it did before. I will not tell you which ones to buy, but the one I mostly use is formulated by Mr.Goop "Fish Formula", they offer a Garlic and Anise scent the bass seem to like very much. Just keep this in mind when using "Fish Attractants"; the angler! (you and I) are the ones that pay for the high cost of marketing of a product, so of course they want us to use lots of that product! So, "Fish Attractants" are they really worth it? YES! But if you use it like a hand lotion you will find yourselves saving money and getting the same results as

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if you were dousing the bait with this "Fish Attractant"! Remember, the Presentation of the bait is the MOST IMPORTANT!

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At Twin Falls

Fingerpicking, flatpicking, chords, licks and jam etiquette will be topics covered during a weekend Guitar Workshop, scheduled for Friday, March 23 through Sunday, March 25, at Twin Falls Resort State Park near Mullens in Wyoming County. Instructors include:

- Rob Kessinger of St. Albans, West Virginia, a winner of the National Flatpicking Championship at Winfield, Kansas, as well as many other championships in dozens of festivals around the country;
- Wayne Henderson of Rugby, Virginia, who not only plays guitars but also builds them, including one for Eric Clapton, and who has played at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the White House, and at potluck dinners at the Rugby Res-



Eleven year old Alex Arthur took his first deer with a bow. *Photo courtesy of Outdoor Specialties in Winfield.*

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• Jim Ritchey of Greensboro, North Carolina, who claims to be just a folk singer but who has performed all over the country and all over the map, including backing up blues greats like Manse Lipscomb. He also is an instructor at the Augusta Heritage Workshop's Blues Week.

The weekend package of \$250 per person is based upon single occupancy in a lodge room at Twin Falls Resort State Park. Additional roommate packages are available. To make reservations or for more information, contact the activities coordinator at Twin Falls by calling (304) 294-6000, toll-free 1-800-CALL-WVA or e-mail parks@westvirginia.com.



Bub Shaffer had success this season with this good buck. He was hunting in the Richwood area *Photo courtesy of Four Seasons in Richwood.*



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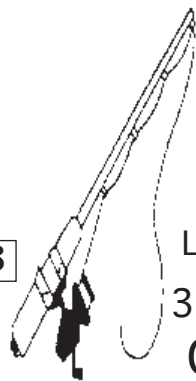
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Black Bear Poached

A Nicholas County man has been convicted and received a hefty fine for illegally killing a black bear, according to Captain Mike Pizzino of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section District 3 Office in Elkins.

Conservation Officer Tim White headed the investigation that led to the arrest and conviction of 46-year old Bernard H. Backus II of Belva, West Virginia. As part of a plea bargain in Nicholas County Magistrate Court in December, Backus was fined \$5,000, the maximum allowable for a first offense violation of the state's bear management laws, and ordered to pay \$500 for replacement of the bear and court costs of \$160.50. He was also ordered to pay \$118 for a scientific

test that was performed on the bones of the animal.

The bear was killed out of season in July 2006, in the Twenty Mile area of Nicholas County. The bones of the animal had been burned in an attempt to destroy the evidence. The bones were collected and sent to a forensic lab in British Columbia, Canada, for DNA testing. Three eyewitnesses also gave statements in the case.



Don Pepper and Jerry Burkhart saw something wiggling on the surface on the Ohio River. Two bass were stuck together and had to be pulled apart. Apparently they were after the same bait and got locked together.



Brad Berga landed a December largemouth. *Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.*



Stacy Bonnett, 17 years old, shot a 310 pound bear in Lewis County.

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A big Ohio buck was taken with a bow. Photo courtesy of Jerry's Spring Goods near Stonecoal Lake.



Hunting in Fayette County, Bill Legg took a nice 9 point with a gun. He lives in Hico.

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Troy Banks, from Pt. Pleasant, bagged a Mason County coyote.



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Danny Frazier caught a January 4 pound smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.*



Mike Anderson, from Clarksbur, caught his a 40" musky at the West Fork River and released it.



Scott Tenda, from Clarksbur, caught his first legal musky, a 30" at Middle Island Creek.



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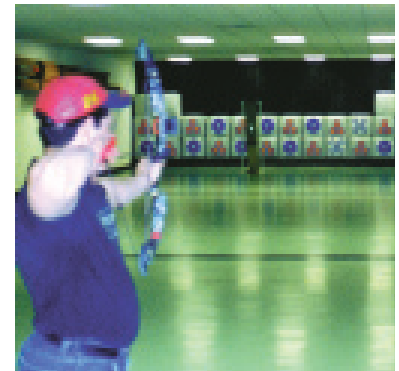
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Kevin Ciby bagged areal nice buck with a bow. Photo courtesy of Team Buckhorn in Princeton, WV.



Jason Odey shot a 9 point buck in Wirt County. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.



Paul Crawford Sr. hunted in Virginia for this good buck. Photo courtesy of Team Buckhorn in Princeton, WV.

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Understanding Bass

Bass fishing is a sport like many others that when it comes to knowledge and the understanding of the opponen astands the scrapes, trails, food areas, water areas, runs, and habitats of the deer the more successful the hunter will become at locating them. The same is true with Bass fishing (Bass angling), the more you understand the Bass along with the many different circumstances and conditions you run across the more successful you will be at catching them. So let's talk about a few key factors when it comes to a better understanding of the bass. The first one we will look at would be the survival of the bass.

SURVIVAL: A bass needs three elements to survive which are :

1. FOOD
2. OXYGEN
3. COVER

If any one of these three elements are not present in a body of water a bass could not survive, and just by

knowing why these three elements are so important for a bass's survival it will already start to make you a more successful angler.

The first element we will talk
continue to the next page



Cobey Wagoner shot this Ohio buck with an unusual rack. A 13 point. *Photo courtesy of Outdoor Specialties in Winfield.*



Twelve year old, Haleigh Hoff got her first deer. A buck. *Photo courtesy of Ouotdoor Specialties in Winfield.*



A 10 point Roane County buck was taken by Ryan Jarvis, from Spencer.



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is FOOD. Contrary to popular belief, shad is NOT! the primary 1st choice of a bass. Although shad is a very common food for the bass as well as other natural baits, the number 1 food choice of a bass is a crawfish (also known as crayfish, crawdads, etc.). A study was performed several years ago where 100 Crawfish and 100 shad were in a tank of water with all species of bass (Smallmouth, Spotted, and Largemouth), and to much surprise the crawfish were eaten 8 to 2 over the shad. There are several reasons for this, but the most important one is that a crawfish is an easy prey for a bass to catch, and they are fairly easy for a bass to find. And once again contrary to popular belief, studies show that there are actually more crawfish found in vegetation areas than around rocky areas (or as some may know as Rip-Rap.)

A bass will eat just about anything at any given time such as: Rats, Mice, Ducklings, Frogs, Snakes, Salamanders, Worms, Lizards, Grubs, Baitfish, Insects, Leeches, etc. (Is it any wonder why all the many different tackle manufacturing companies have so many different shapes and types of artificial baits on the market today?) but, there are certain types of artificial

baits that bass will usually prefer over the others, and a lot of these I cover at my 3-day Bass Fishing School.

The next element of the three is OXYGEN. Oxygen is a element that any living creature needs to survive. The main reason an angler should pay attention to oxygen is that a bass requires it to survive. By knowing water oxygen content in various areas an angler will develop a better understanding why a bass acts the way it does under the many different conditions. When a

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Brian Galloway, from Mt. Claire, shot a 10 in Harrison County.

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Chronic Wasting Disease Discovered

Preliminary test results have detected the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) agent in one hunter-harvested deer collected in Hampshire County during the 2006 deer hunting season. "As part of our agency's ongoing and intensive CWD surveillance effort, samples were collected from 1,355 hunter-harvested deer brought to game check-

ing stations in Hampshire County," according to Frank Jezioro, Director for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR). "This most recent positive CWD sample was taken from a 2 1/2-year-old buck harvested during the firearms deer season, and the deer was located within close proximity to the 9 positive cases previously detected in Hampshire County."

CWD has now been detected in a total of 10 deer in Hampshire County (i.e., one road-killed deer, four deer collected by the DNR in 2005, four deer collected by the DNR in 2006 and one hunter-harvested deer during the 2006 deer season). "Our analysis of this CWD surveillance data indicates the disease appears to be found in a relatively small geographical area located near Slanesville, West Virginia," noted DNR

continue to the next page



Robert Toepfer, from Glen Easton, shot an 11 point in Marshall County.



Tim West bagged a nice 11 point. Photo courtesy of J & R Sporting Goods in Shinnston.

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Director Frank Jezioro. "From a wildlife disease management perspective, we consider this to be encouraging news. Based upon these CWD surveillance findings, we are taking the steps necessary to implement appropriate management actions designed to control the spread of this disease, prevent further introduction of the disease, and possibly eliminate the disease from the state," Jezioro said.

The following disease management options have been evaluated and implemented by the DNR within the affected area of Hampshire County :


- Continue CWD surveillance efforts designed to determine the prevalence and distribution of the disease;
- Lower deer population levels to reduce the risk of spreading the disease from deer to deer by implementing appropriate antlerless deer hunting regulations designed to increase hunter opportunity to harvest female deer;
- Establish reasonable, responsible and appropriate deer carcass transport restrictions designed to lower the risk of moving the disease to other locations;
- Establish reasonable, responsible and appropriate regulations relating to the feeding and baiting of deer within the affected area to reduce the risk of spreading the disease from deer to deer.

"Landowner and hunter cooperation throughout this entire CWD surveillance effort in Hampshire County has been just terrific," Jezioro noted. "As we strive to meet this wildlife disease challenge and implement appropriate management strategies, the support and involvement of landowners and hunters will continue to be essential. The DNR remains committed

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to keeping the public informed and involved in these wildlife disease management actions."

CWD is a neurological disease found in deer and elk, and it belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. The disease is thought to be caused by abnormal, proteinaceous particles called prions that slowly attack the brain of infected deer and elk, causing the animals to progressively become emaciated, display abnormal behavior and invariably results in the death of the infected animal. There is no known treatment for CWD, and it is fatal for the infected deer or elk. It is important to note that currently there is no evidence to suggest CWD poses a risk for humans or



A nice Southern WV deer was brought in by this hunter. *Photo courtesy of Four Seasons in Richwood.*

domestic animals.

"Our well-trained and professional wildlife biologists, wildlife managers and conservation officers are working diligently to fully implement the DNR's CWD – Incident Response Plan, which is designed to effectively address this wildlife disease threat," said Jezioro. "Hunters, landowners and other members of the public should feel confident that we have some of the best wildlife biologists and veterinarians in the world, including those stationed at the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study in Athens, Georgia, working collaboratively on this situation."

More information on CWD can be found at the DNR's Web site www.wvdnr.gov and the CWD Alliance website: <http://www.cwd-info.org>.

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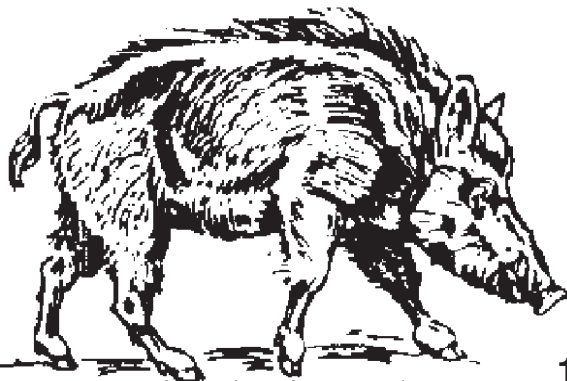
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A 134 3/8 scored buck was tagged by Gary Richardson. *Photo courtesy of Team Buckhorn in Princeton.*




Gary and Amanda Roberts are with their ten point. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*



George Hefner tied for 1st place with this 12 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods near Stone-coal Lake.*

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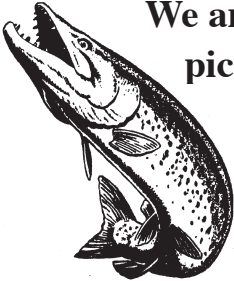
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Chris Fox, from Anmoore, hunted in Harrison County for this 10 point.

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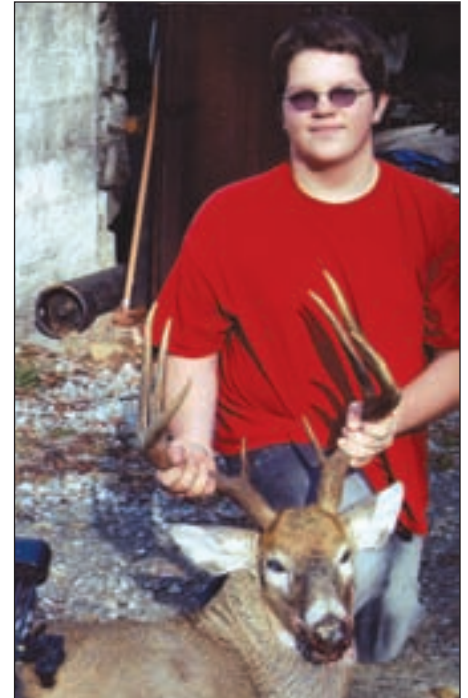
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A Pope and Young 140 3/8 Logan County deer was arrowed by Jeff Reed, from South Charleston.



A massive 390 pound black bear was taken in Tucker County by Gregory Hyre, from Parson.



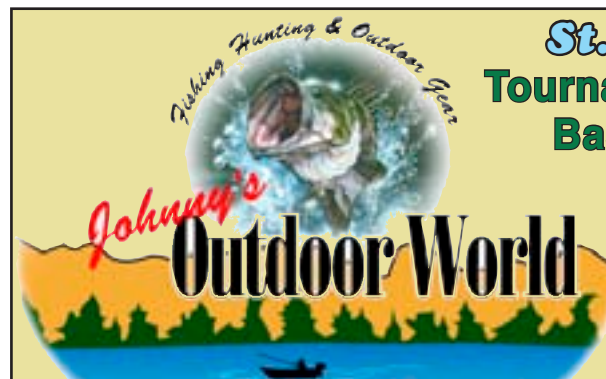
13 year old, Dustin Farmer, used a bow to take this 10 point McDowell County buck. Photo courtesy of Team Buckhorn in Princeton.

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Season Closing Dates On Game

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources reminds trappers that the trapping season for fisher will end on January 31, 2007. This will be followed a month later on February 28, 2007, by the closing of hunting and trapping seasons for fox, raccoon, and bobcat. Hunters and trappers are required to tag all bobcat and fisher pelts at an official game checking station within 30 days of the close of their respective seasons. Fox and raccoon pelts are not required to be checked at a game checking station.

Trappers, hunters, and fur dealers are reminded that furs shipped out of West Virginia must have a fur shipping tag that is available at Division of Natural Resources district offices.

Bobcat hunters and trappers also should obtain a CITES seal for each pelt they plan to sell outside of the state of West Virginia. All bobcat pelts, usually exported from the United States by licensed fur buyers, must have a CITES seal from the state where the animal was trapped. These seals may be obtained from the Elkins Operations Center and any Division of Natural Resources district office.

Calling ahead is advised to ensure that personnel authorized to seal bobcat pelts will be available.

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On a trip to Costa Rico last summer, Vince Goots caught a nice sailfish. Photo courtesy of Johnny's Outdoor World in Boaz.



Mike Kellar, from Buckhannon, shot a 9 point Upshur County buck.

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A nice 10 point was shot by Larry Murray. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.



Daniel McFee brought in a 32 pound bobcat. Photo courtesy of jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth



A quality 13 point was harvested by Matt Sellars. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark

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A real nice brown trout was caught on a fishing trip by Justin Godfrey, from Ripley.



Grover Rooker caught a 5 pound, 1 oz. smallie. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.

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Hatteras Ocean Fishing

By Jim Wilson

If you are a fisherman who lives inland, chances are you need professional help when it comes to ocean fishing. Freshwater fishing as compared to ocean fishing is as different as day and night. Freshwater fishermen know their streams, rivers and lakes, and know what to expect when fishing same. The average occasional, ocean angler doesn't have a clue, so time to seek professional help. I have been freshwater fishing with my buddy, Karl Miller of Roanoke, Va., for a decade now. We mostly pursue smallmouth bass in my area of West Virginia on the Tygart River and his area on the James River. More times than not we enjoy banner days on these rivers we know so well. Our mode of fishing is usually canoe floating or canoe fishing using a small outboard. We both have square back canoes.

For the last five years or so, we have made at least one fishing trip to the Outer Banks of North Caro-

lina for ocean fishing. We've not had much luck surf fishing, even though it's a relaxing way to fish and driving on the beach is a blast (if you don't get hung up too often). Karl and I both recognize we are out of our element in this setting. So, about four years ago, we started charter boat fishing. This experience can be costly and unproductive many times.

continue to the next page



A 33 pound bobcat was taken by Randy Martin. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.

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Ray Goins shot a 10 point. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.

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We have enjoyed very good results with Captain Dave Watkins on his boat, 'Cast-Away'. Captain Dave does in-shore charters, either half-day or full day. He fishes out of the Oregon Inlet Marina.

A half-day charter is what we go for, as it's very reasonable price-wise and can be very productive. But, if you miss them, you are not out an "arm and leg." Currently he charges \$300 per half-day. This can be split four ways, as his 26 footer can handle four fishermen easily."

There are two very good reasons to consider this type charter. One is he only uses light tackle; bass rods with 12 pound test. And secondly, he is never out of sight of land. This works well because you can start fishing almost immediately after launching and feel safe in case of an unexpected storm brewing. Many of the charters in the area take two hours of motoring before you start to fish. Thus, in-shore uses a much smaller amount

of fuel, thus is much less costly.

Karl and I have caught 40 pound cobias, six to ten pound black drum and even larger stripers (or rock fish as they are called there). Not to mention various sizes of blue-fish and sea trout. Many other species too, as you never know what you're going to catch in the ocean (one reason ocean fishing can be so exciting).

But, we never had an outing that wore us out - - until this past fall in 2006. Six years ago I took my wife, Betty, on a party (or head) boat charter on our 39th anniversary. The charter boat was the Miss Hatteras that fishes out of the Oden Dock Marina in Hatteras Village, just about 50 miles south of Oregon Inlet Marina.

Every year Captain and owner Spurgeon Stowe offers a king mackerel charter starting on November 1st and ending the last day of November. Miss Hatteras is a beautifully trimmed and sleek 75 foot triple-decked party boat, powered by twin 650 Detroit diesels. This trip also uses light tackle - - which is the fun of it - - no broom sticks. About three days a week

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during this 30 day period, Captain Stowe takes the first 20 people that sign up. He will cancel the trip if too few sign up because of the huge amount of diesel fuel used chasing

continue to the next page



Tootie Demarcus shot a nice 9 point. *Photo courtesy of J & R Sporting Goods in Shinnston*

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A half-day charter is what we go for, as it's very reasonable price-wise and can be very productive. But, if you miss them, you are not out an "arm and leg." Currently he charges \$300 per half-day. This can be split four ways, as his 26 footer can handle four fishermen easily."

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ember 1st and ending the last day of November. Miss Hatteras is a beautifully trimmed and sleek 75 foot triple-decked party boat, powered by twin 650 Detroit diesels. This trip also uses light tackle - - which is the fun of it - - no broom sticks. About three days a week during this 30 day period, Captain Stowe takes the first 20 people that
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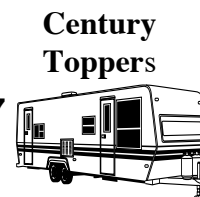
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four or five guys from New Jersey. We overheard them saying that a couple of them had been on this mackerel outing with Capt. Stowe before. One guy said, "Several years ago I was on this trip and some woman landed a 57 pound wahoo. It took her well over an hour to get it in. She was so tired I don't think she fished anymore for a long time."

I couldn't believe what I was hearing. I butted in, "Was she red-headed - - about so-so tall (using my hand gesturing about five-foot height)? He answered, "Yes."

I said, "T-that was my wife. Wait til I tell her she's an Urban Legend aboard Miss Hatteras." I was impressed and so were his buddies. Shortly afterwards the boat slowed down and Capt. Stowe let out his drag nets. He said thru his bull horn, "We're gonna get our baitfish here. We'll need 120." He had already assigned a "bait counter" and some volunteers to arm pull the nets back in.

We were after menhaden and small blues for bait. By catching our own bait, it significantly lowered the price of the trip. This was an all day outing for only \$130 per-person.

It took us much longer to get the bait than I remembered. We moved to three or four areas until we got the requisite amount.

Since this was a small group, the captain only brought one mate. Her name was Natalie and she was small in stature.

She could tell several of the anglers (all male on this trip) were getting antsy, so she went around and told the group, "I've always considered it a good sign when it takes us longer to get the bait. Last week we got 'em quick, but only caught three mackerel for the



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whole day."

Karl gave me one of those, "What did you get me into" looks. Fortunately, I had not built this trip up for high expectations - - just told him he would enjoy. Some of the smaller charter boats in this area charge several hundred dollars or more for the same duration of time.

Finally though, about 9:30 am, we had our 120 tucked away in the two large aerated live wells located at the stern. The captain announced we had about a forty-five minute ride towards the gulf stream before we started fishing. "Smoke your cigarettes and eat your snacks, because you're not gonna have time once we start.

"We're gonna catch fish today!" Fishing with Capt. Spurgeon Stowe is an experience in itself. He doesn't mince words, even over the bullhorn, but can be hilarious and informing at times. Other times he can be serious and cantankerous when things don't go his way. And "his way" is the "right way," and the "only way", because he is the Captain.

Captain Stowe is a native of the area, whose lineage goes back several generations. He's a crusty seaman who loves his work. He truly wants his customers to get "a bang for their buck." His reputation in the charter business of the area is legendary. A handsome man in his mid-fifties who could pass for a man 20 years younger. Mar-

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ried with two grown sons, he has boundless energy. And in a relaxed setting, is friendly, and just plain fun to be around. The ride let most of us soak in the beauty of the warm day. No boats nor land in sight, and not a cloud in the sky. I remember thinking there was nowhere I would rather be in the moment than right here. The twin diesels hum was almost hypnotic. The bow of Miss Hatteras sliced thru the seas like a knife thru warm butter. The boat suddenly stopped. Capt. Stowe gave us last minute instructions,

End Of Part One - Look For The Conclusion Next Month. If you have trouble finding this magazine regularly, it's also online at www.wvasportsman.net.



Young Dylan Richards bagged his 1st buck. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*

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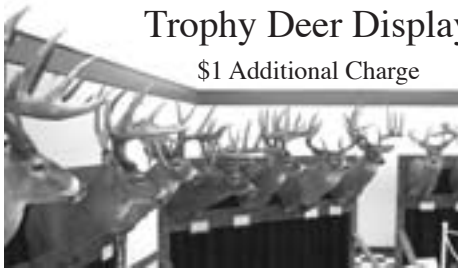
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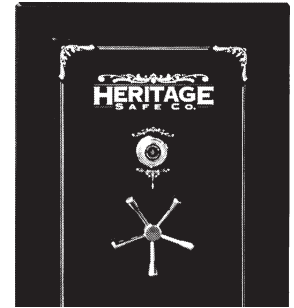
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Illegal Deer & Bear Kills Lead To Arrests

After seeing a photo in the Lincoln Journal newspaper, Capt. Harvey Scites of the Lincoln County Sheriffs Department called Division of Natural Resources conservation officers to report the individual in the photo as a convicted felon. An investigation by DNR Sergeant Terry Ballard and Corporal Larry Rockel led to the arrests of three Branchland men on various game law violations and the recovery of a massive 16 point antler rack. The huge buck was killed on November 20, 2006, which was opening day of the two week deer firearms season. The record book rack has not dried the required 60 days for official scoring, but preliminary scoring shows it to be in the 190's class.

After killing the monster buck, Alfred Curtis Watts, age 40 of Branchland, West Virginia, had posed for the photo for the newspaper. Watts was arrested and charged with hunting without a license, illegal possession of wildlife, illegal killing of deer and conspiring to violate chapter 20 of the West Virginia Code (wildlife laws), and assessed \$200 replacement costs. Nathan Kelly Pritchard, age 20, of Branchland, West Virginia, was charged with illegal possession of wildlife and conspiring to violate chapter 20. Enoch Dale Porter, age 37, of Branchland, West Virginia, was

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charged with illegal possession of wildlife and conspiring to violate chapter 20.

Alfred Watts could also face federal and state charges of being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

Illegal Bear Kill Results in Fines of \$1,400

Division of Natural Resources Conservation Officers Ed Goodson and Larry Harvey received an anonymous complaint of an illegally killed bear in a freezer in Julian, WV (Boone County). Investigation by the officers revealed that Roger Dale Bowman II, age 20, of Peytona, WV, killed the bear out of season while on his job at River Fork Mining in Raleigh County. The bear was then transported to Camp Creek Road, Julian, WV, where it was stored in a home freezer. Bowman was charged with eight game law violations. As of

this date he has pled guilty to four of the charges in Raleigh County Magistrate Court and paid \$1,400 in fines, \$321 in court costs, and a \$500 replacement fee. In addition, Bowman's license privileges will be suspended for two years.

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