



# Nevada Outdoor Instructor

## Inside:

New Angler Ed  
Regional Round Up  
Coming Events  
Record Bow Buck

December 2004

## New Outdoor Education System On-Line

*Outdoor Ed database will now be tied to the Nevada Wildlife Data System and directly to hunting licenses*

Call it an early Christmas present - but the long wait is over, the database for Hunter and Angler Education is on-line as of December 1, 2004.

The Hunter Education database is now tied to the Nevada Wildlife Data System (NWDS). The NWDS is the point of sale system for the purchase of hunting and fishing licenses. Now, when hunters and anglers of all ages sign up for classes and clinics, their data will be saved in the system, so it will be a snap when they go to buy a license at a nearby license agent that's on-line with NWDS.

**Hunter Education** - The days of dragging out an old license, frantically searching for the original Hunter Education card or slogging to an NDOW office to get a duplicate will soon be over. Once the data is in the system and the student completes the class, all they do at the license counter is give their name and Social Security or Sportsman's ID number and badda-bing-badda-boom, their license is completely filled out for them, proof of Hunter Education and all.

Through the system we hope to increase communications and better serve the hunter by providing current, specific information about hunter success, different hunting opportunities, techniques and methods. We will also be able to find out what Nevada hunters want. This will provide the Commission with the information and insights they need to set regulations, tag quotas and help direct the management of Nevada's wildlife for the benefit of hunters and non-hunters alike.

**Angler Education** - Proof of Angler Education is not required to fish, but people signing up for specialty clinics, such as fly-fishing clinics and Lake Mead striper clinics will get the same advantages as the hunters will, of getting into the system once-and-for-all. Likewise these anglers will be the recipients of all kinds of valuable information and resources to help make their fishing experiences more enjoyable and successful. And, as with the hunters, we will be able to find out what our anglers want for Nevada's fisheries and their own outdoor experience.

Two advantages are just around the corner: Instructors will be soon able to set up their own classes on-line and students will be able to register themselves on-line for Hunter Education classes, fishing clinics and special seminars.

Beginning immediately, we are requiring more information, including Social Security numbers to enter students into the database and get them onto a roster. We have developed a Hunter Education registration form for phone-in and walk-in registrations. Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the form. Forms are available at every NDOW office. Some students may be bringing these forms into your class as a walk-in. Any student coming to your class, who is not on the roster, must either have the completed form with them, or the information indicated in the required fields. We appreciate any efforts to get complete information for our student records.



Outdoor Education  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
1100 Valley Rd.  
Reno, NV 89512 4452

# The New Angler Education

The Volunteers' role in Checkout Program, Specialty Clinics and Events



For over a decade we've been providing kids' fishing clinics in Nevada. Other states have been holding them for more than 20 years. But, how effective have they been?

If you're asking about kids' clinics effectiveness in terms of license and equipment sales or numbers of new people that join the angling ranks, we appear to be "counting by the onesies." Specialty clinics, such as fly-fishing clinics, carp clinics, striper clinics, bass clinics and other family-oriented events such as derbies and Free Fishing Day events seem to have the greatest impact on getting people fishing.

That's not to say that NDOW should shift all of its attention to specialty clinics and events and ignore young anglers. In fact, greater emphasis should be placed on promoting family-oriented fishing activities to youth, since studies show that they may well be the key to motivating their families to participate in these activities. Plus, fishing activities can be piggy-backed onto school and youth activities that already exist.

**Checkout Programs** - Angler Education staff is busy developing materials, training and fishing equipment for teachers and youth leaders (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H groups, Royal Rangers, Boys & Girls Clubs, etc.) to check out from NDOW in the near future to use in five-station clinics at schools, churches, camps, clubs and other venues. The principle behind this set up is that the five-station clinic will allow students to learn and practice the concepts and skills to be successful anglers "on dry land," in a familiar, comfortable setting. Then, when the class or club goes on a release day or a field trip to one of our urban ponds, they can start right off, fishing like pros, without losing a single minute to prep time or tutorials on how to fish.

For the volunteer, this means that less of their time will be spent rigging rods, coaching casting classes, tying knots, untangling lines and baiting hooks. It means more fun, less hassle. Of course, volunteer instructors would be more than welcome to attend the dry land clinics at schools or youth meetings. For Trout in the Classroom (TIC) tank buddies, this would be a natural fit for schools where they already volunteer.

Training will be provided annually for first time teachers, youth volunteers and NDOW volunteer instructors interested in participating in the program. Anyone wishing to take advantage of the checkout program must participate in this training.

**Fly-fishing Clinics** - In terms of recruitment to the ranks of anglers and money spent on equipment, clothing and supplies, nothing can equal fly-tying and fly-fishing clinics. Almost everyone who participates in one of these clinics will spend a substantial amount of time and money getting the supplies and gear to get out fishing and at least look like a pro.

Because of the high instructor-participant ratio in fly clinics, these classes are necessarily smaller. The direct effect of this ratio is also obvious in the quick

negotiation of a fairly steep learning curve. Studies show that people who make this kind of investment of time and money in fishing and have the level of satisfaction that comes from learning fly-fishing skills, will become active anglers for life. All of the scheduled fly-tying and fly-fishing clinics fill quickly and no-shows are extremely rare. As staff time allows we may shift to more of these clinics.

**Specialty Clinics** - "A lake this big, I figure there's gotta be fish in there!" This was a comment from a recent e-mail asking about fishing opportunities at Lake Mead. With glee, I was able to tell him that there are a variety of excellent fishing opportunities in Lake Mead, in spite of how low it looks and the bad press that the largemouth bass fishery has been getting of late. Clinics that help people be successful in the convenient fisheries close to home like Lake Mead, South Fork Reservoir or the urban ponds, will always gather more anglers into the fold.

And, anglers also seem to flock to those "oddball" clinics that get them fishing a different fishery, like carp, even if it's in the

same old places they always fished for trout or bass. The trick to specialty clinics is to get people to try something different, go somewhere different, fish for something different and that's what seems to get them hooked.

We can always use volunteers to help us with our regularly scheduled specialty clinics. But, we're going to be adding a lot more of these clinics to our schedule. So, we are looking for "specialists" who have skills that parallel the kinds of clinics we'll be bringing on this season. And, if you've got some "specialty" that we aren't offering, we can always use another approach. Plan on scheduling a specialty clinic of your own. We'll help you set it up, promote it and even round up some on-the-ground support for your clinic.

**Special Events** - The Big Kahuna of special fishing events is Free Fishing Day. The activities of the day serve as the flagship of special events, and as a model for any

other types of events that may come on line in the next couple of seasons. Every big event must involve partners from the private sector. In Reno and Sparks, Raleys and the Sparks Rotary Club are the big sponsors. They donate food, equipment, prizes and giveaways or round up other partners to underwrite the acquisition of all this support.

In early February, NDOW will be conducting hunting seminars in conjunction with the Reno Boat, Sports and Travel Show. In March-April 2006, NDOW will be hosting a Hunting/Fishing/Outdoor Expo in the Las Vegas area. Both of these events will be developed with partners sharing the work, the cost and the promotion of the events.

There is an obvious need for volunteers with special skills, great contacts, resources or just a willing hand to lend. And, there is more than enough opportunity to develop other events that would lead to greater participation in Nevada's hunting and fishing heritage.



Courtesy Mike Sevon



Courtesy Raleys-Reno

# Coming Events

## December

### Hunter Education

- 4 Las Vegas - NDOW Office  
15-16 Reno - NDOW Office

## January

### Hunter Education

- 5-6 NDOW Office - Reno  
8 Las Vegas - NDOW Office  
10-11 Henderson - Whitney Ranch  
15 Carson City  
16 NDOW Office - Reno  
22 Las Vegas - NDOW Office

## February

### Hunter Education

- 2 NDOW Office - Reno  
5 Las Vegas - NDOW Office  
6 NDOW Office - Reno  
7-8 Las Vegas - NDOW Office  
9-10 NDOW Office - Reno  
12 Henderson - Whitney Ranch  
19 NDOW Office - Reno  
26 Las Vegas - Carpenters JATC  
28-3/1 Las Vegas Gun Club - Floyd Lamb

### Outdoor Education Dinners

- Jan. 6 Winnemucca  
Jan. 8 NDOW Office - Reno  
Jan. 14 Kaminskis - Tonopah  
Jan. 15 Las Vegas Gun Club - Floyd Lamb  
Elko - NDOW Office  
Jan. 22 Ely - NDOW Office

### Western States Instructor Rendezvous

April 29-May 1, 2005  
Silverton Hotel/Bass Pro  
Las Vegas, Nevada

## Regional Coordinators

### Hunter Education

S. Region John McKay (702) 486-5127  
ext 3501

### Angler Education

S. Region Ivy Santee (702) 486-5127  
ext 3503

### Outdoor Education

E. Region Joe Doucette (775) 777-2305  
W. Region Chris Vasey (775) 688-1622

# Regional Round Up



## Bighorn Sheep Captures

Here is the schedule for some opportunities to volunteer on bighorn sheep and deer captures:

**Sunday, Dec. 12** - meet in Winnemucca

**Monday, Dec. 13** - California bighorn sheep capture, McGee and Montana Mtns. - release in the Granite Range late Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning.

**Tuesday, Dec. 14** - California bighorn sheep capture, Calico Mountain/Little High Rock Capture and radio mark mule deer, Granite Range possibly in the afternoon

**Wednesday, Dec. 15** - Mule deer capture continues in the Granite range. Netgun crew travels in the evening to central Nevada to meet with NDOW

**Thursday, Dec. 16** - Desert bighorn sheep capture, Toquima and Toiyabe Ranges - release in the Grant Range Friday morning

**Friday, Dec. 17** - travel to Clark County  
**Saturday, Dec. 18** - capture desert bighorn sheep, Muddy and McCullough Mountains

**Sunday, Dec. 19** - Remote, helicopter release of bighorn sheep Virgin Mountains.

This is the plan, but actual captures could be delayed due to several reasons. Everyone needs to be prepared to start on these dates if everything goes smoothly.

Contact regional volunteer coordinators if you want to join in. Participants will need to be patient and wait to hear about specific dates and times from the regions as it gets closer to the time for the captures.

## Hunter Education Publications on the Web

Archived copies of the *Nevada Outdoor Instructor* are posted on the NDOW website at [www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org). Click on the volunteer heading and drag down to "Instructor Resources." Each edition is saved as a PDF file and arranged by date.

The Hunter's Field Guide and Getting Ready to Hunt Nevada (workbook) are saved as PDF filed under the Hunter Education icon. These can be downloaded and printed out.

## New Hunter Education Forms

Included with this news letter is a copy of the sign-up forms for Hunter Education classes. Pads of these forms will be available in the region and field offices. If you would like some forms for your area, please let the regional coordinators know.

All of the required fields (in red) must be completed for students to be entered on the roster. This information is required for record keeping and recall of the students' proof of Hunter Education for future license purchases. Please strongly encourage them to fill out the entire form, since all of this information will make purchasing a license much easier in the future.

It's likely there will be a high number of registrants who will be unprepared to give required information, especially the Social Security number. These registrants have three options. 1. Take the form home and complete it and return it to you or the nearest region or field office to assure a place in the Hunter Education class. 2. The partially completed form can be left with you or at the region or field office and registrants can call with the information to complete the form, thus assuring a place in the class. 3. Take the form home, fill it out and come to the class with the completed form, as a walk-in, in hopes of finding enough space in the class.

Forms and rosters with personal information (SSN, DOB, etc.) need to be locked up and safely secured until they can be entered into the database. After the information on the forms has been entered, the forms should be destroyed. Hunter Education instructors should review the information printed on the roster with the students as they come to the class. This will give us one more back-up check on the accuracy of the data entry.

Social Security numbers will be blocked out on the roster and the instructor should double check only the last four digits. Empty spaces will be left on the roster so students who bring the completed form with to the class can use the information given to complete the roster entry. Their information will be entered into the system upon the return of the completed roster.

Thanks for your patience and cooperation in making the transition to the new system.

Try the **IHEA Instructor website** for free downloads: *Take It and Make It*, overhead masters and more...Go to: [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com), click on **INSTRUCTOR RESOURCE** - User Name: <instructor>, Password: <gohunt>



## Record Bow Buck

By Lynne Foster - NDOW Marketing

A buck mule deer in velvet that was harvested by an archer south of Ely in August is the largest deer ever taken during an archery hunt in North America. It also holds the record for being the largest archery deer harvested in Nevada. Both records are verified by the Pope & Young Club, which is recognized as the official repository for records on bow-harvested North American big game.

Greg Krogh of Arizona took the trophy buck in White Pine County in big game management unit 221 on Aug. 8. The deer was in velvet, meaning the antlers were covered with a velvet-type material that had not yet been rubbed off by the animal.

Krogh and friend Randy Ulmer were elk hunting in the area in August 2003 when Randy first spotted the large deer. Krogh decided then to apply for the tag draw in unit 221 for the 2004 season.

"After unsuccessfully looking for the buck over a total of 26 days between August 2003 and August 2004, I finally located him the day before hunting season opened," Krogh recalls. "We followed him the next day, but he was among 11 other bucks, and I never had an opportunity for a good stalk," he says. "The second day of the season he left the herd with two others. I stalked him when he bedded in some boulders, and got above him. He stood up and began to walk out, and that's when I got him."

Like many sportsmen, hunting is part of Krogh's family heritage. His father was also a licensed guide. Krogh began bowhunting at the age of 10.

The buck has been officially scored at 202 2/8 by the Pope & Young Club. The gross score before deductions for and a 60-day drying period) was 207 7/8.



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# Click and See!

Thanks for sending in your great hunting and fishing pictures! Just go to the [ndow.org](http://ndow.org) home page and click on the icon that looks like the one above. There you will have the chance to go to *Kids and Family Memories*, *Trophy Photos* and *Free Fishing Day* to see your pictures and the pictures of other hunters and anglers on our website. Thanks again -- and keep sending those great pictures in!



Spread the word - Nevada Department of Wildlife has a special spot on their web site ([www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org)) for you to share your family hunting and fishing memories. Just send your family photos to:

**Les Smith**  
Nevada Department of Wildlife,  
1100 Valley Rd. Reno, NV 89512  
or [lsmith@ndow.org](mailto:lsmith@ndow.org).

**Keep sending  
us your family  
pictures!**

