

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS



Mexico whitewings

Biologists predict strong numbers this season. **Page 6**

July 24, 2009

Texas' Premier Outdoor Newspaper

Volume 5, Issue 23

www.LSONews.com

Inside



HUNTING

Kids score at shoot

Cabela's and Cinnamon Creek ranch joined forces to host a 3D archery shoot for youth.

Page 6



FISHING

Not too hot for some

Anglers have unique, sometimes colorful ways for cooling off on the boat.

Page 8

CONSERVATION

Fishing just fine

The fishing industry is holding its own, despite the recession and dour economic news.

Page 4

CONTENTS

Classifieds	Page 19
Crossword	Page 18
Fishing Report	Page 17
For the Table	Page 18
Game Warden Blotter	Page 10
Heroes	Page 13
Outdoor Datebook	Page 22
Outfitters	Page 16
Products	Page 19
Sun, Moon and Tide Data	Page 18

Funds flow for boat buyers

Boat dealers facing financial woes, but buyers still out there, finding deals

By Craig Nyhus
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Potential boat buyers are wondering if financing is going to be a problem. Not so much for buyers, dealers say. Dealer financing, though, is another story.

The problem centers around wholesale financing (called Dealer Floor Plan financing), what dealers use to finance the boats on the lot.

"For buyers, money is available," said Rod Malone, president of Sail & Ski in Austin, San Antonio and Lakeway and the past president of the Boating Trades Association of Texas. "The underwriting is more rigorous, but that's probably not a bad thing."

But wholesale financing for dealers is tough.

"The financing on boats has tightened up," said Billy Holmes of Gulf Coast Marine in Corpus Christi and Hitchcock. "Some lenders are loaning the same way they did two or five years ago — they are the more conservative lenders that required 20 percent down. They don't have bad loans."

Others, though, loaned money more liberally.

"They aren't in the finance business for boats anymore, and some are out of any business," Holmes said.

See **FINANCE**, Page 25

FUN IN THE SUN: There's nothing like a new boat for couples in the Texas summer. Deals and financing are available for buyers, but they may see less inventory at dealerships. Dealers are having trouble securing financing for inventory. Photo by David J. Sams, Lone Star Outdoor News.



Drought is bad, but not worst

El Nino could bring enough rain to break long-lived dry spell

By Thomas Phillips
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

People complain about the weather all the time. But maybe this time they're justified. Especially people in the Hill Country.

"It's about as low as it got (before rainy 2007)," said Allen Christenson, a fishing guide on Lake Travis. "It's heading now to where it was in 1984."

The region is nearing two years in drought conditions, lake levels have dropped dozens of feet, and rivers have become chains of pools, not flowing waterways.

Lake Travis, west of Austin, is down about 41.5 feet, and only one boat ramp is open. Canyon Lake, near New Braunfels, is down 14 feet.

"The last time (Canyon Lake) was this low



LIMITED ACCESS: Lake Travis is down about 41 feet, but fish are still biting. Anglers and boaters hope late summer and fall rains bring the levels back to normal. Photo by Erich Schlegel, for Lone Star Outdoor News.

it was a river," said Travis Smith, owner of the Tackle Box at Canyon Lake.

River "flows" have become trickles. Deep pools still hold water, but ripples between some have gone subterranean.

Despite the negative symptoms, though, the

See **DROUGHT**, Page 14

Desert bighorn tag sells for \$84,000

Hunter pays big for chance at grand slam

By Craig Nyhus
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

J. Michael Lewis of Dallas made the trip July 18 to San Antonio for the Texas Bighorn Society Roundup with his eye on the big-ticket auction item, a desert bighorn ram hunt.

Lewis, an avid hunter and lifetime Dallas Safari Club member, already has three legs of the North American Grand Slam: a Dall sheep, a Stone's sheep and a Rocky Mountain bighorn. The desert bighorn would complete the slam.

"It was something of a sentimental thing," Lewis said. "I'm hung up on hunting the desert bighorn in Texas."

As the auction progressed, worries of the effect

See **BIGHORN**, Page 23

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PLANO, TX
PERMIT 210

Time Sensitive Material • Deliver ASAP

PRODUCTS

CAST NET BAIT BUCKET

This boat or bank model with an aerator by **LanKat Outdoor Products** allows anglers to keep bait alive and healthy for extended periods. The model features a battery-operated aerator and screw-on funnel lid atop a 3.5-gallon bucket. The 15.5-inch-tall bait bucket sells for about \$52. (512) 299-5903 www.lankatoutdoorproducts.com



SURE-LIFE FISH CARE VIDEO

Offered by **Sure-Life Laboratories**, makers of more than 50 fish-care products, this video provides information on bettering the quality of fish and their habitat. The video offers fish survival techniques, demonstrations of products and more. The video can be downloaded for free, and retailers may order a DVD copy by calling Sure-Life. (830) 372-2239 www.sure-life.com



DEERZYME MINERAL

This mineral blend was developed by nutritionists and animal scientists to provide just the right balance of minerals needed by deer. The DeerZyme mineral blend contains enzymes plus "Bio D" to maximize nutrition and optimize antler growth. It also has BuckSweet, which will make deer lick it up. It is available in 5- (about \$15) and 25-pound (about \$40) bags. 770-312-7552 www.headgearllc.com

GRAVITY FLOW PROTEIN FEEDER

Outback Wildlife Feeders' newest model is its CP Regulator. The feeder, with a 2,000-pound capacity, includes a timer incorporated inside the gravity flow system that can be programmed to dispense feed up to six times per day. It will control how much feed animals can consume while maintaining dispensed feed inside the feeder housing and tubes.

It sells for about \$2,400. (800) 396-6313 www.outbackfeeders.com



SNAKE GUARD BOOTS

Offered by **ForEverlast Hunting and Fishing Products**, these boots combine a smooth-skinned leather and camouflage nylon exterior that will deflect a striking snake's bite. The boots feature a durable sole for support and traction plus a breathable inner lining for comfort. Available with a water-resistant exterior, the boots come in sizes 4 to 14. They sell for about \$180. (361) 798-1530 www.foreverlast.com

CLASSIFIEDS

Land Clearing Services.
No burning required. Turn trees and brush into mulch, fence lines, senderos, seismic lines.
877-497-3739
border-construction.com

Gun Bluing Specialty Shop
We specialize in Hot Caustic, Rust and Nitre Bluing as well as Parkerizing, Stainless Steel Bluing, Duracoat finishing, Camouflaging and Stock Restoration
Mention this ad for 10% discount
244 Cedar Crest Dr
Justin, TX 76247
Phone: 214-316-3503
andy@lancatoutdoorproducts.com

www.solaharanch.com
DOVE HUNTING
SEASONAL MEMBERSHIPS
7,000 ACRES GAME RANCH MANAGED HUNDS
PLEASE 45 MINUTES NORTH OF AUSTIN
CLAY BIRD RANGE
15 FARMS ELEVATED SURROUNDING
SINGLE TO 1500 ACRES JUST OFF HIGHWAY
TIMBERED ALTHOUGH AVAILABLE
254-947-8331
P.O. Box 1199
Solera, TX 78071

Colorado Home For Sale
Almost 10 acres on Willow Creek near South Fork
• Backs up to national forest
• 3-1 w/ barn - approx. 2,000 sq. ft.
• Wooded, views, trout, wildlife, mountains
• Gated ranch community, roads maintained, low ag taxes
• 15 miles to Wolf Creek skiing
• Minutes from Cold Metal fishing in the upper Rio Grande
Call 830-998-2202

DOVE HUNTING SOUTH ZONE SEPT. 18TH
♦ DAY LEASE 2 DAY MIN
♦ LOTS OF WATER
♦ LOCATED ON HWY. 472 IN BIGFOOT, TEXAS
♦ RESERVATIONS ONLY
Call **JIM SHEPHERD**
210-649-0212
www.bigfootturfgreassfarms.com

Business For Sale
Manufacturing and Sales
Call of the Wild™ Deer, Turkey, Hog and Bug Blocks
• Purchase includes manufacturing equipment, formula and supplies.
• Excellent for someone who wants to run his or her own business.
Central Distributing Co.,
P.O. Box 1229, San Antonio, TX 78204
newkison@yahoo.com
More than 500,000 blocks sold

Dove Hunting
North and South Texas
Lake Guerrero, Mexico from August through September
Cordoba, Argentina full-service accommodations year-round hunting
Bill Wolfelt
Alex DeWittling
210-494-6421
www.billwolfelt.com

310+/- Acres Hood County
Twin Canyon Ranch
Brazos River Frontage
Live Oaks & Hills
Spring Fed Creeks
Small Home & Pools
Natural Beauty • Priced to Sell!
Blake Hortenstine, Broker
214-616-1305 Mobile
blake@hrcranch.com
www.hrcranch.com

South Texas Hunting Land
Why Lease when you can own?
♦ Starr County - Close to Rio Grande City
♦ 20 acres and up
♦ Easy Financing
♦ Low Payments
♦ No Credit Check
Rudy Montalvo
956-500-2919

House Construction Co.
• New Fishing Lakes
• Tank Repair and Clean-ups
• Roof Work
• Level Clearing
• Drain Systems
• Trenching
• Motor Graders and Backhoe work
Jimmy House
630-769-3590 (home) 630-570-9862 (cell)
James House
630-599-5070 (home) 630-570-7750 (cell)

EZ Dock
Floating Fishing Decks & Boat Docks
Maintenance-Free, Long Lasting Fun
EZ Dock of Texas
800-654-8168
www.ezdocktexas.com

COLORADO LAND FOR SALE
Ranches on rivers, Lake & Ponds
Take advantage of buyer opportunities
• **Colorado Dream:** 60+/- acres 5E+/- miles of stream, High Alpine 20 miles out of Montrose, CO, must sell.
• **Hunter's Paradise:** 40 acres, land of the color, surrounded on 3 sides by public lands, game Dms 56, newly constructed, beautiful log home, motivated seller.
• **Cleopatra Lake:** Heavily wooded with beautiful aspect, just off maintained county road, 9.5+/- acres, near historic Creeks, CO
(970) 944-5050
www.TexasMurphyRealty.com
MURPHY REALTY

TEXAS GULF / BEACHFRONT INTERCOASTAL CANAL PROPERTIES
BEST Prices! BEST Views!
BEST Investment on the Texas Coast
Easily accessible / 1 hour from Houston
10 minutes from East Matagorda Bay
Wall built to prevent erosion
Great fishing, boating, hunting & more
Utilities available / High elevations
Only 5 left!!!!
Prices starting at \$60,500
www.kokumobeachhomes.com
michael_bartodily@yahoo.com
Michael (Owner / Agent) (281) 465-4801

Texas Tackle
Split Ring Pilers
See Demo Video
Working water in cooler / faster / better to change out hooks or spinner blades than the AZW and PATENTED with 100 yds from Texas Tackle, it's that good...working after even frozen clime!
Available at your dealer:
Cabela's, Axtion.com, Tackle Warehouse.com, Bass Tackle Depot.com, SP7 Tackle.com, Wholesale - Henry's, Follans, Lee's, etc.
\$18.99 plus \$3.00 S&H, use any credit card
1.800.437.3521. www.TexasTackle.com

SOUTH TEXAS DOVES
• Whitewing & Mourning Doves
• Lodging Provided
• Spectacular hospitality
CONTACT:
Pattie Westbrook
713-975-1975
covertrapech.com

Pups and Gun For Sale
Litter whelped June 16, Lobs out of great hunting stock, easily trained. Parents have field trial and pointing lab backgrounds. Pups will be excellent for Test/Hunt Test/Hunting. Females \$1000 / Males \$800.
www.diamondwkennels.com
DU Silver Reserve, fully engraved, Muscular over/under, 2 barrel set 12/20, all extras, with case, really nice gun, never been fired. \$250.00
830-833-1291 or 210-259-1454

COLORADO LAND FOR SALE
Ranches on rivers, Lake & Ponds
Take advantage of buyer opportunities
• **Home w/ Land:** 17 acres, Lake City, CO 3,800+ sqft. log home, big views, great trail, wilderness area across - must sell, very motivated.
• **Horseman's Dream:** 35 acres, new high-end farm, horse stalls, heated office, Del Norte, CO, Very nice. Must sell.
• **Golden Eagle Lake:** Spectacular, accessible drive to historic downtown Granby, CO. 5+/- acres of gorgeous open lands.
(970) 944-5050
www.TexasMurphyRealty.com
MURPHY REALTY

Quality Custom Fence
MIKE BAIRD
WE SPECIALIZE IN 8' GAME FENCE
Office: 281-454-2920
Cell: 281-380-2102
Email: mike2920@sbcglobal.com

Place your classified
Place a classified ad in *Lone Star Outdoor News* and experience the results of a new look. The 2"x 2" ad will get the attention necessary to say **SOLD!**
\$50 per month (two issues).
Call Mike at (214) 361-2276 or e-mail ad to mhughs@lonestaronline.com.