

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE



In The Next Issue:

- Whitetail Tactics
- Phase II Moose Management Update

• Federal Election: Results

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The smallmouth bass is an active, warm water fish. As summer progresses, these fish spend much of the day actively feeding. They are especially fond of crayfish, and scour rock reefs, boulder strewn shorelines, river-mouths and current areas for these freshwater lobsters. Imitate a crayfish and you will likely catch a bass or two.

Perhaps the best crayfish imitation is the tube jig. The profile of a tube, with its pulsating tentacles and its cylindrical body is strong medicine for small jaws. A tube jig is most often fished with a lead head jig inserted within its body. You can use a regular round head jig but there are also a wide variety of jigs made specifically for inserting into tubes. The heavier the weight of the lead head jig inserted, the more quickly it will sink. In deeper water, a heavy head is easier to fish, but in shallow water go light. You want to give the bass ample opportunity to eat the tube on the drop.

The average tube is 4 inches, but there are times when a smaller tube is better. The tougher the bite, the smaller the tube. In cold front conditions, a small tube is nearly always better. Most tubes baits have a scent impregnated in them. Many are also salt infused. Scents and salt do seem to make bass hold a tube longer, and may mask human scent a swell.

Tube colours for bass vary widely and are often based on personal angler preference. The most natural looking colours that copy crayfish are brown, pumpkin, green and light orange. However, I've had great success with blues and purple tubes for smallmouth. In fact, my all time favourite tube colour is called June Bug and is a blue/purple shade that looks like nothing you would see in nature. Bass seem to think it's yummy however.

There is no wrong way to fish a tube for bass. You can drag it on the bottom, hop it vertically over a reef, cast and swim it back off bottom or drift it with current. Bass are usually very eager to eat a tube no matter what the presentation. Make sure the hooks are sharp on your hook and hit the bass hard on the strike. Most of the time, you are putting it through their nose and the bone is hard there.

Bass that see a lot of angler pressure often need something small and subtle. This is when finesses baits like plastic grubs really shine.

My favourite finesse smallmouth presentation is a 2 or 3 inch smoke grub on a mushroom head jig. This presentation is great when fishing around rocks, and its light weight allows the grub to fall naturally. Bass pick the grub up and carry it without hesitation. Often you'll see the line move before you feel the strike. Reel down until the rod tip is pointing straight at the fish, and set the hook hard.

Other light ball head jigs can be used to fish grubs, just be sure that they come with a fine wire, wide gap, super sharp hook. Jigs with thick hooks tend to be thrown by smallmouth.

Unpainted lead jigs can me made flat grey by dipping them in Javex. Flat black or brown heads are also effective. Stay away from bright colour jig heads. Smoke grubs with twister tails work well, but when the bite is really tough, go to finesses grubs with spade shaped tails or two legs. Black, oil and purple grubs are also fine for finesse fishing. Scented grubs such as Berkley Power Grubs are a good choice.

Fish the grub with a one piece, light action rod, and a spinning reel loaded with clear 6 or 8 pound test. Using a heavier 8 pound test monofilament line slows the drop of the jig, resists abrasion, and bass don't seem to be spooked by it.

Summer smallmouth bass are about as fun as it gets. Try these techniques and have a blast during the dog days.





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Walleye are one my favorite species of fish to target and summer time is no exception. The summer period presents a variety of options for catching walleye in terms of location and techniques. Throughout the summer months, anglers can expect to find walleye anywhere from cruising up in the shallows in search of a quick meal, to taking refuge in thick aquatic vegetation or even suspending over main-lake basins munching on pelagic baitfish. The wide variety of patterns and locations that work throughout the summer months can be mind boggling at times so here are a few tips that I know will help you put more walleye in the boat during the summer months when the skies turn blue and the sun gets hot!

Cassandra Grzelewski shows off a chunky late summer walleye.

Troll Cranks-

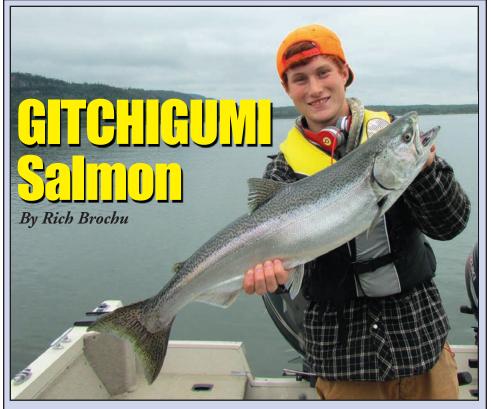
Sandro Fragale, a Thunder Bay, Ontario based walleye guru loves to catch summer walleye by trolling crankbaits. Fragale focuses on trolling areas immediately adjacent to weedbeds, specifically pencil reeds or thick cabbage from early-June through late-August. If he can't locate walleye along weed edges, Fragale utilizes his Humminbird electronics to mark walleye hovering near off-shore reefs, island complexes and main-lake points. Fragale's favorite crankbaits for catching summer 'eyes include Husky Jerks, Shad Raps, Flicker Shads, Minnow Raps and Taildancers. He'll experiment with all of these crankbaits in a variety of colours and sizes until he figures out exactly what the walleye want on that particular day. "Body profile, bait colour and running depth are all variables that need to be considered when picking out a crankbait," remarks Fragale.

Fragale also stresses the importance of trolling cranks with the proper rod and reel combo and especially the use of a line-counter trolling reel in order to nail down the amount of line to let out to suit the running depth of the crankbaits he's using. Fragale's "go-to" combo is the St. Croix, 9', medium-action Eyecon trolling rod (ECT90MM2) matched with a Daiwa Accudepth 17LC line-counter reel spooled with either 10lb test Berkley Trilene XT or 6lb diameter/20lb test Trilene Braid. Trolling speed is a key factor to catching summer walleye. "When I'm dealing with neutral fish, I like to speed things up and tick them off! I'll run cranks consistently faster in the summer months and get a reaction bite out of the fish," says Fragale.

Go Shallow-

Pitching jigs and soft plastic baits to shallow structure is no secret to bass anglers, but few walleye anglers apply this approach to catching walleye up in the shallows. Jay Samsal, a multi-species angler from Kenora, Ontario loves fishing shallow structure for bass and has applied this technique to catching walleye in the summer months. Samsal seeks out shallow main-lake rocks with access to deep water, a critical feature for walleye in the summer months. According to Samsal, all of the spots that consistently produce walleye have some sort of "horseshoe cup" that the fish move into. These "cups" are generally between 1'-5' of water and in some cases can be quite small. Taking the time to find these "horeshoe" areas with rock piles that are just under the surface are greatly overlooked by many anglers. "This technique is 100% based upon the wind," notes Samsal.

As an example, if the open end of the horse shoe faces west, Samsal looks for a west, south-west or north-west wind that funnels both warm water and bait into these areas. "I've been most successful pitching either light jigs ranging in size from 1/32oz to 1/8 oz or using a #4 or #2 Gamakatsu octopus hook with a few spilt shots. My weight choice is all dependant on how heavy the winds are," remarks Samsal. Samsal has found most of his success fishing leeches during the summer months and spends considerable time searching out all of the bait shops in town, in an attempt to find the biggest jumbo leeches he can get his hands on. According to Samsal, boat



Lake Superior- Gitchigumi (meaning Great Water or Great Lake) by the Ojibwa people ,is the largest lake in the world containing an eighth of the world's fresh water. To be based on its shores is a privilege for all who enjoy this majestic body of water filled with many species of fish. One of my favourite fish to catch is the elusive salmon.

The Thunder Bay Salmon Association has always played an integral part in ensuring anglers have the opportunity to catch this chrome magnet. Here's a big "thank you" to all those that have had a part in making this happen!

Salmon fishing can be easy for some and difficult for others. Experience is key in locating these fish. Connecting with other anglers is important in determining what the fish may be biting on. My experience as a salmon fisherman is in its infancy stage but my willingness to learn is intact.

Most fisherman fish for salmon with downriggers. This by far, is one of the most productive ways. For those who do not have downriggers, deep diver Rapala lures can put you on to these incredible fish. Dipsy divers and weighted line can also bring you down to the depths needed to hook onto a salmon.

Thunder Bay district is privy to many sites where one can launch their boats. Little Trout Bay, Dock Five, better known as "Black Bay", Silver Harbour, Alexander Dam and Nipigon landing can all be easily accessed in order to try your hand at salmon fishing. Most of these sites are equipped with washroom facilities and picnic tables.

Rapala lures that have helped me catch salmon include Deep diver Fire tiger, Hot tiger, Silver and Purpledescent to name a few. DNR, Canadian Tire and Walmart can also offer other variation of Deep diving Rapala's to help one be successful.

Salmon can be caught anytime during the spring, summer or fall. I enjoy fall fishing rivers as the chances of hooking onto a salmon are greater. Hearing the spool peel out is a sound that exhilarates and excites. I've been lucky enough to be on a few trips that have produced some gorgeous fish. Once you hook up you'll be hard pressed not to want to try your hand at more salmon fishing. The cool thing about Lake Superior is you never know what you'll be bringing up from its depths.

Remember to wear your PFD, the big lake and rivers demand respect. If venturing out on the big lake a fish finder with GPS is imperative. Lake Superior has a way of creating its own weather- clear one minute, foggy the next. Get out and enjoy what our great lake has to offer. You'll be amazed by its beauty and majesty.

Tips to Catch More Summer 'Eyes Continued from page 2.

positioning and bait placement in these "horseshoe cup" areas is crucial to getting the right bites. "After you're confident that you're in the right area, the key is to let the leech do its thing and tantalize lurking walleye. I'll let the bait soak for a minute or two before I reel up and make another cast to a different area in the cup," says Samsal

In terms of gear, Samsal will fish these finesse baits on a medium-light, 7'2" Rapala Concept Ti (NT85SP72ML1) spinning rod matched with a Shift spinning reel spooled up with 4lb diameter/ 10lb test Sufix 832 braid and a 7lb Sufix fluorocarbon leader.

Sweet Swimbaits-

Swimbaits have become one of the most popular styles of baits in the fishing industry in recent years and for good reason, they catch fish and especially walleye! Swimbaits excel when targeting walleye setup along weed-lines or shallow rocky structure. I like to use these baits when seeking out walleye in these areas as I can fish relatively quickly in order to cover water while generally avoiding getting snagged up on weeds and rocks. Although swimbaits are a great option to throw when walleye are fired up and on the feed, they can also be fished more slowly and methodically if walleye are in a more neutral mode. Fired up or not, summer 'eyes can't seem to resist the profile and thump of a properly presented swimbait.

These baits are available in both pre-rigged and non-rigged styles from a variety of manufacturers. The Storm Wildeye Swim Shad and Berkley Powerbait Swim Shad are great examples of pre-rigged versions while the Berkley Powerbait Ripple Shad, Split Belly Swimbait and Northland Tackle's Impulse Paddle Shad are proven choices for rigging on your favorite jigs. To maximize hook-ups when rigging swimbaits on jigs, make sure to select a jig with a relatively long shank and wide-gap to accommodate the bulkiness of these plastic baits. Northland's Slurp Jig, VMC's Flat Shad Jig Head and Owner's Saltwater Bullet Jig are amongst the best jig options for rigging swimbaits. Swimbaits are best fished on longer, medium-heavy action spinning rods like the 7' Fenwick Elite Tech (ETB70MH-FS) matched with a mid-sized spinning reel spooled up with braided line and a fluorocarbon leader.

Be sure to keep these tips up your sleeve this season when you're out chasing summer 'eyes!

DAVIS VIEHBECK IS A COMPETITIVE ANGLER, FISHING PROMOTER AND OUTDOOR WRITER BASED OUT OF THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO.





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FMZ 6 and the Lac de Mille Lac Fishery

Fish Management Zone 6 and it Council were first created to provide landscape wide management of the zone's lakes and their regulations. There were exceptions even then to this new concept of not managing fisheries on a lake by lake or division by division manner.

In FMZ 6 there were 3 lakes that were exempt Lake Nipigon, Lac de Mille Lac and Whitefish Lake. Lake Nipigon had an established fish management as did Lac de Mille Lac. Whitefish also had some special regulations. These were called Specially Designated Waters or SDW's.

With a lot of pressure from FMZ 6 Council and NOSA broad scale monitoring was established in the Zone to provide data to the Council to assist in forming recommendations that were ultimately accepted by the OMNRF.

This resulted in more consistent regulations for catch limits and size restrictions and seasons in all of FMZ 6 except the SDW's in the Zone.

Lac De Mille Lac while being consistent with the Zone for seasons, catch limits and one over 18 inches also had slot size in its fish management plan.

It should be noted that the work of the Zone 6 council and ensuing recommendations did not make any proposals to change walleye regulations. The Council decided with agreement from The OMNRF staff that we leave walleye alone until there was more data available from the broad scale monitoring and other study. Fortunately funding was available to do to do 2 rounds of broad scale monitoring for FMZ 6.

As preparations are being made for the mandatory review of the FMZ6 fishery and its regulations by the Council the OMNRF has indicated some adjustment of it landscape management position. It also wants to limit or reduce SDW's in the province. For FMZ 6 that will include the latitude to limited lake specific work if warranted. It means that some previous SDW's will be a responsibility of the FMZ's.

NOSA has proposed that Lac de Mille Lac logically become a part of FMZ 6. There a tangible benefits to this proposal for the fishery, anglers and its stakeholders. First being commitment, talent and expertise from a large group of diverse stakeholders who populate the FMZ6 Council is invaluable. The transparency of the process is also of great value letting the community know what and how changes are proposed. We are confident that proposal will be accepted.

Lac de Mille Lac was included in both cycles of the broad scale monitoring and has had numerous creel studies done as well as Fall Walleye Index Netting (FWIN's). The amount of data is sizeable but not complete. We are presently encouraging the OMNRF to increase its knowledge and science on the spawning areas for the lake especially tributaries like the Savanne River.

Angling on the Savanne River during the spring spawn has become a contentious issue. Harvesting producing females especially has drawn criticism and debate ranging from loss of angling opportunity to harm to the fishery including the social impact of the optics of the harvest.

NOSA has asked for this to be a high priority topic and has followed up through its Council representatives to not only address the what is or is not happening during the spawn but what effect it is having on this world class fishery. We believe getting Lac de Mille Lac included in FMZ 6 is the best way to be able to the good and possibly tough decisions that may be identified to protect the fishery for generations to come.

A Letter from the Chair of the Conservative Hunting and Angling Caucus

Dear Friends,

Parliament has risen for the summer and an election date is set. It has been a successful and productive session under our Conservative majority government. Only our Conservative Government can be trusted to continue to stand up for Canada's hunters and anglers. Our record of accomplishments speaks for itself:

- Ensuring that firearms are classified based on independent firearms analysis, rather than being based on appearance.
- Bill C-42: the Common Sense Firearms Licensing Act, received Royal Assent and is now the law. As we promised, this was done before we rose for the summer and before this fall's federal election. This bill contains a number of necessary updates, such as merging a possession-only licence with a possession and acquisition licence (POL and PAL), reining in the ability for Chief Firearms Officers to make arbitrary decisions, and allows for a grace period following the expiry of a licence.
- Creating the National Conservation Plan: the largest federal investment in Canada's history, with \$252 million for conserving, restoring, and protecting our environment
- Creating the Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program (RFCPP), which has invested \$55 million in conserving and restoring fisheries habitats across Canada.
- The Environment Committee studied hunting and trapping in Canada for the first time, and the Fisheries Committee studied recreational fisheries and angling in Canada for the first time. The Liberals and New Democrats opposed both studies.
- Ending the wasteful and ineffective long-gun registry, a \$2 billion Liberal boondoggle that did nothing to reduce crime and needlessly criminalized hunters and farmers.
- We spoke out loudly against the New Democrats' plans to give animals the same rights as humans, which would have ended almost all hunting and farming.
- Creating the National Hunting and Angling Advisory Panel, which allows our Government to receive expert advice directly from grassroots organizations.
- Creating the Conservative Hunting and Angling Caucus: a group of Conservative Ministers and Members of Parliament who discuss how our Conservative Government can create policies that respect hunters and anglers.

The Liberals and New Democrats have opposed every single one of these important measures. We know they would undo all of these changes, bring back the long-gun registry, and make drastic changes that would harm hunters, anglers, farmers, and firearms owners.

Only our Conservative Government can be trusted to continue to stand up for Canada's hunters, anglers, farmers, and law-abiding firearms owners.

Sincerely,

Robert Sopuck, M.P.

Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette

Chair, Conservative Hunting and Angling Caucus

UPCOMING EVENTS

Comments for Firearms Owners to heed as Federal Election looms:

COMMENTARY - A Federal Election is upon us and on October 19th hopefully firearms owners in Canada show up at the polls. Here at NOSA we have no desire to grind an axe with politicians, but we believe in providing accurate information regarding firearms issues. It's no secret which federal party scrapped the long gun registry. So, let's quote some past political verbiage regarding firearms ownership in Canada. We'll let our members and readers form their own thoughts.

NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair:

"I have nothing against seeing honest farmers and duck hunters be able to have their weapons. But, you know, that honest hunter who goes out with his pickup truck, it's a registered pickup truck ... the trailer's registered and the 4x4 is registered. Heck, his dog is registered."

While farmers and hunters are entitled to own firearms, Mulcair suggests there must be strict limits.

He also stated, "What kind of duck do you hunt with an

assault weapon? A pterodactyl?"

"I think that it is possible to provide the police with the tools to better protect the public and themselves by making sure they're able to follow every gun, and it doesn't have to be the registry as it was before," he said.

"But it does have to be a form that allows the governments, federal and provincial, to keep track of those guns. That's our bottom line."

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau:

Justin Trudeau reiterated recently that he would not reinstate the gun registry, even in a modified form, because it's simply too divisive.

He said there are other ways to reduce gun violence including through the classification of restricted and prohibited firearms and through the requirements imposed on the purchase of firearms.

"Canadians are united in their desire to see less violence with guns across this country," Trudeau said. "We should-

n't be divided on the ways to do that and that's what I'm committed to doing."

Conservative Leader Stephen Harper:

"I don't want to feed paranoia, but as prime minister I can tell you I share the frustrations of our caucus members," said Harper, before alluding to "bureaucratic initiatives that we think are effectively trying to put the long gun registry back in through the back door." "This is not something we can tolerate."

Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney (Conservative):

"Allan Rock(Liberal) said he came to Ottawa with the belief that only the police and military should have firearms. I believe that firearms ownership is a right, but a right that comes with responsibilities."

"Our (Federal Conservative) government will always stand-up for law abiding hunters, farmers and sport-shooters."



George Clark presents the 2015 Shebandowan Smallmouth Showdown Championship award to Nick and Kyle Vescio

2015 Shebandowan Smallmouth Showdown

The weekend of July 18-19 saw the 2015 Shebandowan Smallmouth Showdown (SSS) held with 75 teams competing for prizes and money. The coveted SSS Championship trophy and this year's winning team was the father and son combination of Kyle and Nick Vescio taking home the \$5000 championship winnings.

The Vescio team rounded out a slow start to their weekend by totalling a final weigh-in amount of 26.07lbs to beat out 74 other teams in the two day competition. It should be noted also that the father and daughter TEAM NOSA sponsored youth category team of Kevin and Alyssa Ritchie took home the #1 spot for the second year in a row in the youth category, and thus a proud moment for NOSA!

The lead organizer for the event is George Clark and he put together a committed team of volunteers and gathered some heavy weight sponsors again this year to make the SSS a huge success. The weather co-operated as did the fish. NOSA is a proud continuing sponsor of the event.



NOSA Executive Director John Kaplanis presents the Sportsman of the Year Award to George Clark

NOSA 2015 Sportsman of the Year Award

The Northwestern Ontario Sportsmen's Alliance is proud to announce the recipient of the 2015 Sportsman of the Year Award is Thunder Bay's George Clark. George has had a year to remember, already having received the North Shore Steelhead Association's, 2015 Henry J. Akervall Memorial Conservation Award. Highly involved with NSSA for over 20 years, George is an active volunteer with many local fisheries projects. It was George's idea to develop the area at the mouth of the Current River into a park like setting which is now known as Fisherman's Park.

George was one of the original members of the Thunder Bay District Stewardship Council. Along with the creation of Friends of Shebandowan Public Launch Site, another one of GC's work in motion, he continues to fund raise for monies to be used to enhance the public access point on Lower Shebandowan Lake. Keeping George busy these days is his directorship of the annual Shebandowan Smallmouth Showdown Bass Tournament(SSSBT). He is also president/treasurer of the Thunder Bay Bassmasters chapter.

But this year during the awards presentation at the SSSBT, George was taken by surprise when he NOSA Executive Director John Kaplanis presented him with the prestigious recognition of the Northwestern Ontario Sportsmen's Alliance's Sportsman of the Year Award. He was chosen for his dedicated involvement with fishing related projects that he not only creates, but works tirelessly to see the projects through to fruition. NOSA particularly took note of GC's interest in passing along his sport angling passion to the younger generation.

"Giving back is what it's all about", says George. Believe us when we say that George Clark is one steward of the resource that truly gives back more than he has ever taken. Thank you George for all you do!



THIS MONTH'S NEWS



Team Beange accepts the AYA Championship trophies from North Country's Randy Neufeld.

NOSA Sponsors 2015 Thunder Bay AYA Walleye Tournament

The Northwestern Ontario Sportsmen's Alliance (NOSA) was proud to once again sponsor the 2015 Angler Young Angler youth walleye tournament, held in Thunder Bay on the Kam River. The event hosted 38 teams consisting of one adult and two youth anglers. Organizing sponsor was North Country Cycle and Sport and organizing chairman Randy Neufeld was satisfied with the great turn out and support by local sponsors.

This year's winning team was captained by Kevin Beange with his youth team mates of Kolton and Kaelen Beange. As luck would have it, Kolton would land a 9.72lb walleye and with this big fish Team Beange would total a staggering 12.13lbs thus securing top spot for the one day tournament. Second place was brought in by team Bahry with 10.82lbs and third place finishers were team Kelly with 8.58lbs in total.

The event is intended to promote not only the future of sport angling but also it centers on family and youth involvement in the outdoors. The event is possible with the sponsorship support of LUND and North Country Cycle and Sports and many other major business supporters from Thunder Bay including; NOSA, Dog Lake Resort, D&R Sporting Goods, NSSA, Canadian Tire, Peterson Machine Shop, and the Thunder Bay Salmon Assoc. Also, the event could not go on without the volunteers, many of whom do not have children participating in the event. Their commitment to the event is most appreciated and vital to the continued success of these events.



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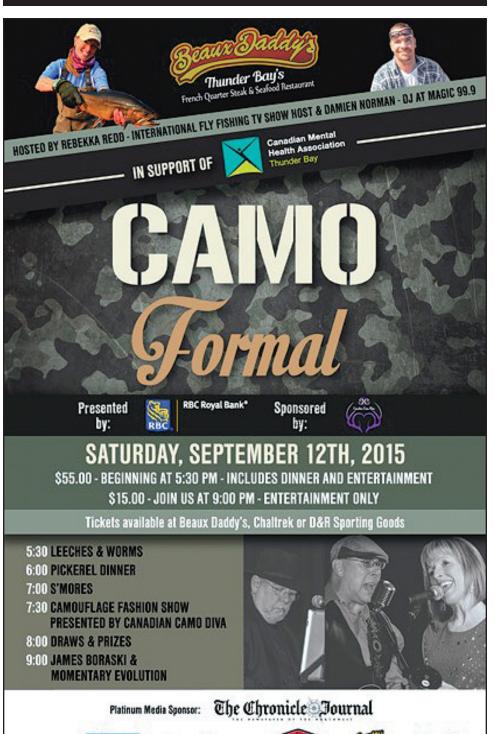
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walleye



Add fitness to your Outdoor Game

By Amanda Lynn Mayhew

For me, fitness and hunting go hand in hand. Many years I hunted solo and to be at the top of my game physically was a top priority. Striving to be the best I could be and being out in the field gave me a stronger sense of confidence, with fewer worries about having a serious mishap. After all, you shouldn't have to worry about having a heart attack more than you worry about getting a flat tire.

Maintaining health and heart should be as high on your list of priorities as maintaining your vehicle and hunting equipment. Let's face it, by being in better physical condition, it allows one to expand their outdoor horizons by trying new equipment and hunting experiences. I have recently taken up archery. Although I have been training and bodybuilding for many years I found it difficult the first time pulling my bow back at only a measly 30 pounds! Thanks to Bear Archery, I was able to find a bow that was specifically designed with the woman bow hunter in mind. Having to decrease the weight of my new bow and train my body to get accustomed to this new found passion has only taken a few weeks but has also changed the way I train and added a new dimension to my fitness routine.

I have hunted a wildlife management unit for over 15 years in Northern Ontario without cell phone service or radio contact, so the only person I had to depend on was myself. I train to hunt, train to live; all year long with many different aspects of my training such as bodybuilding, resistance and cardio training. Keeping it fresh is the key but always falling back to what I trust and know is equally important. Having become involved in the Total Gym fitness philosophy is what started the whole path to renewed physical fitness and health after being diagnosed with Grave's Disease many years ago. This was back in the day when there was no internet and few support networks except who you knew personally. I had to find a way to beat it or at least keep up with it and I did. When others noticed that I was taking control of the mess I went through, I was continually asked for assistance to help others and that is exactly what I did and I relied upon my outdoor passions of hunting and fishing to strengthen my body as well as my soul.

My passions lay with being in the outdoors and being able to get out to hunt or fish or even drive around independently to scout new areas. The outdoor lifestyle gave me strength to keep on trucking. Now as a Cabelas Pro Staff member, I'm paying it forward. Becoming confident enough in my own strength was important to me and so the forks in the path continued with Daily Disciplines, a fitness magazine (www.fytnessfanatik.com), an apparel line (www.liftlikeagirl.ca) and now streaming fitness and hunting together to get the message out to prepare hunters all year long to be ready for anything, not just the one week of their biggest hunting vacation! Visit me at the websites listed here for more information and tips on fitness and



came Cam + Mineral = Deadly Combo!

By Tom Armstrong, NOSA Director

As September rolls around, I find myself in full hunting mode; hunting bear and deer with the bow, prepping for the upcoming moose hunt, mixed in a bit of waterfowl and grouse hunting on the side.

With so many things on the go, I rely heavily on trail cameras to tell me what's going on at my hunting sites to help me decide where to spend my time. They're a great way to pattern animal movement and timing, determine size and number of animals around, and see changes in activity throughout the season.

When setting up cams, it depends on the site and what I hope to learn. Putting cams on a well-used trail to see when animals are moving through, even if it's not on a food source can be a good way to collect some information. When setting on a trail, set it at an angle to the trail to ensure you don't miss the animal crossing quickly in front. I always have cams on bear baits and deer feeding and mineral sites, as these are always an active area that I want to learn about. When setting up cams, I set them back about 5-10 feet away and set them up about 4 feet off the ground. Consider the direction the sun rises and sets, and don't point it in that direction or your photos may not be very visible at sunrise/sunset.

When setting cameras anywhere around bears, it's a good idea to use some sort of security box. My UWay cameras have a security box that accommodates them, securing them from bears or dishonest people. I've had more than one camera destroyed by a bear, or disappear from a tree. When setting up on crown land, or even private land that others may visit, if they're not locked up I try and conceal them, hoping that they won't disappear.

As the season progresses, setting up cameras on deer scrapes is always interesting, capturing some great photos of deer working scrapes, and giving you an idea what bucks are in the area. Another place to set cameras during the early fall is on access to water. For both moose and deer, find a well used trail leading to water and put a camera on it.

When it comes to camera selection, you can find a large variety of cameras, and can spend anywhere from \$1-\$500 on a camera. I mainly run UWay cameras, and have found them to be one of the most reliable cams, with long battery life and quality shots. Some of my older cameras would burn through D batteries at a rapid pace, where these new UWay cams can last months on 8 or 12 AA's.

Mineral sites are a great place to put cameras, as they can be a seriously effective draw for animals. Minerals are often most effective in spring through early fall, but can be a draw for moose and deer throughout the season. There are many options for mineral products; powdered minerals or solid minerals in 2lb blocks on up to 50lb blocks. The Primos Swamp Donkey mineral block is a 15lb block containing minerals, as well as sweet molasses to draw deer in, and can be a great start, as it's large enough to last and draws deer in. Using a powdered type of mineral, like Fatal Attraction Outdoors attractant is a good way to start a long-term mineral site. Even trace mineral licks from the Thunder Bay Farm Co-op come in 2lb or 50lb blocks and these can be equally effective for both deer and moose.

Whether you have some tried and true hunting sites, or are exploring new country, get a camera or two, hang them in your hunting area, and see what you can learn.



Talk to me for your next new or used vehicle.





Moe joins NOSA Executive Director John Kaplanis and his wife Donna at the Northwestern Fur Trappers Convention



Moe Comuzzi and NOSA membership director Bruno Fornaro at Kakabeka Gun Show.



Moe meets with Adrian Hagar owner of D&R Sporting Goods and John Kaplanis, to discuss firearms ownership issues.

A Message from Moe Comuzzi-Conservative Party Candidate Thunder Bay-Rainy River

Hello to my fellow NOSA members and northern outdoors families!

My name is Moe Comuzzi I am the Conservative Party candidate for Thunder Bay-Rainy River.

Here in Thunder Bay-Rainy River and all across Northwestern Ontario we enjoy an outdoor lifestyle and the Conservative government is committed to ensuring we are not penalizing law-abiding hunters, farmers and sport shooters with an expensive and invasive long gun registry.

The NDP has stated they will require long gun owners to register their "weapons" with local police agencies. Don't you think the police should be using their time and resources to focus on catching criminals and not punishing law-abiding citizens?

I am committed to fight for our law-abiding hunters, farmers and sport shooters.

I am a hard working individual that will commit to this area and not allow the NDP to penalize us because their only concern is to gain votes from Southern Ontario and disregard the citizens of Northwestern Ontario.

Let's think differently this election by allowing me to fight for Northwestern Ontario; to represent the citizens of Thunder Bay-Rainy River in Ottawa; and to have a Member of Parliament working for law-abiding citizens alongside Stephen Harper.

I am Moe Comuzzi and I am proud to be your Conservative Party candidate and your representative in this beautiful area we all call home.

Moe Comuzzi

Conservative Party Candidate for Thunder Bay-Rainy River

Moe Comuzzi



