



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK PAUL CASSIDY

It is an exciting time to be a part of Aquatic Consultants, Inc. We have many new additions to our staff including our new Vice President of Operations, Scott Bryan; Fisheries Biologist, Chris Martinez; Equipment Operator, Travis Morales; and Executive Assistant, Kim Hale. Please take the time to introduce yourselves to these new folks as we feel they all make a great addition to our team.



Jack Kelly and Paul Cassidy display their catch from a recent Alaskan fishing trip.

It is with mixed emotions that I say goodbye to my good friend and colleague, Jack Kelly. As many of you know, Jack has been with ACI since its inception back in 1999. Jack retired from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish after twenty-five years and came to work with ACI (He still claims that he did not even get a day off). Jack's contribution to ACI's success is immeasurable. Throughout his time at ACI, Jack has developed many of the systems by which we currently operate. He has been a mentor to all of our biologists and has run the day-to-day operations of the business. We have had many memorable moments over the years and have enjoyed many great hunting and fishing trips. I will miss Jack and all he has brought to our company and wish him, and his wife Peg, all the best in retirement.



AQUATIC HUMOR

Catching the Fish

Jim had an awful day fishing on the lake, sitting in the blazing sun all day without catching a single one. On his way home, he stopped at the supermarket and ordered four catfish. He told the fish salesman, "Pick four large ones out and throw them at me, will you?"

"Why do you want me to throw them at you?"

"Because I want to tell my wife that I caught them."

"Okay, but I suggest that you take the orange roughy."

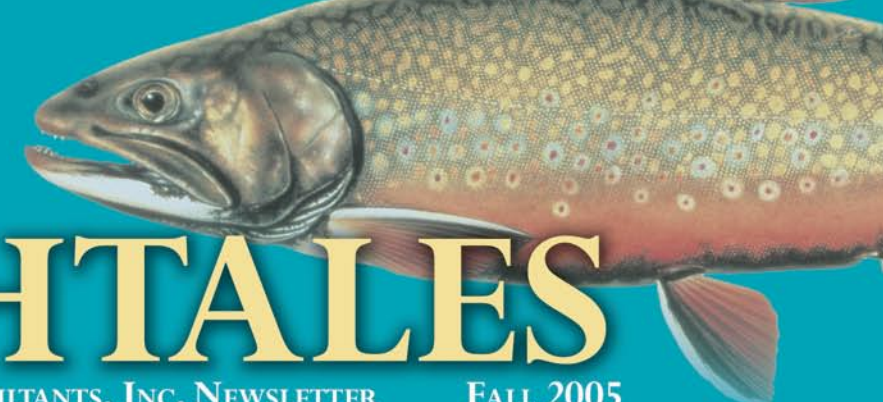
"But why?"

"Because your wife came in earlier today and said that if you came by, I should tell you to take orange roughy. She prefers that for supper tonight."



FISHTALES

THE AQUATIC CONSULTANTS, INC. NEWSLETTER FALL 2005



MORANI RIVER RANCH

NEAR UVALDE, TEXAS

ONE OF THE FIRST QUESTIONS WE ASK EVERY PROSPECTIVE CLIENT IS, "What is your vision for your water resource?" Most clients are not always sure and usually respond with "I want a clean, healthy lake that can support some big fish!" Oftentimes, those goals can be at odds with each other leaving the potential client frustrated. ACI has taken great measures in order to provide a clean looking lake along with providing the necessary food chain and habitat to support trophy fisheries. One of our most recent projects, Natron Lake at the Morani River Ranch near Uvalde Texas, is an example of such a fishery.



Owner Kevin Reid had a vision of providing his friends and hunting clients an opportunity to fish for some trophy largemouth and striped bass right outside the lodge's front door. Hand-placed riprap line the entire shoreline keeping erosional deposition of soil to a minimum. In addition, a gravel cap over the entire bottom of the lake keeps sediments "locked up", preventing turbidity from becoming a problem. The additions of vertical rock walls around the island and near the lodge provide a finished look in clean, clear-water look, but what about the food chain necessary to provide for a trophy bass fishery?

ACI biologists have come up with a number of options to by-pass the normal primary and secondary production necessary to produce trophy fish. Aquatic plants normally produce the necessary dissolved oxygen and habitat necessary to sustain a sport fishery. The installation of strategically-placed lake

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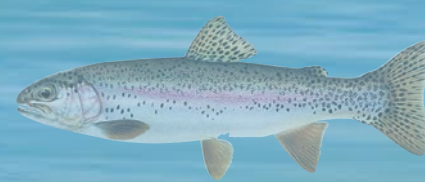
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RIO GRANDE CUTTHROAT



RAINBOW TROUT



BROWN TROUT



SNAKE RIVER CUTTHROAT



BROOK TROUT


Placement of large rock and log structures throughout the lake provide the necessary habitat for predator fish.



(continued from cover)

aeration systems allow for the efficient transfer of oxygen at the surface of the lake, all the while maintaining an even distribution of oxygen from top to bottom. Placement of large rock and log structures throughout the lake provide the necessary habitat for predator fish. Stocking the lake with forage species (e.g., fathead minnows, mosquito fish, freshwater shrimp, etc.) prior to the introduction of sport fish enables the prey base to get a "head start" and provide the necessary nutritional base for their larger counterparts. In

addition, many of our clients feed their fish a supplemental, high-nutrient, commercial diet.

Stocking rates of sport fish are critical if the fishery is going to sustain itself and provide for some trophy opportunities. Our biologists have developed these rates based on the relatively sterile nature of the lakes we manage. Constant monitoring of the condition (i.e., relative weight) of the sport fish will allow our biologists to fine tune future stockings and/or adjust harvest numbers. Bottom line: ACI is able to provide our clients with a clean, healthy lake that can produce some really big fish! 


Two boys enjoy bringing in their fish.




A proud mother and daughter show off one of the catfish caught at this year's Outdoor Expo.



ACI AIDS OUTDOOR EXPO

Aquatic Consultants, Inc. was happy to assist the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish with the 2005 New Mexico Outdoor Expo. More than 2,000 people attended the fourth-annual event at the Albuquerque Shooting Range Park on May 14-15. Individuals of all ages were treated to two free days of shooting, climbing, casting and fishing. By far the biggest crowd-pleaser of the event was the 15,000-gallon aquarium full of large warmwater game fish. However, getting ACI-donated fish to the Expo was no small task as Paul Cassidy had to dispatch his biologists on a special, overnight pickup in Amarillo, Texas to ensure over 200 pounds of catfish were there for the opening day festivities. "The look on the kids' faces when they hook a big fish for the first time makes it all worthwhile," said Mark Birkhauser, Department of Game and Fish hunter education coordinator and Expo organizer. "Children and adults whooped and hollered all day long as they caught and released fish, some weighing as much as five pounds!" Paul Cassidy adds, "When it comes to kids and fishing, ACI is more than happy to help out." 

NEW MEXICO GOLF COURSES RANK HIGH NATIONALLY

Aquatic Consultants, Inc. congratulates Paa-Ko Ridge and Twin Warriors Golf Courses for their respective listing as the 20th and 49th greatest public courses in the United States (*Golf Digest*, May 2005). ACI is fortunate to have long-standing management contracts on both of these courses and takes special pride in their accomplishment. In addition, *Golf Digest's* "Best in State" top-ten rankings includes seven of our clients. We feel proud to be associated with such fine courses and congratulate all the Superintendents and Directors of Golf for their well-deserved honor! 




The scenic 15th hole at Paa-Ko Ridge Golf Course, recently voted the 20th greatest public course in the United States.



ACI's construction personnel begin work on building a new irrigation lake at Santa Ana Golf Course.

- #1 *Paa-Ko Ridge Golf Course
 - #2 *Las Campanas Country Club (Sunset Course)
 - #3 *Twin Warriors Golf Course
 - #4 Black Mesa Golf Course
 - #5 *Las Campanas Country Club (Sunrise Course)
 - #6 *Pueblo de Cochiti Golf Course
 - #7 *Pinon Hills Golf Course
 - #8 Inn of the Mountain Gods Golf Course
 - #9 University of New Mexico Golf Course
 - #10 *Santa Ana Golf Course, (Tamaya / Cheena Course)
- *ACI Clients

ACI TEAM MEMBER UPDATE: JACK KELLY LEAVING ACI

All good things come to an end and such is the case with Jack Kelly's tenure with ACI. Jack has been with the company basically from the start when he and Paul were working out of their homes. "It's been quite a ride building the company to the point where it's at currently," Kelly said. "As was the case when I retired from the Game and Fish, it is the people that I will miss most. I think Paul and I have put together an outstanding staff at ACI. Not only are they some of the most professional and conscientious folks I've been around, but they also have been a lot of fun to work with over the years. Our clients will definitely be in good hands. And, speaking of clients, many have become more friends than clients and they will be missed also." Kelly plans to get involved in some volunteer work in between his hunting and fishing trips and playing golf. We wish Jack well in all his ventures! 



Jack Kelly, former ACI Vice President takes a close-up photo of a young rainbow trout on the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

