



The resolution we ALL need to make

Why do you go fishing? Is it the beef jerky, potato chips, and beer for breakfast or the camaraderie? Is it to enjoy a day with the family? Or is it simply an opportunity to leave behind a long list of "honey-do's"?

For most of us, it's one of the above or one, or more, of a million other good reasons to escape and enjoy one of northern California's many liquid outdoor opportunities. Whether it's on a party boat in search of stripers in San Francisco Bay or a walk along a high Sierra trout stream with your favorite 2-weight, a weekend escape trolling for trout or a camping/fishing summer vacation, northern Californians have it all right in their own backyard.

When you talk to fishermen, all agree: they don't get out and fish enough. It's a great day – any day – when you can hit the water with friends or family and pursue your favorite species. But for some reason, it quickly takes a back seat as lots of other "things" keep popping up: indoors, outdoors, upstairs and down.

Each trip, each season, each year we look forward to battling with trout and kokanee salmon, but too often something gets in the way of the plan.

For the most part, there's only one thing that stops anglers from going: THEMSELVES.

Set a date, plan a trip and follow through with it. Don't let anything get in the way. Make that commitment and you too can have an exciting trip to remember

Why we fish: We fish for the memories, some of them vivid, many of them fresh and some, (perhaps many) forgotten. But

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each and every one, we treasure. From first-time experiences in places we hadn't fished before, to lakes we think we've "mastered" and then been "spanked," to unbelievable, phenomenal, epic fishing action like Marilyn and I had not long ago:

Trolling four rods on downriggers was interesting that day...if not entertaining. Three big rainbow trout, all weighing over 4 pounds, hooked up at the same time. They were in charge of the action and successfully weaved the line from all four rods into knots that would make a Boy Scout proud. One net...two rods...three fish, and four massively tangled lines and lures, held by two smiling, ecstatic anglers. You can't ask for more ... well, maybe...had there been a fish on rod four too!

A fight to remember. One that will have to last, well, until the next time!

That's why we go fishing: for the memories. We share them at every opportunity, hoping to excite our friends, readers and listeners to venture out and create their own angling memories too.

Throughout the 2010 editions of *California Sportsman*, that's exactly what we hope to do for you. We'll tell you when, where, and how to intercept some of the top game and gamefish that California has to offer. We want to motivate you to set your plans, stick to them, go fishing to create memories. We'll keep you posted on issues and perspectives relative to our outdoor heritage too.

Plan a trip now. Take your family or friends with you, introduce someone to your favorite sport and especially get the kids involved. This is a sport that truly "sinks in" and memories last a lifetime.

Make a resolution for 2010, too. GO FISHING! Get out more often, enjoy your state's natural resources. You'll smile more, feel better, move better and probably look better too, guaranteed!

'Til next time...tight lines. **-Sep & Marilyn Hendrickson**

Editor's Note: Sep & Marilyn Hendrickson are hosts and owners of the supremely well-named California Sportsman on KHTK 1140 AM in Sacramento