

## Reel in a truck at Oct. 2-3 Troutfest

Lightning has struck twice in the last three years. What are the chances of a three-peat?

That's what anglers will be hoping for when the 6th annual October Troutfest, cosponsored by Western Outdoor News and Municipal Water District, is held on the lake October 2-3. Twice, in 2007 and again last year, the tagged trout good for the grand prize has been caught...here's hoping it happens again in 2010.

First Adrean Flores reeled in the tagged trout good for the tournament's grand prize, a \$30,000 Toyota Tundra. It was the first time the tagged trout had been tagged. Then lightning struck again last year, when Brett Downing of Huntington Beach pulled in another tagged trout, this time worth a Ford F150 Super Crew XLT truck. The 2010 grand prize again lands a Ford F150. Pradco's Yurn TroutKrilla, along with Big Bear Sporting Goods, will have a tagged trout worth \$10,000. All told, 27 tagged fish in the lake will be worth a

bounty of nearly \$50,000.

Some \$130,000 in cash and merchandise is up for grabs during the event. Even if the tagged trout isn't caught, there's plenty of other stuff to be won. All participants receive one raffle ticket—and no others are sold—for a myriad of prizes like exotic fishing trips, getaways, and the grand prize: Klamath boat with Mercury outboard motor and trailer, worth \$12,500. Jeri-Peacock Licht of Sugarloaf won the boat last year.

All anglers are also eligible for the blind bogey contest, in which \$20 from each entry fee is put into a pool with 25% of the proceeds going to fishermen whose catches come closest to predetermined weights. Last year \$5,000 was paid out in blind bogey cash. There's also a special drawing for a Sea Eagle inflatable boat, valued around \$1,000, provided by Panther Martin lures.

The remaining 75% goes to MWD for fish stocking prior to Troutfest, and last year's event netted about \$15,000. Some 12,000 lbs. of trout are planted in advance of the event.

Fishing gets underway each day at 6 a.m. The \$75 entry includes barbecue lunch catered by B's Backyard Bar-B-Que, blind bogey contest, raffle ticket, plus a well-stocked goodie bag with line, hooks, sinkers and more, valued at the cost of the entry itself. Registration is limited to the first 1,000 anglers to sign up.

To register call (909) 866-5796.



Aaron Armstrong (center) and his kids show off the lake's best kept secret...bass!

## Big bass tourney, parties on tap

Bass fishing just might be the best kept secret on Big Bear Lake. Aaron Armstrong is out to change that.

"Aaron's Fall Big Bear Lake Big Bass Tournament" debuts Saturday, September 18 from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Holloway's Marina is the official weigh-in station with 90% of all entry fees going to cash prizes for the winners. The remaining 10% goes to stocking the lake with beautiful bass—all bass stocked are three pounds and up. Entry is \$200 per two-person team plus \$25 to enter the "Big Fish" prize.

Everyone's invited to tournament parties too. Preceding the event is a fundraiser on the beach at B's Backyard Bar-B-Que with volleyball, horseshoes and lakeside fun starting at noon on Friday, Sept. 17.

At 5 p.m. there's great grub, like the restaurant's famous pulled pork and brisket sandwiches, grilled salmon, baby back ribs, burgers, hot dogs and more. Then the *Time Bandit* pirate ship, the one-third replica of a Spanish galleon seen in the movie of the same name, offers tours from B's at 6 p.m. for \$15.

Tournament day sees food from Hacienda and Saucy Mama's Pizzeria at 5 p.m. at Holloway's Marina. Enjoy great lake views while savoring carnitas or ground beef plates, lasagna rolls and baked macaroni and cheese. Proceeds from all events go toward stocking bass in the lake.

Call (909) 866-2240, (800) 475-3166 or [www.bigbearbassfishing.com](http://www.bigbearbassfishing.com).

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