

# Have Rod... Will Travel...

Custom Fishing Guide Service & Snowmobile Tours

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[www.HaveRodWillTravel.com](http://www.HaveRodWillTravel.com)

## Merry Christmas From the Northwoods



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## The Professional Guide Services of the Northwoods

### Fall Muskies a "BIG BITE"

Well this Fall came in as one of the best seasons in a long time. Between guests, fishing with my partner, and myself some huge muskies were caught in my boat this year, and all of them being a "p-e-r-t-y fish". They all had nice markings, with big bellies and heavy in weight. I personally was looking for that illusive 50+ incher but that one will have to wait for next year. I know that the great possibility is there.

During the two months of October & November we caught sixteen muskies ranging from 40 to 46 inches. I ran a streak of six **consecutive** fish that were within

an inch at 44.5 to 45.5.

The fall season started with an early cooling off period but big fish action was **HOT!!** Muskies stayed in the weeds, for the most part until the end of November. From mid September to mid October you could still catch a musky on a spinnerbait which is rare. One of my best full moon night outings came in September on topwater baits. As water temperatures fell more quickly this year over last we got an earlier sucker bite than normal.

Artificial baits worked but

strangely toward then end I was getting better results on glide baits like a Hellhound and Manta. On our sucker takes we had 4 out of 5 came on our drop line right below the boat with only a few on the trailing float line.

It truly was an exciting season end; all the fish we caught were successful released back to the waters. (See last page for more BIG FISH photos.)

**Next Fall make it a date with me to catch a trophy Musky!!**



## Have Sled... Will Travel... Continues Snowmobile Tours



Last year the fishing guided services of **Have Rod... Will Travel...** adding the name of **Have Sled... Will Travel...** by offering guided snowmobile tours in the surrounding area of Eagle River. Pictured above are Mark & Cindy with their two children who had a great time being introduced to the sport of snowmobiling on their first family riding experience. Trails were good and all had a great time.

Serving many other groups last year on tours I will continue to offer my services of 32 years of trail riding experience for the 2006/2007 season.

Snowmobiling is a great way to get out in the winter woodland and enjoy some fantastic scenery and fresh air. As your guide I can accommodate large family or corporate groups with the services of additional guides if needed. (Remember I only offer the services of a tour guide) I do not rent sleds or equipment, but I can help with all your arrangements in rentals and lodging.

Group riding is great fun but you need to know your trails and if it is your first experience you should have fun so let a guide show you the way.



**Have Sled... Will Travel** is a division of **Have Rod... Will Travel...** both service offer [professional guide services.](#)

# Have Rod... Will Travel... or Have Sled... Will Travel...

Delays may come for the 2007 season due to warming weather but December/January are the time to go for Big walleyes like this 29 incher at about 9 pounds taken on a tip up with a shiner for bait.



**"Early Ice plus the Full or New Moon = BIG WALLEYE"**



## ICE FISHING: A Good Outlook for 2007

Although many people will not get to ice fish until after the New Year, ice is forming rapidly here in the Northwoods. I would expect safe ice by this weekend in most areas. This is a great time to fish as many big trophy walleyes will feed in the shallow area at this time. Weeds are still good and bait fish can be found in these areas, which brings in those big fish. After time through winter these fish will slide off into deeper holes getting away from the decaying weed that takes place later in the season. Decaying weed removes the oxygen in the

water and therefore drives the fish lower to find a better O2 concentration. Last year our early ice walleyes were some dandy nice fish as I had a 5 fish stringer that would have gone over 44 pounds.



This fish was actually the smallest of 5 fish, but was a better photo. Fishing out of a heated 7x8 shanty (seen in

background) you can take pleasure in some warm surroundings with heat, coffee, hot chocolate, and soup while we watch tip ups and listen to the radio and tell stories.



For more information on ice fishing please visit the website of [www.HaveRodWillTravel.com](http://www.HaveRodWillTravel.com) or call 715-479-(LURE)5873

## The 2006 Open Water Season Wrap Up

From the first Saturday in May to the end of the Musky Season (Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>) I had a total of 142 days that I was on the water. Now these are not all guest days these are total day. Days with guests, days I pre-fish, days I scout, Monday night league, and days of tournaments. This gave me a lot of time on the water this year and the season as whole was very, very, good. We had a few bad days of weather and a few days the fish bite was not there; (which you have to expect) but all-in-all it was a great season and many fish were caught. Generally we start the season with Walleye in May but we can fish panfish (crappies, perch, and bluegills) as soon as the ice goes

out. When the end of May arrives our musky season opens but they are usually a little slow so I will stay on the walleyes until the musky season picks up and in June the Bass season opens. Now there is a catch and release bass season that starts with the walleye opener but you need to release them until the official season start.

Everything season-wise went very well this year. We got some BIG and plentiful walleye in the first part of the season along with some really nice trophy smallmouth. Walleyes and bass were good until the end of July. The muskies however, did not turn on until mid June but stayed

good until then end of July when night fishing became the ticket. Mid August to mid September was a slow down but that is usually normal. By the end of September to end of November the BIG Muskies showed up and was my best closing season that I remember. So on a scale of 1 to 10 this season would rate an 8 to a 9.

Every year you learn a little more and apply it to the next year. So all things said; 2007 should be better!

## More Fall Muskies

### Dave Gets His First



### Glenn with his 46 Inch



### A Heavy for Me



# My Guest of the Year "Norman"

As a guide I have the greatest pleasure of meeting many different people from all walks of life. As a retired full-time firefighter I enjoy helping or working with people and my guiding just seems to be an extension of that service. After three years of now being a fulltime fishing guide I have met many people who I have share a special day with and in that time everyone of you have been exceptional. In my first newsletter and newsletters to follow I will try to place a featured story on a particular outing or client that made my "SPECIAL LIST" Now I could put many or all of the people that I have taken out on this list, but I think after you read this you will agree on my selection.

Norm who is having a birthday this month will be 80 years young. He contacted me last Spring and booked my service for a family reunion of 17 people. He wanted 4 days of my services and with my affiliations I brought in extra guides to handle the group. Norm had been fishing the Northwood's area for many years and has never caught a musky, he has twice hooked one but never boated one. He wanted to give his family a vacation to remember so he wanted to include them in the fishing plan. Day 1 was to be a full day as a "Guys Only" outing for walleye and bass and to have a true Canadian Style fish shore lunch. I resourced another guide to assist with the number of anglers and well the day turned a little cloudy and cool but we had some of the best

walleye fishing of the season and got some really nice trophy sized smallies to boot. Shore lunch went really well and by the end of the day we had two fish to go to the taxidermist. Day 2 was a "Ladies Day", s ½ day and we fished local waters and I brought in another guide with a pontoon boat to make the ladies more comfortable. Weather was nice for the second day and the fishing still remained good as the ladies also enjoyed their day. Day 3 was going back to the guys as another full day but today was a **musky day** and Norm has been waiting most of his life to bag one. Well if I ordered a day it probably could not have come in better as we raised 12 muskies that day and boated 3, including one 40 incher caught by Norm, what a GREAT DAY!! There was some good celebration after. Day 4 was another half day for the ladies and was a repeat of day 2. The ladies caught some fish and had a fun day fishing out of my boat and Bill's pontoon and my boat. After that Norm said he was having such a great time that he wanted to go out for the 5th day and just take his wife Helen, I called it the Honeymooners Day. I planned to take Norm & Helen back to Ballard and White Oak, a lake that they used to... (cont. left column below)



### Norm's Trophy Smallmouth

vacation on and we would fish for some walleyes and drag a sucker for a musky. Well this day ended with a high pressure system and a bluebird skies. It certainly was not one to order for fishing for walleyes. We did manage to get a few bass but there was no walleye bite for us today. Well it was time to pick up when I noticed the Norms rod was taking a slight bend in it. I said to Norm, "I think you have a bite" Well with a slow bite like that I was certain it was a walleye and Norm just slightly raised the rod and the rod just bent more. The rod kept slowly bending more and more, as the line was headed under the boat; now I am thinking BIG WALLEYE. Norm slowly reeled in his rod and the fish hardly fought (because he did not know he was hooked); as the fish approached the surface I looked and said to Norm; "Norm you have a **MUSKY** on. Norms says "You're Kidding"!

Well as luck would have it we were able to land the fish on 8lb test, and Norm got his second musky of his life as well. This fish made the legal limit at just over 34 inches and Norm could not be happier; TWO muskies in one trip and he never caught one before.



### Norm's First Musky at 40 Inches

All in all everyone had a great time and it was one of my highlights of the year! **GREAT GOING NORM**, You and your family are tops!

**LET'S DO IT AGAIN!!!!**



### Norm's Second Musky at 34 Inches



### Norm's Son-In-Law gets this 37 incher



### Norm's son Herb gets an assist on a 40 incher



### The Ladies Have Fun on the pontoon catching fish.



### Ellen gets a nice Walleye



### And we can not forget those Shore Lunches. A GREAT way to take a Break.

## Fishing Builds – “Lifetime” Friends



**Kip's 48 Incher Biggest of the Season**



**Senator Hultgren & son Karsten**



**Karsten's First Legal Musky**

### New Fishing Friend and Football Hall of Famer – Coach “Kip” Cramer

Well as a new guide in the Northwoods I keep meeting new & interesting people. This year I had the GREAT pleasure of meeting Kip Cramer, a most avid Musky Angler. Not only is Kip a musky nut he has an illustrious background as a Michigan State Coach, his highlights which are many, but include coaching in the Rose Bowl and Shriner's Game. Kip has been inducted to the Hall of Fame and has spent a long tenure as a coach. He admits being a Bear Fan but enjoys the Packers, Badgers,

and many other teams. Retired from this football career Kip loves musky fishing and we have teamed up many days for some great “fun” fishing. Just meeting Kip in the later part of this year I really look forward to fishing more with him in 2007. Kip's musky achievement this year is he currently leads the Men's Division in the Headwaters Chapter, if he wins he goes to the Masters Division.

**Good Job Kip!!!**

### Illinois Senator visits the Northwoods and fishes with Have Rod... Will Travel...

On an October visit to Eagle River, Illinois Senator Randy Hultgren brought his son Karsten up for a fishing adventure. On a two day stay here, the Northwoods brought in some very cold temperatures and on our first day outing we had a few inches of snow on the ground. The first day was some tough fishing with the weather, I was looking for at least one musky for Randy's young son.

As conditions slightly improved for the second day the sun came out and warmed the air. We were not out but 45 minutes when Karsten caught his first legal musky of his young career. Karsten being a great angler **RELEASED** his fish. It was a GREAT two days adventure fishing with Randy & Karsten, and seeing this young man catch a fish of a lifetime.

## A Note of Appreciation to all of my “Guests”!

Before we end this year I would like to thank all of you who fished with me. 2006 was a year with a lot of memories and they have included all of you. When I finish a guide outing there is still so much to do for preparing for the next day that sometimes I forget to

really reflect and say “THANK YOU”. With the Musky season ending on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> and the ice & snow season sometimes only two weeks apart, it becomes the only time I have to get organize a reflect on the year past. I meet many great people

this year and I wish you could all come back. I know there are a few days that the fish do not bite so well but time spent on the water is something we all should enjoy.

So without further eloquence (as in the “Quiet

Man” I would like to say Thank you again for your patronage and I would like to wish you all a **Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!!**

**Let's Do it Again!**

*Fred*

## WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM H.R.W.T. IN 2007?

**PRICING:** Will remain the same and I will have no increase planned for next year. As a part of helping people fulfill a family or special vacation we will freeze our 2006 prices and carry them into 2007. We look to pass on savings by volume service this year. **NO CUTS SAME PROFESSIONAL SERVICE!**

**Continued Services:** The 2006 season gave us input on what people liked and one of the specialties was our **SPLIT DAY** outing. A split day offers two outings on the water. The first is an early outing and the second is a late outing. Best describe as an (example). Lets go walleye fishing in the early morning let's say, start fishing at 6 am to 10 am. We go back to your lodging and you can have an afternoon lunch with the family, take a swim or do some shopping then we go out later and be on the water say 5 pm. and fish until 9 pm. This gives you eight hours of fishing with a nice big Family Break in the middle. The Main part of this **SPLIT DAY** is you can fish one body of water in the morning and another body of water in the evening. You can also fish one outing for walleye and one outing for musky, our mix it up anyway you would like. **SPLIT DAYS** are Great!

Split Days are best planned from June 1<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>; this is due to the longer daylight times during this period. If you split a day outside this time frame it will cut into your mid part of the day and shorten it considerably. Naturally we will continue our regular Half Day and Full Day

outings but would like to remind you of some of the over looked special outings.

**NIGHT FISHING:** Night fishing for muskies or walleye and even bass can be awesome. Normally going out at dusk and fishing the four hours after can be very, very productive. The excitement at night is 10X the fun. Getting a musky to strike at night in the dark is a heart pound thrill of a life-time.

**EARLY OUTINGS:** If an early day of starting before 5 am is something that you are interested in, I plan to continue this service as well. As many experienced anglers know walleye are **LOW LIGHT** feeders and getting out and getting your fishing done before the sun gets too high in the sky is the best way to go.

## CORPORATE or LARGE GROUP OUTINGS

**Have Rod... Will Travel...** is a Fishing Guide Service that offers **CUSTOMIZED** outings. If you have a large or corporate group I have the resource to add more guides through my Guide's Association and can supply up to 20 more additional guides, if your party should require this. (Example) In May there is a large corporate group that comes to Eagle River with 60 to 70 people in their party, they may need up to 35 guides to handle this group at (two people per boat). That same resource is available to me. SO if you have a big group let me know and I will build it.

**LUNCH SERVICES:** To assist in a full day on the water I always take a mid-day break for lunch and to stretch the legs. At a

nominal fee I will provide two types of lunch service:

**Choice #1** is a Box Lunch where I will get Double Meat Subway sandwiches and chips and we will have a "Table Top" Shore lunch.

**Choice #2** is a true Canadian style fish fry that is a guaranteed fish. I will select Canadian Walleye fillets at our local fish market and we will deep fry fish in a batter and have potatoes and cole slaw on the side. (This choice however does cut into your fishing time because of the lengthy process).

Always provided without additional charge is water and soda.

## Back On The Water Video

**Productions** As a Field Editor reporting on [Lake-Link.com](http://Lake-Link.com) I have been working with posting some fishing video clips these have expanded and taken off. I am producing guest videos for their own special outings. If you are on outing with me and we get some good footage on your fish catching experience I will produce a video just for you along with a possible post to Lake Link.

Filmed under H.R.W.T. the video production titled "**Back On The Water**," you just might become a Fishing Celebrity.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on fishing with Fred you may visit the website of:

[www.HaveRodWillTravel.com](http://www.HaveRodWillTravel.com)

Or email me at:

## AREA RECOMMENDATIONS



When you are visiting Eagle River I would like to reference some of my personal favorites to assist you. If you are looking to buy or rent a boat or pontoon Heckel's will offer some of the best pricing in town. If you are here on a snowmobile trip and need to rent a sled this is the one stop place. They even rent Snowmobile suits & Helmets. (No gloves or boots, but available for sale).

## LODGING

There are tons of places to stay here in Eagle River and I would like to recommend a few.

### Elite Lodging:

WILD EAGLE Resort 877-945-3965

### Top Shelf:

EAGLE RIVER INN 877-479-2051

EAGLE WATERS Resort 800-892-8377

MAPLE SHORES 715-546-3111

### Best Value

DAYS INN 715-479-5151

EDGEWATER INN 888-334-3987

SUPER 8 888-945-0888

RIVERDALE 800-530-0019

HIAWATHA MOTOR 888-479-4442

## AREA EATERIES

Riverstone	Hiawatha
12 Pines	Chanticleer
Golden Pines	Michael's
Eagle Waters	Clearview
Eagle River Inn	The ERA

# Happy Guests Keep Coming Back



No matter what the adventure you are looking for be it **Ice Fishing**, **Snowmobiling**, or just fishing that **GREAT open water** season, let me offer my guide service to you.

It is always my pleasure to take someone on an adventure or outing and meet new people.

So give me a call and become a part of a great collage of photo & video memories.

**Good Luck & Good Fish'n**

*Fred E. Brogler*

**Have Rod... Will Travel...**

**&**

**Have Sled... Will Travel...**

