

INTERVIEW WITH PHOTOGRAPHER BILL TROUT

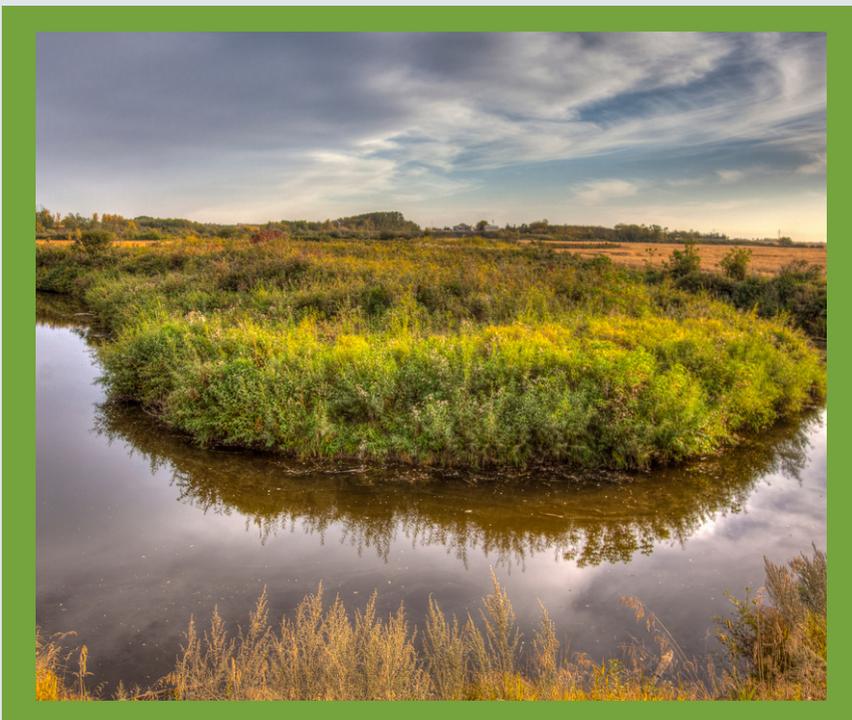
NSWA would like to thank Bill Trout for his beautiful photos of the watershed which have inspired so many of us!

CAN YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF ?

"I grew up in Camrose but have been in Edmonton for 25+ years now. I work in the supply chain for an Oilfield Construction company. My biggest hobby is photography, which I took up about 15 years ago as an escape from the stresses of my day job. As a result I have spent years extensively exploring the North Saskatchewan River in pursuit of great photographs. The main types of photography I do are landscape, wildlife, and Northern Lights photography. Unbeknownst to many, the North Saskatchewan watershed is a great area to view and photograph the Aurora."

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE NORTH SASK WATERSHED AND WHY ?

"My favourite place in the North Sask River Watershed is in the Vermillion River region. I have close family and friends there, and have been able to explore much of the area, so it has become my favourite location along the river. What stands out in this region are the rolling hills and old farmsteads, which make for amazing scenes to photograph. In particular, during the summer months when the canola fields are in full bloom, the region is truly epic in its beautiful scenery and landscapes. "



OTHER THAN A CAMERA AND LENSES, WHAT ELSE DO YOU PACK IN YOUR CAMERA BAG?

"I always have a tripod with me when I am shooting. Other things I have in my case are some Neutral Density filters and a Cable Release in case I want to do some time lapse photos. Other than that I do not have super expensive gear and I travel fairly light. I only have 3 lenses with me, my 24-105, a 100 to 400, and a 24 F1.4 for Northern Lights. I still use my Canon 5D Mark 2."

Vermilion River Bend

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WINTER STORIES

"Many of the winter photographs featured in *Living in the Shed* were taken at Abraham Lake near Nordegg. This region in winter is fascinating as the ice captures methane bubbles and you can see unique ice ridges and formations, which create truly amazing visuals in the ice. While photographing on Abraham Lake it can get extremely windy and cold. You must be prepared with proper winter gear, and you must have cleats or traction aids while navigating the ice. When the wind picks up while on that ice, it can blow your bags and tripods away.

Winter photography in general is extremely fun and exciting. I have gone out in winter many times, often at night trying to capture Aurora. One time early on in my photography journeys, I was traveling alone near Thorhild in the middle of the night in January, and I stopped at an old house along side of the highway to try and get some Aurora shots. It was close to -30C out. I got out of my truck and started walking off the side of the highway to set up my tripod and get my shots. Unfortunately, what I thought was a relatively flat ditch beside the road, was actually a very steep ditch filled in with snow. So before I knew it, I had broken through the hard drift and was chest high in snow. It took me a few minutes to dig myself out and crawl back onto the road. I laugh about it now, but in reality, I was in very serious trouble. Winter photography can be amazing and incredibly rewarding, but can be extremely dangerous, so you must be prepared. "



Living in the Shed Cover Photo - Abraham Lake in Winter

WHAT INSPIRES YOU AS A PHOTOGRAPHER?

"My inspiration is my nature to explore and see new things. Photography is the excuse to get out and do that. I have always been the "take the road less traveled" kind of person, and photography is a just away to capture my curiosity along the way. "

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE PHOTO?

A true photographer always says their favourite image is the next one they have not taken yet !

If I have to pick one however, the image on the cover of *Living in the Shed* would be it. "

PHOTO GALLERY - A FEW OF OUR FAVORITES!



Grain Harvester on Country Road -
South of Two Hills



Along the Parkway -
North of Saskatchewan Crossing



Aurora near Innisfree

More photos by Bill Trout can be viewed at [SMUG MUG](#) .
You can also email Bill at bill.trout@myfishbone.com