

# Live-in boyfriend shames woman for being a mother



**DEAR ABBY**  
ADVICE

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a divorced mother of two teenagers. I've been seeing my boyfriend, "Sean," for almost five years, and when the pandemic started, he moved in with us. I am supposed to share custody of my teens with their father, alternating weeks. However, his job requires travel, and the kids are with me more often than not, with little to no notice. They are also reaching an age where they don't really want to go to their dad's all the time.

This has caused some tension with my boyfriend. He feels we never get "alone time" anymore. He then withholds affection from me, as if I've done something wrong by having my kids. Since he moved in, our sex life has dwindled to almost nonexistent. He refuses to be intimate when the kids are home, yet he hasn't made the most of the "alone time" we do have when the kids aren't here. He usually goes to bed early, without so much as a goodnight kiss. Or he'll go out on weekend days and not include me.

I have been cheated on in the past, and my insecurities are starting to rear their ugly heads. I don't know how to talk to him

because he gets defensive and gaslights any issues I bring up. I don't feel safe sharing my hurt with him, let alone sharing my anger at him for trying to make me feel bad for being a mom. I'm losing hope and feel myself shutting down. How can I approach him in a way that he won't get defensive? — **FIGHTING A LOSING BATTLE**

**DEAR FIGHTING:** There are red flags all over your letter. You are going to be an active mother until your children are at least 18. That this man would move into your home and give you heartburn about your responsibilities is terrible. You state that your sex life is over, and when you raise other important issues, he gaslights

you. This does not bode well for a healthy future.

His defensiveness when you attempt to have an adult discussion with him isn't your real problem. Getting him out of your home and your life before he wastes any more of your time is what you should focus on.

**DEAR ABBY:** What is proper etiquette when attending an event and sitting at a table with more than six people? I think it's rude to talk to a person across the table. Talking to a person next to you is acceptable. Talking to someone across the table is rude because the other diners must stop talking to the person seated next to them and be forced to listen to your conversation. Seeing this happen

is becoming more and more annoying. What do you think? — **FORCED TO LISTEN**

**DEAR FORCED:** While that rule of etiquette may have been true in Edwardian times, table etiquette today is no longer so rigid. While, of course, it is desirable to converse with the guests seated next to you, unless communicating with someone across the table requires one to shout — which would be distracting and disruptive — I see nothing rude about it.

■ Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

# Cambodian catches world's largest recorded freshwater fish

By **JERRY HARMER**  
The Associated Press

**BANGKOK** — The world's largest recorded freshwater fish, a giant stingray, has been caught in the Mekong River in Cambodia, according to scientists from the Southeast Asian nation and the United States.

The stingray, captured on June 13, measured almost 13 feet from snout to tail and weighed slightly under 660 pounds, according to a statement Monday by Wonders of the Mekong, a joint Cambodian-U.S. research project.

The previous record for a freshwater fish was a 646-pound Mekong giant catfish, discovered in Thailand in 2005, the group said.

The stingray was snagged by a local fisherman south of Stung Treng in northeastern Cambodia. The fisherman alerted a nearby team of scientists from the Wonders of the Mekong project, which has publicized its conservation work in communities along the river.

The scientists arrived within hours of getting a post-midnight call with the news, and were amazed at what they saw.

"Yeah, when you see a fish this size, especially in freshwater, it is hard to comprehend, so I think all of our team was stunned," Wonders of the Mekong leader Zeb Hogan said in an online interview from the University of Nevada in Reno. The university is partnering with the Cambodian Fisheries Administration and USAID, the U.S. government's international development agency.

Freshwater fish are defined as those that spend their entire lives in freshwater, as opposed to giant marine species such as bluefin tuna and marlin, or fish that migrate between fresh and saltwater like the huge beluga sturgeon.

The stingray's catch was not just about setting a new record, he said.



In this photo provided by Wonders of the Mekong taken on June 14, 2022, a man touches a giant freshwater stingray before being released back into the Mekong River in the northeastern province of Stung Treng, Cambodia. A local fisherman caught the 661-pound stingray, which set the record for the world's largest known freshwater fish and earned him a \$600 reward.

"The fact that the fish can still get this big is a hopeful sign for the Mekong River," Hogan said, noting that the waterway faces many environmental challenges.

The Mekong River runs through China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. It is home to several species of giant freshwater fish but environmental pressures are rising. In particular, scientists fear a major program of dam building in recent years may be seriously disrupting spawning grounds.

"Big fish globally are endan-

gered. They're high-value species. They take a long time to mature. So if they're fished before they mature, they don't have a chance to reproduce," Hogan said. "A lot of these big fish are migratory, so they need large areas to survive. They're impacted by things like habitat fragmentation from dams, obviously impacted by overfishing. So about 70% of giant freshwater fish globally are threatened with extinction, and all of the Mekong species."

The team that rushed to the site inserted a tagging device near

the tail of the mighty fish before releasing it. The device will send tracking information for the next year, providing unprecedented data on giant stingray behavior in Cambodia.

"The giant stingray is a very poorly understood fish. Its name, even its scientific name, has changed several times in the last 20 years," Hogan said. "It's found throughout Southeast Asia, but we have almost no information about it. We don't know about its life history. We don't know about its ecology, about its migration patterns."

Researchers say it's the fourth giant stingray reported in the same area in the past two months, all of them females. They think this may be a spawning hotspot for the species.

Local residents nicknamed the stingray "Boramy," or "full moon," because of its round shape and because the moon was on the horizon when it was freed on June 14. In addition to the honor of having caught the record-breaker, the lucky fisherman was compensated at market rate, meaning he received a payment of around \$600.

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**weather**

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Clear	Plenty of sunshine	Mostly sunny and hot	Sunny and nice	Partly sunny and pleasant
<b>Baker City</b>	44	88 53	94 57	83 48	77 47
<small>Comfort Index™ 9</small>	9	5	3	8	9
<b>La Grande</b>	52	86 55	92 60	82 50	77 53
<small>Comfort Index™ 9</small>	9	5	4	8	9
<b>Enterprise</b>	50	86 55	92 60	78 47	74 52
<small>Comfort Index™ 9</small>	9	4	3	10	10

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC			
TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Thursday	75°	76°	80°
Low Thursday	44°	50°	48°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	Trace	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.48	2.40	3.27
Normal month to date	0.90	1.14	1.50
Year to date	4.46	8.76	17.44
Normal year to date	5.24	9.83	14.18

AGRICULTURAL INFO.			
HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY			
Lowest relative humidity			30%
Afternoon wind		SE at 4 to 8 mph	
Hours of sunshine			14.7
Evapotranspiration			0.28

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)			
Phillips Reservoir	26% of capacity		
Unity Reservoir	94% of capacity		
Owyhee Reservoir	41% of capacity		
McKay Reservoir	100% of capacity		
Wallowa Lake	37% of capacity		
Thief Valley Reservoir	101% of capacity		

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)			
Grande Ronde at Troy	7950 cfs		
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	214 cfs		
Burnt River near Unity	73 cfs		
Umatilla River near Gibbon	84 cfs		
Minam River at Minam	2140 cfs		
Powder River near Richland	162 cfs		

THURSDAY EXTREMES			
<b>NATION</b> (for the 48 contiguous states)			
High: 112°		Ocotillo Wells, Calif.	
Low: 26°		Bodie State Park, Calif.	
Wettest: 1.35"		Plattsburgh, N.Y.	

OREGON			
High: 92°		Ontario	
Low: 39°		Tillamook	
Wettest: Trace		Brookings	

WEATHER HISTORY			
On June 25, 1988, extreme heat baked the Ohio Valley and lower Great Lakes region. Cleveland, Ohio, hit 104 degrees, and Ft. Wayne, Ind., rose to 106 -- both record high temperatures for these cities.			

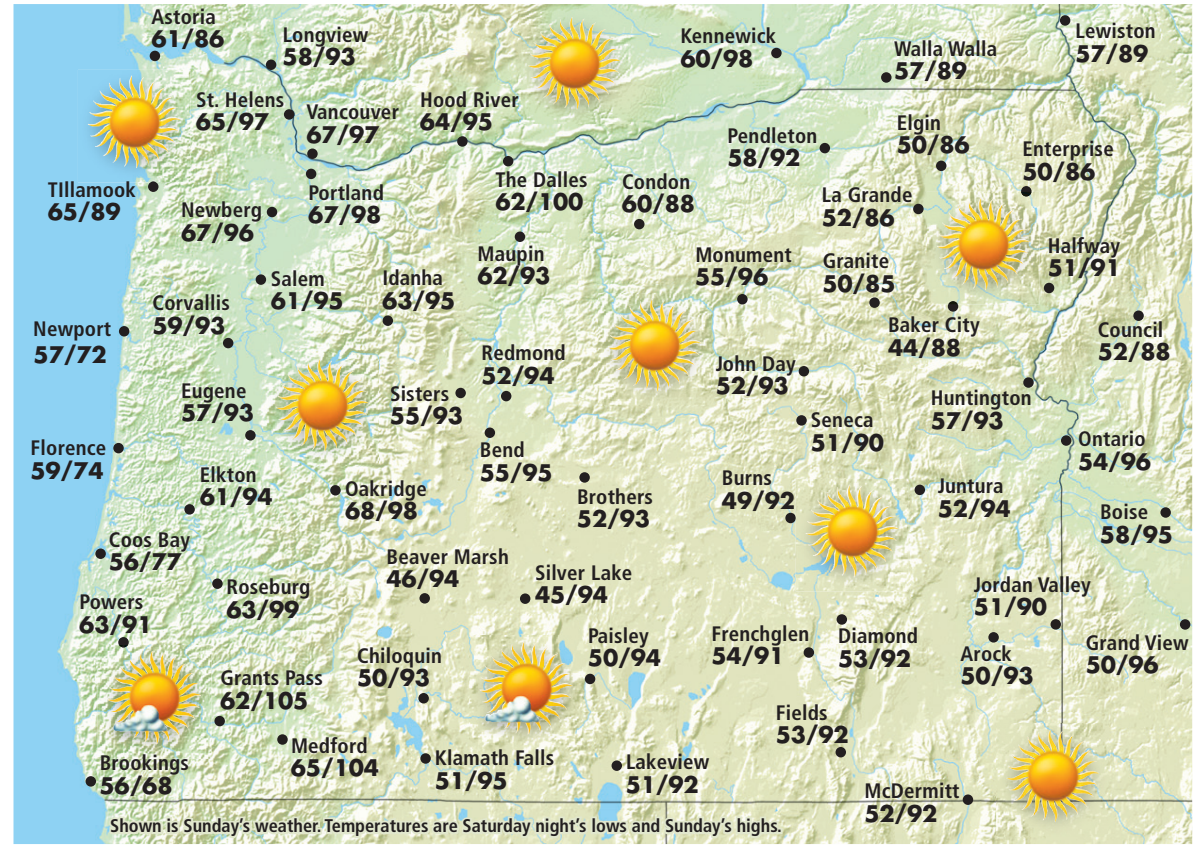
  

SUN & MOON			
Sunrise	5:05 a.m.	5:06 a.m.	
Sunset	8:45 p.m.	8:45 p.m.	
Moonrise	2:42 a.m.	3:09 a.m.	
Moonset	6:02 p.m.	7:06 p.m.	

MOON PHASES			
New	First	Full	Last
Jun 28	Jul 6	Jul 13	Jul 20

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION



REGIONAL CITIES					
<b>City</b>	<b>SUN. HI/Lo/W</b>	<b>MON. HI/Lo/W</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>SUN. HI/Lo/W</b>	<b>MON. HI/Lo/W</b>
Astoria	86/59/s	71/57/pc	Lewiston	89/60/s	94/65/s
Bend	95/63/s	99/59/s	Longview	93/60/s	89/57/s
Boise	95/66/s	101/67/s	Meacham	85/54/s	92/57/s
Brookings	68/54/c	67/52/pc	Medford	104/66/s	97/57/s
Burns	92/56/s	98/54/s	Newport	72/54/s	64/53/pc
Coos Bay	77/53/pc	72/51/pc	Olympia	91/59/s	89/55/s
Corvallis	93/58/s	88/54/s	Ontario	96/60/s	104/66/s
Council	88/55/s	98/62/s	Pasco	96/63/s	103/69/s
Elgin	86/58/s	92/58/s	Pendleton	92/64/s	99/68/s
Eugene	93/60/s	89/54/s	Portland	98/67/s	91/59/s
Hermiston	98/61/s	103/71/s	Powers	91/60/s	86/53/pc
Hood River	95/65/s	99/60/s	Redmond	94/58/s	98/54/s
Imnaha	90/61/s	99/65/s	Roseburg	99/64/s	92/56/s
John Day	93/58/s	100/59/s	Salem	95/64/s	91/56/s
Joseph	86/63/s	93/58/pc	Spokane	85/57/s	90/60/s
Kennecook	98/62/s	104/69/s	The Dalles	100/67/s	103/66/s
Klamath Falls	95/53/s	93/47/s	Ukiah	89/56/s	92/54/s
Lakeview	92/52/s	93/48/s	Walla Walla	89/64/s	96/67/s

RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY			
<b>ANTHONY LAKES</b>	Mostly sunny	<b>67</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>MT. EMILY REC.</b>	Sunny and pleasant	<b>74</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>EAGLE CAP WILD.</b>	Sunny and warm	<b>74</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>WALLOWA LAKE</b>	Sunny and warm	<b>86</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>THIEF VALLEY RES.</b>	Sunshine	<b>88</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>PHILLIPS LAKE</b>	Sunny and warm	<b>86</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>BROWNLEE RES.</b>	Mostly sunny; warm	<b>92</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>EMIGRANT ST. PARK</b>	Sunny and warm	<b>82</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>MCKAY RESERVOIR</b>	Plenty of sunshine	<b>90</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>RED BRIDGE ST. PARK</b>	Plenty of sunshine	<b>86</b>	<b>55</b>

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice