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25 Trashed the Bionx plan.

















READER PHOTOS

Braggin' Board

OL readers show off their successes

BY ALEX ROBINSON



Ralph Penella

Franklin, NJ

On the second day of a 10-day hunt in Alaska, Ralph Penella spotted this bear making its way up the beach. Penella and his guide positioned themselves downwind of the bear and stalked up the beach. They were able to get within 200 yards before taking the shot.



Reed Johnson

West Milton, OH

Deer hunting is part of the Johnson family heritage, and last season Reed Johnson received an unforgettable introduction. From his ground blind, Johnson spotted three deer running his way. He quickly shouldered his gun and picked out one of the two bucks chasing a doe. With one shot, he dropped this dandy buck from only a few yards.

Deer Hunter's MARKETPLACE

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION



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www.fenixlight.com
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Scrape Tape™ is a plastic strip coated with a powerful, proprietary attractant blend of several specific deer attractants. These are ultra-fine and precision blended, rendering a mixture that attracts deer to a concentrated area. This super-clear attractant pulls whitetails in through the use of their powerful olfactory sense to the location of Scrape Tape™. Optical brighteners, fluorescing agents and dyes are then added to Scrape Tape™ producing a powerful blue-white glow. Scrape Tape™ is highly visible to deer from great distances peaking their curiosity bringing them in close, year-round. Once attracted to a Scrape Tape™ location, deer will smell it, lick it, and rub their forehead and pre-orbital glands on it. In some instances, they will even make their own and scrape under it.

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12 Gauge Barreled Shotgun
10 Shotshell & .45 Colt Ammo
The filled barrel comes complete
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a scope mount included.

INTRODUCING
Manufactured Ex...

BLACK DIAMOND SPOT 325 (\$40) AND STORM 375 (\$50)

Those of us who've been in this sport for a while can remember when the Black Diamond Spot headlamp was little more than a camp light, with a maximum lumen output in the space of about 10 years, this same model has increased its brightness level by a factor of eight, and tripled its overall burn time, all without increasing the overall size, weight or price. This winter's newest update to the Spot produces a maximum brightness of 141 lumens, which can burn for 65 hours. Brightness is adjusted through a single press and hold gesture from the multi-function top button that is large enough to easily manipulate with gloved hands – and the brightness memory feature allows you to turn the light on and off at your chosen brightness without reverting back to the default setting.

A new feature on this Spot is a smaller top button that changes the beam from spot to flood to red LED modes, in addition to a power-tap feature that gives you a quick burst of maximum light by touching the side of the casing. The housing for this new model has been updated to have a lower profile and better ergonomics, and we had zero issues

with the Spot bouncing or shifting out of place during foot running. The Black Diamond Storm weighs in at 86g, and runs on three AAA batteries with an LED battery life indicator. It has evolved far beyond its humble origins, and is now pleasantly able to light you through a full night on the trail if necessary.

If you're looking for a bit more compact power or burn time to light up the trail, the updated Black Diamond Storm produces up to 275 lumens that can burn for 75 hours. The added power comes from an additional AAA battery compared to the Spot 325, so it incurs a marginal weight increase as well. However, the Storm is a true workhorse of a compact light, with durable construction and fully waterproof and dustproof housing (see sidebar) to function in the most possible conditions. This updated model uses the same scroll-through brightness adjustment as the Spot, and the same new top button for switching the light mode, as well as brightness memory and power tap functionality. One feature on the Storm that's lacking on the Spot is the option to use green or blue LEDs in addition to the standard red.



ULTRA RUNNING BEST CATEGORY

Early versions of the Storm headlamp were somewhat heavy and bulky, but the housing of this model has also been updated with smoother lines and more ergonomic overall profile. This may be the most lightweight and efficient lamp available that's fully capable of navigating you through a full night on the most technical terrain. Both of these new Black Diamond lamps will be widely released in early 2016, with early availability exclusively at REI this fall.

NATHAN LUNA FIRE 250 RX (\$40)

Nathan's newest lamp is not technically a headlamp, but it's easily the most versatile one we've tested this fall. This rechargeable

250 lumen lamp is intended to be worn at chest or waist level, and secured by the included strap, or detached from the strap and clipped into place. The strap and lamp together weigh a mere 65g, and without the strap the lamp itself weighs only 49g. The strap is far longer than customary headlamp straps to make it easy to pull down your torso, and we found that it tends to loosen easily if worn at chest level as your lungs expand and contract. Our preference is to clip the Luna Fire 250 RX to the front strap of a hydration pack or onto our waistband, which proved to be the most secure positioning. Once clipped in place, the housing angles downward up to 75 degrees, so you can aim it almost directly in front of your feet or just ahead of your footfall. The brightness and burn time of the Luna Fire 250 RX are too low to be a primary lamp for all-night efforts, but it's ideal to use as a supplement to your primary light for sections of trail that are especially technical, or to keep on hand as an emergency lamp if your primary source malfunctions for some reason.



ULTRA RUNNING TOP PICK



PETZL BINDI (\$60)

It's almost impossible to imagine a more lightweight yet functional lamp than the BINDI, a rechargeable device that weighs a scant 30-gram. The entire casing is only 5cm long by 3cm high, and the headband consists of a thin beige-nylon cord rather than a traditional strap. When the BINDI isn't being used as a running lamp, the thin cord and super lightweight make it easy to wear around your neck as a camp light. Despite its incredibly small size, the BINDI provides up to 200 lumens of light in a flood beam, although it only lasts for two hours at this brightness, or a third hour on the middle setting of 100 lumens. It's super easy to use with a single push-button operation which scrolls through brightness settings or switches from white to red beam, plus a lock function to keep it from accidentally turning on in your pack. One of the coolest design features is the 90-degree swivel capability of the lamp in the casing, so you can position the beam at literally any angle you want. The BINDI is marketed as a hybrid road/trail lamp, and it's probably more effective at making you visible to others rather than lighting up the entire trail, but it's another excellent option to keep on hand as an emergency or supplemental lamp for long-duration activity.

FENIX HL26R (\$50)



Fenix is a longtime standard bearer in handheld lighting who has expanded its product line to include a number of headlamp options. The HL26R is a rechargeable model that packs the most candle power of any compact lamp in this group, with a burst mode up to 450 lumens. However, as the "burst" description implies, this degree of brightness is short lived, lasting only one minute before reverting to the previous level of brightness used. The highest brightness setting that can be sustained is a 150 lumen spot beam that burns for 6 hours. Its size and shape, the HL26R is very comparable to the Black Diamond Spot from a few generations ago, but has impressively lightweight construction to make its weight equivalent to the dimmed-down new Spot 325. Operation of the beams is done through separate buttons on top of the casing for flood and spot modes; there are four brightness levels (including burst) in spotlight mode, and two levels in floodlight mode. The casing can ratchet downward through seven different positions, with the lowest position at 60 degrees. There's a plastic shelf on top of the casing that functions as a lock mechanism against accidentally turning the lamp on, but this doesn't work if the casing is rotated downward a couple of clicks. The HL26R has an impressive amount of dust and water resistance for a compact lamp, and a clever design touch is the use of a thin strip of silicone on the front of the headband to secure its positioning against your skin and help keep sweat away. ☺

IP RATINGS EXPLAINED

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) prepares and publishes industry standards for pretty much every electrical or battery-powered gadget you have ever used. Their IP code system is the standard that describes how resistant a device is to solid materials (like dust or sand) and water. The first digit after the IP letters indicates a product's resistance to solid particles, and is scored 1 through 6 to indicate increasing degree of protection. Level 5 indicates partial protection from contact with dust, and level 6 denotes full protection from dust. If this specific feature hasn't been tested on a device, or if there is insufficient data to designate a level, this digit is assigned the letter X. Solid particle protection is an important factor if you spend long hours in dusty conditions. Think of the fine grit that seeps through your socks or into your nostrils after a super-long trail day; these are the same super-small particles that can eventually penetrate your headlamp casing over a long period of time and potentially lead to malfunction.

The next digit after the solid protection indicator is the water resistance rating, which is scored 1 through 8. Here is the full scale:

IP CODE LEVEL	PROTECTION
1	Protection against vertically dripping water when device is tilted at an angle up to 15 degrees
2	Protection against direct sprays of water when device is tilted at an angle up to 30 degrees
3	Protection from sprays and splashing of water in all directions
4	Protection from temporary water protection from a static with a 3mm diameter opening in any direction
5	Protection from water projected to powerful jets from a nozzle with a 12.5mm diameter opening in any direction
6	Protected from immersion in water with a depth of up to 1 meter for up to 30 mins
7	Protected from immersion in water with a depth of more than 1 meter (manufacturer must specify exact depth)
8	

Headlamps with a water resistance rating of 4 or higher are typically referred to as "water resistant" or "weather resistant," while ratings of 7 or 8 qualify them as "waterproof." A resistance level of 4 is generally more than adequate for the vast majority of weather conditions you will encounter while running, but if you know you'll be facing prolonged and heavy water exposure, you should probably seek out something in the 7 or 8 range.

Using the guidelines above, you can make easy comparisons between models like the Nathan Luna Fire 250RX, which isn't rated for dust resistance and has a water resistance level 4, and the Black Diamond Storm 375 which has complete dust resistance and is waterproof.

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Trashed the Bionx plan.

at \$299.00



Fenix Flashlight
Illuminate Your Adventure

