

# Norfolk Lake fishing guide internationally recognized

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Local fishing guide Darrell "Bink" Binkley can add the words "internationally recognized" to his business card. The Norfolk Lake guide is featured on the cover of a fishing magazine in Thailand.

"And it's all because of that article in Field and Stream," said Binkley.

He was referring to the February 2008 issue of the outdoors magazine that named Mountain Home the second best fishing town in America.

Binkley, who lives near Norfolk, said people at Set Hook magazine had seen the online version of the Field and Stream article, which had included him. The Thai magazine staff went from the Field and Stream site to Binkley's Web site.

While visiting the local site, said Binkley, they discovered that his wife, Rum, is Thai. He said that information set things into motion.

Binkley said he was contacted for a telephone interview with his wife serv-



Holding a Norfolk Lake striper, fishing guide Darrell "Bink" Binkley smiles from the cover of Set Hook fishing magazine, which is published in Thailand.

ing as an interpreter between him and the writer. The cover article, titled "Fishinglure in America," features several photos of

Norfolk Lake fish along with the interview.

Even though the article

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## Guide featured in magazine

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is written in Thai, there are English words used, including "stripers," "hybrids," "walleye," "bass," "Norfolk Lake," "Zara Spook top water baits" and "Binks spoon."

Getting the call from the other side of the world for an interview about fishing in Arkansas surprised Binkley, but so did the fact there's a Thai fishing magazine. He said he hadn't realized sport fishing was as popular as it appears in Thailand. Throughout the magazine are stories, pho-

tos and advertisements featuring sport anglers, different fish species, resorts, fishing equipment and even a fishing tournament.

Beyond the article, Binkley and his wife had the chance to fly to Thailand for a fishing trip last fall. He said it would have been her first trip there in about 15 years. However, three days before they were to fly out, political unrest intervened.

From Nov. 25 through Dec. 3, thousands of protesters demanding the resignation of the prime minister's government block-

aded the New Bangkok International Airport. That forced flight cancellations, including Binkley's trip to Thailand.

However, he said he's been invited to go to Thailand this November to fish, although he's not sure just what all he'd be fishing for over there.

Although he credited Field and Stream's recognition of Mountain Home with starting the chain of events, Binkley noted one other key factor.

"It shows the power of the Internet," he said.  
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