

HOBIE CAT LAUNCHES HANK PARKER SIGNATURE MODEL FISHING BOAT
Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman Newest in Fishing Boat Series.

Oceanside, California – March 2003 — Hobie Cat, the world-renowned manufacturer of sailboats, kayaks, and fishing boats launches their **Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman, Hank Parker Edition**, the only pedal-driven sit-on-top kayak on the market. It is quick, stable, and quiet, providing virtually hands-free fishing via its unique fingertip steering system. The Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman is the newest in a targeted fleet of Hobie watercraft designed specifically for fishing. The two other boats in the collection include the rugged, lightweight, and non-inflatable **Float Cat 75 Expedition** and **Float Cat 60** compact personal float boats. All three are single-passenger designs that provide easy-to-use, stable, and efficient alternatives to traditional fishing boats.

Hank Parker, a celebrity in the world of fishing, enthusiastically endorses his signature Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman as a "new way to fish." When first introduced to the boat, he was so impressed that he fished from it on a segment of his weekly "Hank Parker's Outdoor Magazine" fishing show and then agreed to lend his name to a signature model, stating that it could "wake up fishing."

Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman, Hank Parker Edition

The **Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman** is a unique pedal-driven, sit-on-top kayak designed to be stable for all types of fresh- or saltwater fishing but also applicable for hunting, photography, scuba diving, sailing, and other water-based activities. The patented MirageDrive pedal system allows anglers to both fish and maneuver at the same time. The boat is easily transportable in the back of a pickup truck or on a roof rack, eliminating the bother of hauling a trailer.

The seamless rotomolded Super-Linear II polyethylene hull features an open-deck construction with angler-friendly features including built-in trays, rod holders, tackle box, and ample storage. It is propelled by the MirageDrive pedal mechanism that is connected to two underwater flippers, much like penguin wings. Anglers will enjoy the fact that they can propel themselves faster using the pedals rather than a traditional paddle. Steering is controlled via a fingertip-controlled rudder system that can be rotated out

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of the way in shallow water, for transport, or in storage. The combination of the MirageDrive, rudder system, and the hull design ensures a stable ride and enables anglers to cover long distances with no fatigue, even against the current or in windy conditions. Self-draining scuppers keep the cockpit dry while the formfitting seat ensures comfort. A paddle can be used in conjunction with the pedals, or can be used independently. The optional sail package increases the Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman's versatility.

Hobie Mirage Outback Fisherman Specifications:

Length: 12' 1"

Width: 35"

Weight: 57 lbs.

MirageDrive Weight: 8.25 lbs.

Capacity: 350 lbs.

Material: Super Linear II polyethylene

Colors: Sand Granite or Green Granite

Standard Features: 4 molded-in rod holders, 2 drink holders, front and back storage bungees, 5", 6" and 8" hatches, custom plug-in kayak cart, waterproof storage/tackle box, insulated soft cooler, anchor system, storage compartments for extra gear, deluxe high back seat, 2-piece paddle, paddle storage on both sides, and storage compartments for extra gear.

Optional Gear: Sail rig.

Suggested Retail: \$1,455 (*with standard features*)

Float Cat 60 and 75 Expedition

Available in 60-inch and 75-inch lengths, these lightweight and rigid hollow-hull catamarans eliminate the need for a pump and alleviate the fear of leaks. Twin polyethylene hulls are seamless and extra-rigid for altercations with rocks. The V-shape design creates enough displacement and stability to balance an increase in weight or pressure. Elevated seating provides clear visibility for easy casting. Optional stripping aprons, complete with ample accessory pockets, easily flip over the head for simple entry and exit. Both models will fit in the back of a truck or SUV, on a car roof rack, or can be disassembled in a matter of minutes to fit in the trunk.

The **Float Cat 75 Expedition** is designed for fishing in rivers, lakes, ponds, and creeks. Its pontoons are designed for the quick-turn maneuverability and speed needed to navigate larger bodies of water. Seating includes a footrest that is out of the water, keeping feet and legs dry and warm. Oars and cargo rack complete the package. An optional motor mount allows attachment of a small trolling motor for ultimate convenience.

The shorter, lighter **Float Cat 60** is agile and designed for hard-to-get-into and out-of-the-way fishing spots. Propulsion is accomplished with the use of flippers or just plain kicking. Optional rowing and backpacking kits expand its versatility. The 60 is a fun boat for relaxed fishing that can easily be put in water anywhere.

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Float Cat 60 Specifications:

Length: 60"

Width: 43"

Weight: 21 lbs.

Capacity: 250 lbs.

Material: Polyethylene

Color: Green granite

Standard Gear: Crossbars, mesh seat bottom, seat pad, and adjustable seat back.

Optional Accessories: Stripping apron with or without pockets, rowing system with oars and footrest, rod holder, backpack system, travel bag, seat pack, gear bag, and anchor system.

Suggested Retail: \$349

Float Cat 75 Expedition Specifications:

Length: 75"

Width: 46.25"

Weight: 43 lbs.

Capacity: 350 lbs.

Material: Polyethylene

Colors: Green granite

Standard Gear: Crossbars, mesh seat bottom, seat pad, adjustable seatback, rowing system with oars and footrest, cargo rack, and rod holder.

Optional Accessories: Stripping apron with or without pockets, footrest, motor mount that attaches to cargo rack, travel bag, seat pack, gear bag, side bag, and anchor system.

Suggested Retail: \$725

Since 1950, Hobie Cat Company has been in the business of shaping a unique lifestyle based around fun, water, and quality products. From their headquarters in Oceanside, California, they manufacture, distribute, and market an impressive collection of watercraft worldwide. These include an ever-expanding line of recreational and racing sailboats, pedal-driven and paddle sit-on-top kayaks, fishing boats, and authorized parts and accessories.

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Images Available Upon Request
www.hobieffishing.com