

June 1, 2015 - No. 42

**Bob Watson Photography**  
Reflecting The Spirit of Nature

NATURE - LANDSCAPES - WILDLIFE

Featured Photograph No. 1



*Canada Geese Mates - Potato Creek State Park, Indiana*

Hi Folks ,

*Scroll down to view this month's second Featured Photograph and learn about significant discounts when ordering Fine Art Prints.*

*When you receive this Newsletter, I will have just returned from photographing in Oregon and Washington. Featured Photographs from this trip will be in my next Monthly Newsletter, dated 7/1/15.*

*Please feel free to share any of my Newsletters via Facebook or directly from your email. I really appreciate you doing this.*

**Spring Wildlife At Potato Creek**

*In my last Monthly Newsletter, I mentioned that I had spent some time this Spring at **Potato Creek State Park** (link to Website) in north-central Indiana. The park hosts a variety of natural habitats, including 327-acre Worster Lake, mature woodlands, restored prairies and numerous wetland areas. All this supports a significant variety of waterfowl, mammals and reptiles.*

*The Canada Geese featured above have become extremely successful at living in human-altered areas and have established breeding colonies in urban areas. Their success has led many people to consider them a pest species, because of their droppings, aggressive territorial behavior, begging for food and noise issues. However, if you ever get the opportunity to observe these geese in a more natural habitat, I believe your opinion may change, or at least, be expanded. They generally find a mate when they are two (2) years old and remain mates for life. The female lays between 2 and 9 eggs each spring. These particular mates put on quite a show, all while protecting their spot on the log from other birds, and at the same time presenting an artistic pose.*

*The Painted Turtles featured below were a hoot to observe. This log was in a rather remote area of Worster Lake in a small inlet of calm water. Getting a photograph of 13 turtles basking in the spring sun on a log at the same time required more patience than I ever thought I had. These turtles had a keen awareness. When approaching this spot, they quickly knew of my presence and scurried into the water. I nestled down in high grass and a wet lowland with my camera, 400mm telephoto lens and tripod. Every time I had to change positions even the slightest movement would send some or all of them back into the water, taking sometimes 20-30 minutes to return. Not knowing how many turtles might get on the same log at once, I took numerous shots throughout the afternoon. Finally, with this many at once, and an aching back, I shot this photograph thinking the log may have reached its limit. Remember, when you plan to photograph wildlife, patience is a key ingredient.*

### *Featured Photograph No. 2*



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*Painted Turtles Bask In The Afternoon Sun - Potato Creek State Park, Indiana*

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