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## Recreation: Fishing while surfing the Internet

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Retirees can already tee off with Tiger Woods.

Six-year-olds who've never plucked a string can rock like Nirvana.

Is online fishing the country's newest phenomenon?

A new website, [www.bountyfishing.com](http://www.bountyfishing.com), suggests it could be.

Here's how it works -- anglers over 18 register at the site, then men and women from across North America can participate in weekly tournaments for a slice of the more than \$125,000 in prize money to be awarded this summer.

Each week, members choose from one to all of the 18 selected species, pay a \$7 entrance fee and hit their local waters. Competitors must then turn in a digital image of the fish being held up in front of the person who caught it, and another with the catch next to a tape measure. BountyFishing's revolutionary forensics protocol -- created by a guy who's funded by the FBI and CIA for digital imaging forensics -- analyzes the catch and determines if the image and length are authentic, then winners are awarded a prize check and exposure on the site's homepage.

The creators are also hoping this leads to a MySpace-like social network for anglers.

Through a variety of interactive services -- you can post pics and stories, join the message boards or host your own blog -- members can discuss all aspects of the sport, plan outings or just improve your skills on the water.

Is it time to embrace technology, even in the sport that pairs man with nature more than any other?

Check out [www.bountyfishing.com](http://www.bountyfishing.com) and you be the judge.