


Thursday, 30 September 2010 07:04

E/T Lights

 Written by [Isaac Miller](#)

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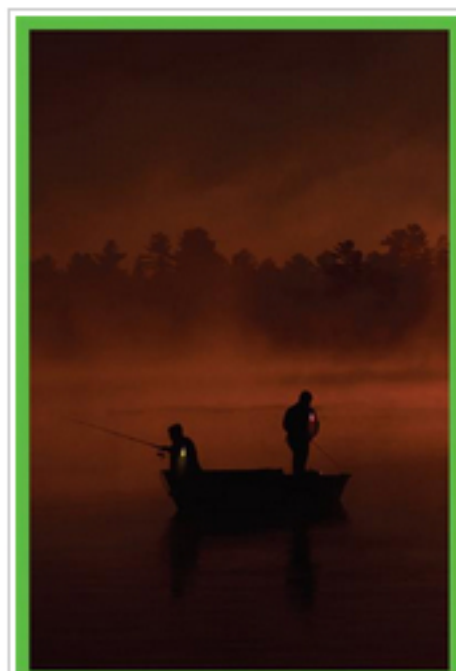

It may seem funny that I'm talking about a device that was designed for military and first responders, but the Emergency Triage Lights from Southwest Synergistic Solutions has an excellent use for us Yak Anglers. I was glad to have discovered them at ICAST this year, and have put my E/T Light through the paces.

This waterproof LED light gives you four color options - Red, Amber, Green and Blue - all in the one unit. In addition to the color options, you also get the option of selecting either a blinking or constant light. The blink is around 60-90 blinks per minute (ok, you got me, I didn't really count) which falls within what the Coast Guard says is an emergency blink frequency. This is great if you're in the need of a nighttime CG rescue.

But lets say you don't need that rescue.

I mainly used the Amber and Blue lights (more on the red later) because they're the only two color options that are not considered directional light markers. I didn't want to use Red or Green and have someone think I was a powerboat moving around. Both the amber and the blue lights gave me a sufficient amount of light to do some night fishing and crabbing from my kayak while on the Puget Sound a few weeks ago. A silicon housing protects the whole light, including the switch, and it was extremely easy to find the switch to control the light color and blinking/continuous. Even after using it once I knew how to operate it without ever looking again.

Unfortunately I don't have any photos of me using the E/T light that weekend. But I can tell you that everyone I was out at the cabin with was capable of seeing the E/T light when I had it around my neck. That may not sound all that impressive, but I was 3/4 mile away from the cabin in a pitch black nighttime sky. I was using the Amber light setting, which was more comfortable in the darkness than the Blue. The blue just seemed too bright to my eyes. In a more recent use, the blue light was more visible at a half mile away (furthest I was able to get at that time) than the light on top of my VisiPole.



E/T lights are powered by a commonly available CR2 lithium battery. These have been used in cameras for over a decade and can be found anywhere. This battery will last nearly 200hrs continuous use! That's more than most people I know spend fishing in a year.

Now, I told you I'd get back to the Red light. I also mentioned that this LED light is waterproof. So, I wanted to test things out a little excessively. I guess I'm known for that, and why I manage to break things all the time... anyways... I attached the E/T light to a crab pot on night (the E/T Light has two different attachment rings), set it to a Red blink, and dropped it 125' into the Puget Sound. Nevermind the fact that is twice its pressure tested depth rating. About eight hours later I paddled back out and pulled the pot back up. The red light was still blinking, and included a couple huge dungeness crab, a few red rocks, a small eel, and a giant sun star on top of the pot! Talk about attraction!

E/T light retail for less than \$35 and you can purchase them directly from their website at <http://www.triangelights.com>. While its great at catching crab and other deep sea creatures, it is invaluable as a safety device.

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 **Monday, 04 October 2010 14:23** | posted by [Mark Wheeler](#) [Comment Link](#)
 i wish we could afford the ir strobes that our neighboring city has, we just use the red and green ones. definately nice to have but i want more toys ;)

 **Saturday, 02 October 2010 07:11** | posted by [Isaac Miller](#) [Comment Link](#)
 Mark probably gets to play with the cool IR ones that use mere mortals don't.

 **Friday, 01 October 2010 08:40** | posted by [Rob DeVore](#) [Comment Link](#)
 That looks like a great product!

 **Friday, 01 October 2010 01:12** | posted by [Mark Wheeler](#) [Comment Link](#)
 we use them here to mark expedited landing zones for air life support. ive got a few that i use when i am trying not kill my night vision(red one of course) when im sitting in the middle of the water trying to retie or just to see what is going on. highly recommended!!!