VISUAL



Song Hengchun and his wife repair nets used for collecting debris from the reservoir in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Sept 17.



Song Hengchun (left) and his son Song Chengjun release fish into the reservoir in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Aug 6.



Song Hengchun (left) and his son check the water level gauge in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Aug 11.



Song Hengchun's wife sews up uniforms in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Aug 6.

Clean river: It takes a family Ong Hengchun has guard and manage the rest yoir. To help him in this takes a

ong Hengchun has been the river chief in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Zibo city of Shandong province, for more than a decade, but the association runs deeper. Over the past four decades, Song and his family have been religiously contributing to keeping the reservoir clean. The Zhaozhuang reservoir was built in the 1960s and provides irrigation to farms and the surrounding villages. In the 1980s, the then 30-year-old Song quit his city job and returned to his hometown to

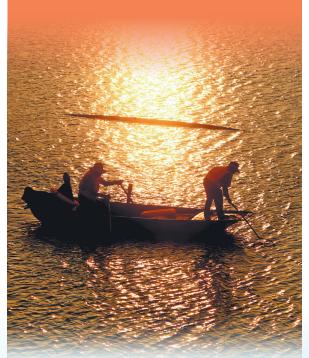
guard and manage the reservoir. To help him in this task, starting with regular inspection of the reservoir's water quality, Song also got his family involved, settling down in the area. During the flood season, Song and his wife take a boat ride from upstream to downstream, clearing the water of debris and trash. In 2014, Song was appointed river chief, which increased his sense of responsibility toward the reservoir. In June, Song's son inherited his role as river chief.

CHINA DAILY





Song Hengchun washes his face after a tiring patrol in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Aug 7.



Song Hengchun and his wife clear debris from the reservoir in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Aug 7.



Song Hengchun makes an announcement about the reservoir's water condition to residents of Dongzhaozhuang village in Yiyuan

Song Hengchun (left) checks the spillway gate's steel wire rope with his son in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Aug 11.



Song Hengchun's grandson visits his grandparents in the reservoir area in Dongzhaozhuang village of Yiyuan county, Shandong province, on Aug 6.

