



Fiordland, South Island, New Zealand

[www.flyfishingadventures.org](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org)

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We are in the seventh year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We want to help you match the right location with your fly fishing goals and objectives and properly prepare you to fully enjoy the experience. We've been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new destinations. One of our services is to compare and contrast different lodges/outfitters. Whatever unbiased information on timing and locations we can provide comes at the same cost to you as booking direct – i.e., NO EXTRA COST.

## AMAZON PEACOCK BASS – HOSTED TRIP



Since our January trip to the Agua Boa Amazon Lodge, the only fly fishing “only” lodge in the Amazon on the clear water Agua Boa River, the fishing reports have remained at a very high level all season. During our week, the 12 anglers at the lodge collectively released over 100 peacock bass that weighed in excess of ten pounds with several of those over 15 pounds. Most weeks this year have seen the same results with over 100 fish exceeding ten pounds released.

This continues to be one of those rare destinations where both “numbers and size” are available. 40 and 50+ fish days are almost the norm with a reasonable chance to take double digit fish on any cast. Couple the fishing with a well run, remote, tropical lodge and the adventure of a visit to the Amazon and it's easy to see why this spot has become one of the globes most popular destinations over the last few years.

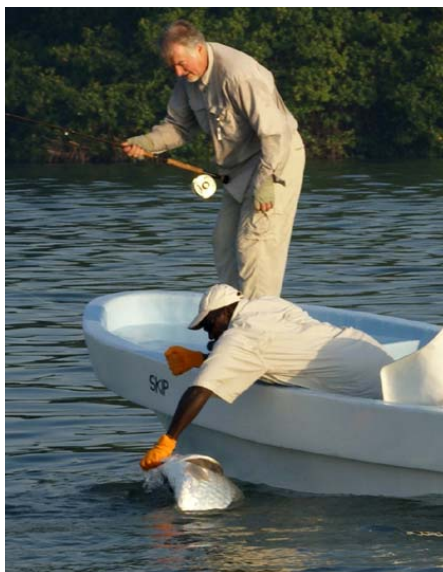
So many exciting stories have been related to us about the peacocks of the Agua Boa, but the one from Kamsen Iyer (above with 18# peacock) is tough to beat: “.....I had an amazing day the day this fish was caught.....I caught 7 fish over 12lbs all in the same day which happened to be the last day! Until that day I was the only one in the group not to catch anything over 12lbs. The Fishing Gods were good to me.”

**HOSTED TRIP:** Doug Lovell, co-owner of the Fish First Fly Shops in Northern California and renowned delta striped bass guide, is hosting a group of our clients at the Agua Boa Amazon Lodge the week of February 12 – 19, 2011. Price is \$5,500 including the charter flight between Manaus and the lodge. Four spots remain for this special week.



**AVAILABILITY:** Finding prime time space on the Agua Boa is getting to be a challenge. There are still weeks remaining with space for a party of two and a few weeks that can take 4 or 6, but that's it. Most weeks are sold. Our January newsletter carried a photo essay of our trip – if you'd like to learn more, this link will take you to that newsletter: [http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/flyfishing\\_News\\_Jan10.pdf](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/flyfishing_News_Jan10.pdf)

**BELIZE: BIG TARPON, GRAND SLAMS, AND LOTS OF PERMIT IN MARCH**



March saw mostly decent weather for those fishing from the Belize mothership Rising Tide. It was a little rough at times for the first trip of the month (see March newsletter for a day from Art Hinckley's permit diary), but overall, not a bad March with 16 permit released and two grand slams. What adds value to those numbers is that less than half the fishing days were spent in pursuit of permit.....there just seems to be lots of permit on the flats of Belize the last few months.



Mike Copithorne, at right above with permit, doesn't let the "small things" get in the way – that permit was part of a Grand Slam day for Mike with a tarpon and bonefish to complete it. Adam Barker, a professional photographer with Mike's group on one of March's three trips, took his first permit (at right).

Some comments from the group regarding the overall experience of using the Rising Tide as their base of operations to pursue the shallow water species of Belize.....Mike: "We did have a great trip.....Everything looks good for June of 2011 for us to return." Adam: "The trip was fantastic. Great people, beautiful surroundings and awesome fishing to boot." Mikey Wier, a successful fly fishing video expert, also was on board capturing events on video. Mikey's comments: "The trip was awesome. I think everyone had a great time and definitely exceeded most expectations.....All and all, I think it was a very productive trip."



Marte and I joined Frank Jackson on the Rising Tide (left) for the third trip of the month (only 3 trips each month are available). The permit were even good to me allowing for the release of my 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> fish over a very long career of being refused by their brothers and sisters literally 1,000's of times.

Above left, Frank has his 80# tarpon to the boat and in the hands of our guide....a great way to begin a Grand Slam day! That fish was a load to handle beginning with the hook-up near the skiff and first jump when he showered both guide and angler. He battled through sun-up (below right) before finally pulling out of the guide's grasp and eluding that one final photo (series of photos below). We did encounter numbers of both big tarpon and permit – if you have further interest in just how those numbers are defined, see my trip diary available through this link: [http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/tr\\_Tarpon.htm](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/tr_Tarpon.htm)

Frank's description of the adventure: "I had a very good trip, extremely enjoyable, successful fishing with very comfortable accommodations and great food aboard The Rising Tide mothership. We hardly saw any other anglers and had the fishing locations very much to ourselves. I was able to land two Permit and had many more shots. I captured a grand slam and only missed a super grand slam by a couple of hours. The highlight was hooking, playing for 50 minutes and landing an 80 # Tarpon, after casting my fly to a rolling fish less than 25 feet away. Overall, I strongly recommend this trip....."



## SUMMER TROUT IN THE WEST – FERNIE, BC, AND PRIVATE WATERS



Fernie, BC, continues to provide an outstanding fishery for fly casters of all experience levels, from beginners to veterans, in a spectacular setting on the western slopes of the Canadian Rockies. The numbers are supplied by surface oriented West Slope Cutthroat (and trophy Rainbows in some waters within reach) and the size comes in the form of Bull Trout (at left). Various forms of accommodations round this spot out as having something for everyone. This fishery has been protected so well that at times, in some areas, it does feel like private water. The Bull Trout present an interesting option of sight casting to 28 to 32 inch fish while they are on their spawning run in crystal clear streams and rivers, maybe the best

remaining Bull Trout fishery. Our trip last year was focused on the Bull Trout and this link will take you to our report on that trip: [http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/fish\\_report\\_bull\\_trout.pdf](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/fish_report_bull_trout.pdf)

The Pecos River Ranch in the southern tip of the Rockies in northern New Mexico is a private water fishery with a very interesting Southwest ambiance. This 6500 acre ranch has five miles of the wade-friendly Pecos River (at right) on the property. The ranch offers a small group of four to six the opportunity to take over the property for a 3 or 4 night stay. Mid to late June and mid September to early October is prime time here.



The “cat’s meow” of lower US private waters continues to be The Lodge and Spa At Three Forks Ranch. This is a very special spot in Northern Colorado with a price to match it’s uniqueness. With the opening of their spa last year, it has become one of the places where a non-fishing spouse can enjoy the experience at the same level as the fly fisher.....and it’s a great spot for a beginner to learn the sport.

## FORFEITED DEPOSITS EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN ALASKA AND SEYCHELLES; DEAN RIVER DISCOUNT



Occasionally, special offers come along that have real value at world class destinations and in prime times. These offers fall under that banner. The first two are the result of forfeited deposits due to cancellations. Just the bare essentials are presented here – if you like more details, please let us know.

The world famous sister atolls of Alphonse and St. Francois in the Seychelles represent a truly unique salt water flats fishery that can be visited independently or tied in with an Africa trip. Some forfeited deposits have allowed for a 25% discount available on four fishing packages (regular price is \$6890 for the week) that is valid for either the week of Oct 16 – 23 or Oct 23 – 30, 2010. Can be purchased as singles or pairs. For more Seychelles details on Alphonse and St. Francois, this link will take you to a photo essay of our trip.....  
[http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/tr\\_seychelles.pdf](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/tr_seychelles.pdf)

Bristol Bay Lodge in Alaska has always been one of our favorites and it is among a very small group of top notch Alaska fly out lodges. Due to a late group cancellation and forfeited deposits, special 50% discounts are being offered for the early rainbow trout and king salmon weeks of June 19 – 26 and June 26 – July 3. Regular weekly rate is \$7,350.

Prime time slots for the famous lower Dean River summer steelhead run are carrying a special rate for these weeks: July 9 – 16, July 23 – 30, July 30 – Aug 6, and Aug 6 – 13. Also included is a free dry fly rainbow trout fly out. Regular rate is \$6,000 for the week; now slots are selling for \$5,000.

## NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER (IF YOU MISSED IT?)



Our annual New Zealand newsletter was sent out last week. The feature articles included:

- The Uniqueness of New Zealand
- The NZ Version of Stalking and Sight Fishing
- Ladies Gallery
- Itinerary Options: From Economy To Top Drawer
- For Repeat and Annual NZ Travelers

Newsletter link: [http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/Fishing\\_New\\_Zealand.pdf](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/Fishing_New_Zealand.pdf)

## APRIL MEMORY PHOTO

Robert Meiswinkel and a few friends recently returned from the lake in Argentina that has garnered the nickname of Jurassic Lake. This name sounds appropriate given the numbers of giant rainbows they took. The lake is a biological oddity due to the vast number of fresh water shrimp that populate the lake and cause the phenomenal growth of the 'bows. The fish at right was taken from a small tributary stream of the lake used for spawning runs, but most of the fish they took were from the lake itself. In May, we'll do a more extensive story on this unique fishery.



PHOTO CREDITS: (top to bottom) 1<sup>st</sup> peacock bass - Kamsen Iyer; top permit – Mikey Weir; bottom permit – Adam Barker; NZ brown – Gary and Terry Butts.

Either phone or drop us an e-mail if you have questions or would like more information about any of our destinations.

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