



Peacock Bass, Agua Boa River, Amazon

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We are in the eighth 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.

OPEN BELIZE MOTHERSHIP DATES FOR 2011....PRICES AND NEW WEBSITE



There is a new and updated website for the Belize mothership trip that includes current prices and the new Belize option, the Rising Tide.... www.flyfishbelize.com This trip continues to be the best value in the world of salt water fly fishing with long fishing days, air conditioned accommodations, good cooks/guides, and bonefish, tarpon, snook and the finest permit fishing anywhere. Barracuda, snappers, and jacks add to the mix of species available. A seven night trip for a group of four on the Meca is \$2,400 per person, basically all-inclusive (\$2,875 for the Rising Tide). Smaller parties have a higher per person cost, but still a value.

Each year, we give all our current year's clients the opportunity to rebook for the same or similar dates for the upcoming year before opening up time frames for first timers. That has been done for the period of January through July for 2011 and we can now announce the open time slots still available.

Rising Tide - (parties of two to six): 1/4 – 11; 1/23 – 30; 2/12 – 19; 2/26 – 3/5; 3/9 – 16; 4/25 – 5/2; 7/25 – 8/1.

Meca, at right - (parties of two to four): as of today, there is at least one or two weeks open in each month through July.



SILVERS ON THE SURFACE – ALASKA REPORT



John Wilhelm and Paul Souza, at left with a double header, ventured to the Goodnews River in Alaska for the first time recently. During the same week, Josh Luft-Glidden was returning for his second trip pursuing the Goodnew's varied fishing opportunities highlighted during this particular week by taking silver salmon on the surface.

Alaska remains (along with the Amazon) as the fishiest fresh water destination on earth and offers many options to fish its best waters and avoid the crowds. There

are top notch fly-out lodges, land-based lodges, and for those wanting a more rugged wilderness experience, quality float trip operators. The fishing options change dramatically each week of the summer depending on the watershed and species. In last months newsletter, we had a story of pursuing king salmon in early July on the Goodnews River, which has one of Alaska's most prolific king runs. Generally, for a few special weeks every August, that same Goodnews River provides the finest opportunity to take numbers of silvers (the most rewarding fly-rod Pacific Salmon) on the surface, one of fly fishing's great thrills. Additionally, there is trophy rainbow fishing available along with several other species. However, some of the worst weather in August history made conditions very tough this month.

Paul took the Pacific Salmon Grand Slam (King, Silvers, Chum, Pinks, and Sockeye) as well as rainbows and char and had this report on the trip: "The trip to the Goodnews River was an adventure. Timing is everything, we hit the peak of the Silver run and along with that came some of the worst summer weather on record in Alaska.....one of the locals who had lived there for 60 year stated he had never seen anything like it. To say that the river was high is an understatement. But having said all of this, we had the very best Silver Salmon fishing I have ever experienced. With all the conditions against us, and the fishing was still this good, I can only wonder what the Goodnews would be like in a normal year. I hope to find out next year."

Left: Paul with a rainbow and silver. Right: John with fish on, rainbow, and silver.



Josh Luft-Glidden, who had a previous trip with good conditions with which to compare, mentioned that while conditions were tough, the average size of the Silvers at 12+ pounds was more than the average his first trip.

Location is critical with a land based lodge without fly outs and the Goodnews River has earned its reputation as an outstanding watershed for all the Alaska species. It is amazing that even with very high and dirty water, the fishing experience was still a good one this August. And, since it is the only permanent lodge on the watershed, it has special access to the fishery. This is a serious fishing camp!

THREE RIVER RANCH, IDAHO – TRIP REPORT



For a newsletter that usually features unshaven (and seldom handsome) mugs, the three gals at left are a welcome change with a stylish fly fishing look. This group of 6 to 8 fly fishing ladies do an annual fly fishing trip together each year. This year, Pat Winther, Jane Ryan, Jan Bristow, Jackie Voigt, Kit Bedford, and Nancy Johnson used Three Rivers Ranch in eastern Idaho as the headquarters for their get together. Part of their trip included an overnight float trip through the South Fork of the Snake River using a stationary tent camp for their stay. It's a good thing when you have a group of friends or family you can share your fly fishing passion with and these ladies do have fun together.

Some comments from their trip this year:

Jane – "Yes, the trip was terrific. The attention to detail was quite amazing!"

Pat – "I wanted you to know that Three Rivers was wonderful! We all enjoyed our stay there. The staff couldn't have been nicer, the lodge charming, and Lonnie was amazing the way she made things happen when we wanted to amend the program. We appreciated the way everything was so seemingly effortless on Lonnie's part when we knew that it wasn't! The fishing was good and of course, there are many more places to fish that we couldn't do.....the second and third day on the South Fork were warm and the bugs were out which made the fish look up - happily for us! We did the overnight campout.....it was unusually cold at night but we were happy in the well insulated sleeping bags and the experience of sleeping on the river was fun!"

Photos below, l to r: Yellowstone Cutthroat, campfire gathering, drift boat, stream-side lunch, Fine Spotted Snake River Cut



Nancy – “Just a quick note to let you know just how much we enjoyed our stay at Three Rivers Ranch. Owner and lodge manager, Lonnie, was a delight - and could not have been more accommodating.....the guides were excellent, and the cuisine wonderful (the lunches were truly a treat). All in all - a lovely time at a lovely lodge.”

Kit – “.....checking in with comment on Three Rivers Ranch! From my perspective, we had a great time! There were a multitude of different travel schedules, personal needs and wants, hopes and wishes.....Lonnie got to them all, and always with a smile and “can do” effort. The history of the place is fun, the food a little too delicious, and the accommodations clean, comfortable, and convenient. The Teton River day (beginning just below the blown-out dam) was a beautiful stretch....lovely intimate trip on private water.the South Fork overnight float offered some wonderful braids to visit that took us out of the main stream and provided some fine and generous fishing opportunities. We caught a LOT of fish and some good big ones too. And of course, we enjoyed the dramatic scenery. We were glad to be together, and I think we were glad to be where we were.”

Personal note: Three River Ranch has provided many wonderful memories for our family throughout the years. Many of the photos in the Cutthroat chapter in our book, THE HUNT, were shot on their waters.

SPECIAL OFFERS – AMAZON, BELIZE, ASCENSION BAY

The Agua Boa Amazon Lodge has topped *Forbes* magazines list of top 10 fly fishing lodges in the world. This link will take you to their new website <http://www.aguaboalodge.com/flyfishingadventures> They are offering a six for the price of five deal for their upcoming season (Oct through April). Obviously, the offer only holds for the select weeks where they still have room for six fisherman.



Belize mothership fall special: Two fall weeks have been selected as discounted weeks on the Belize mothership Meca (above). Both the weeks of 10/19 – 26 and 11/10 – 17 will be priced so that a party of four can go for the price of a party of three – i.e., \$8,100 total - \$2,025 per person for a party of four for seven nights.

The finest lodge on Ascension Bay, Casa Blanca, is offering a fall special. For their standard week using the regular charter flight from Cancun, the price is \$3,225. If you choose to use land transport combined with a boat ride across the bay, the price is \$2,995.

NOTABLE FISHING QUOTE

“The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of what is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope.” John Buchan- Scottish publisher and politician.....submitted by Warren Goldfarb

AUGUST MEMORY PHOTO

This month’s memory photo by Jerry Saltzgaber captures the sun burning through a fog enshrouded Sustet River in British Columbia. The Sustet is one of the world’s finest trophy steelhead rivers and one can just imagine those big fish holding in those riffles.



PHOTO CREDITS: (top to bottom) Goodnews River - Paul Souza and John Wilhelm: Three Rivers Ranch - Pat Winther and Jackie Viogt.

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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