

DEFINING A GREAT NEW ZEALAND FLY FISHING EXPERIENCE

Jim Taylor owes.....he owes the “fishing gods” a lot....and then a lot more. Based on his experiences in New Zealand the last two years, Jim should get blanked on his next ten fishing trips to even things out. But no matter what, they can't take away the excitement Jim has experienced in New Zealand the last two years, this years trip actually topping his exceptional '05 trip.

How do you quantify “New Zealand fly fishing fantasies?” While the overall challenge and thrill of stalking and sight fishing the large browns and rainbows of NZ is not measured in numbers, it does take numbers to explain Jim's results. On a 14 day itinerary, Jim fished 10 days, releasing a 7 pound or larger trout every day but one. However, his best day surpasses anything I'm familiar with – 13 brown trout between 4 and 7.5 pounds sight-fishing a smallish tributary stream, ALL ON DRY FLIES!!!!

To read those numbers would lead one to believe that these big fish are EASY. Not so. Big fish in skinny waters are extremely challenging, testing all an anglers skills – especially the wary brown trout. In New Zealand, the weather can always be an issue, creating tough conditions. While Jim's angling skills have been honed to a fine edge on his four New Zealand trips, he has benefited from the “fishing gods” smiling on him....however, they will get even – they always do!

TRIP REPORT

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