



Fly Fishing
ADVENTURES
Travel Report
Mongolia Taimen

Note: This Mongolia report and accompanying photos come from globe hopping fly anglers Jerry Saltzgaber, Chip Fudge, and Chuck Ferrell. They often tie in some touring with their trips and, in this case, spent an extra week in Mongolia and the Gobi Desert, one of the world's great deserts. They reported the Mongolian's were very friendly toward Americans. We relied on the most reputable and established Mongolian Taimen outfitters to put the trip together, giving us the best possible odds of a successful adventure.



From Chip (at below left): "The Taimen fishing was great. Jerry and I caught nine the first day. I had a 47", Jerry had a 50", and Chuck won our contest with a 50 and 1/2". The camp manager, guides, and



all involved were great. The 22 hour car ride was a bit of a challenge, but it was the only way to make our international flight. Flying in Mongolia is a challenge, 3 plane trips did not go exactly as planned, but was a part of the experience. Unbelievable trip."

From Jerry (top right): "Loved the trip. Chip & I averaged two fish a day & Chuck a little under that. My smallest was 26 inches and biggest 50 -- had several 40's & high 30's. Biggest weight was about 55#--and on a 9 weight rod. I lost two 60# plus fish when



the line broke (one at the knot & one when netting it)--was using 35# & 40# tippets."

About the Taimen: this giant Asian salmonid is not a sea or lake run fish – they spend their lives in streams and rivers. The conservation effort is very strong to preserve this monster sport fish. All fish are photographed and tagged. Most of the streams fished are crystal clear and there is some sight fishing. Jerry reported they often could see the fish coming for the fly – could see the giant "V" 4 or 5 feet away. This is a "rough it trip" with good cabins and food, equipment and guides.



photos continued.....



Guide Crew



Chuck with largest Taimen