

NEWSLETTER #17 - OCTOBER 2003

If you have access to Microsoft Word, open the attachment above to see the information below in a more "reader friendly" format.

Leland Fly Fishing Travel Newsletter – October '03

TOPICS IN THIS ISSUE:

- San Francisco Shop Day Thursday, Nov 6
- Dean River Steelhead, '04 Openings
- Alaska and Kamchatka Float Trip Excitement
- Belize Mothership Report and Calendar For '04
- Rio Grande Sea Run Brown Trout Openings
- Brazil Peacock Bass Adventure Planned For Early '04
- Christmas Island March '04 Trip

This is the seventeenth edition of our monthly newsletter with updates on great fly fishing venues 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 sites. 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.

SF SHOP DAY – THURSDAY, NOV 6

I'm looking forward meeting many of you next Thursday when we'll have a special fly fishing travel day in the Bush Street shop. There will be three scheduled slide presentations and lots of open time to discuss any fly fishing adventures you'd like more details on. At both 12:30 and 5:00, there will be a slide presentation on "Fly Fishing Belize Via A Mothership." The other presentation, which will take place at 4:00, is titled "Fly Fishing Earth's Pristine Destinations" and is a short, fast paced visit to many of the premier fly fishing locations in the world – both fresh and salt.

I'll be in the shop from 10:30 am through the early evening. If you have specific interests you'd like to discuss, I encourage you to contact me to make an appointment. A scheduled time will allow us to have some uninterrupted time together.

DEAN RIVER '04 – TWO SPOTS REMAIN

The calendar and availability is now finalized for the '04 season at John Blackwell's lower Dean River Lodge. Most of our clients who visit the lower Dean are "hard-core steelheaders" who return to this world class fishery each summer leaving few opportunities for newcomers to find space. For next season, there are two openings for the prime week of July 30 – Aug 6 available. Price is \$4,500 for '04.

The combination week dates for the split trip (Dean River Lodge and Moose Lake fly out trout lodge) will be July 3 – 10, '04. This adventure splits a week between the lower Dean for the early stage of the steelhead run and the fast action rainbow fishing from Moose Lake Lodge (both operations owned and operated by John Blackwell).

ALASKA AND KAMCHATKA FLOAT TRIPS

The following abbreviated report is from Scott Hague about his experiences with Ouzel Outfitters this summer floating rivers in Alaska (full report can be e-mailed by request). Ouzel is one of Alaska's foremost outfitters and also pioneered the Kamchatka exploration in the early 90's. We like their approach of personally structuring float trips in both Alaska and Kamchatka to meet the specific goals and objectives of clients.

“The float trip in Alaska was absolutely fantastic. The variety of salmon and rainbow fishing was remarkable and each day the river provided a wide variety of fishing options – a 27” rainbow was one of my personal highlights. The folks at Ouzel were great and our guide, Branden, outstanding. I look forward to going back in the future.”

If you were planning an Alaska or Kamchatka adventure for next summer, now is the time as most of the best lodges and outfitters are filling their calendars.

BELIZE REPORT AND '04 CALENDAR

Bob Cazort is one of the “hard core” Belize mothership trip addicts. He takes two or three trips a year and just completed a trip aboard the Seaduction – the fishing results below are his alone because on this trip he was a single. Bob usually does not focus on permit – he’s a “variety guy” and loves the different options of the trip.

Jumped 20+ tarp, released five to 35# - no big guys to the boat, but some hooked and lost.

9 snook to 8#

15# cuda and several small ones

snappers and bonefish – several

45# blacktip shark on a bonefish flat on a popper. Broke him off after 30 minutes – didn’t want to fool with landing it.

Biggest highlight – didn’t see another fisherman the whole trip.

We have both boats chartered for a shop trip hosted by Keith Westra scheduled for August 27- Sept 3, '04. Three spots are still open on this trip. It remains one of the best values in the world of saltwater fly fishing at \$2,400 per person for the week on the joint trip.

'04 OPENINGS:

Seaduction with Captain/guide Charles Westby for parties of 1 or 2 (an asterisk * designates that both boats are available that week for a joint charter for 5 or 6):

1/17 – 24*; 2/6 – 13; 3/10 – 17*; 5/4 – 11; 6/5 – 12; 7/8- 15; 8/7 – 14*; 9/16 – 23*

Meca with Captain/guide Martin McCord for parties of 3 or 4:

1/17 – 24*; 3/10 – 17*; 7/18 – 25; 8/7 – 14*; 9/16 – 23*

TWO OPENINGS ON THE RIO GRANDE FOR GIANT SEA RUN BROWNS

Getting prime time space on the Rio Grande River in Tierra Del Fuego to fish the sea run browns this close to the season is a challenge. I just got word that one of our favorite lodges on the river had two spots open for January 24 – 31, '04.

AMAZON PEACOCK BASS TRIP PLANNED

Final plans are being made for a trip to the Amazon and there is still space available. Karl Kirbus, co-manager of the San Francisco shop, is putting together a small group of adventurers to visit Brazil in the early part of '04 in pursuit of the giant peacock bass and other tropical species that swim in this rainforest watershed. If you have any interest, give us a call to discuss.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND BONEFISH ADVENTURE MARCH '04

A group of Leland folks will be heading to Christmas Island March 8 – 15. At least two of our managers from the San Francisco shop will be making the trek with them. Christmas Is was one of the first great bonefish destinations and remains one of the world’s most productive wade fisheries. Price is \$2,756 pp from Honolulu. If you’d like more info, drop us a note.

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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