



Wigwam River, Fernie BC



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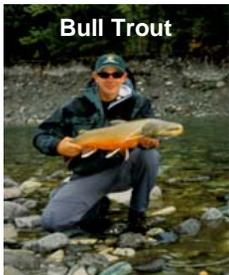
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We are in the sixth year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We want to help you match the right location with your fly fishing goals and objectives and properly prepare you to fully enjoy the experience. We've been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new sites. 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.



Redfish Scales

## SUMMERTIME FLY FISHING ADVENTURES IN THE WEST



Bull Trout

Generally, fly fishing adventures you find described on our website or in our materials have a few special elements.

- We avoid the hoards of people now fishing the “famous rivers.”
- There will be a special “edge” to the experience. That “edge” comes in different forms, depending on the specific property.
- We prefer fly fishing opportunities where a certain feeling of exclusivity can accompany it.
- Cuisine that ranges from good to great along with comfortable accommodations.

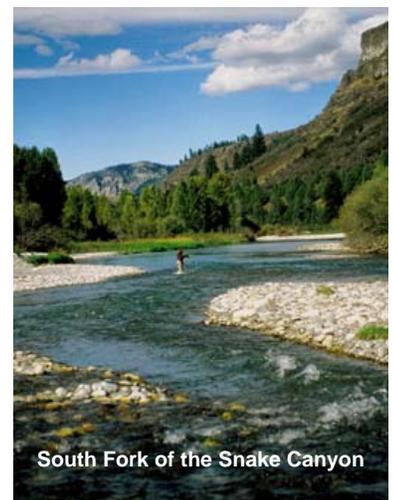
## FERNIE, BRITISH COLUMBIA (ELK RIVER WATERSHED)

- Beautiful country – west slope on the Continental Divide, Canadian Rockies
- Good native west slope cutthroat fishery to supply the numbers, plus the bull trout to provide the “big fish” opportunity.
- Combination of drift boat fishing on the main stem of the Elk and walk'n'wade on the tributary streams. And, new this year, a “private water stream” that our outfitter has arrangements for.
- Varying accommodations ranging from jet setter 2, 3, and 4 bedroom condos to a world class ski resort in a spectacular mountain setting.
- Good couples and/or family trip



Fine Spotted Cutthroat

**SOUTH FORK OF THE SNAKE RIVER CANYON OVERNIGHT FLOAT TRIP.....**is the centerpiece of this adventure in eastern Idaho. The overnight is spent in a comfortable, stationary tent camp in the canyon. Restricted number of boats allowed per day. Add one or two days of guided fishing in the area on the front or back end for a complete three or four day experience.



South Fork of the Snake Canyon

## **EASTERN SIERRA'S PACK TRIP**



Forty-plus years ago, my Dad took my brother and I on an Eastern Sierra pack trip over the 12,000 foot Mono Pass. It was spectacular, breathtaking scenery. We repeated it twice the next few years. I recently found out that the same outfit is still in operation as the premier pack station in the Eastern Sierra's. It's now operated by the son of the man we took the trip with all those years ago. Hasn't changed much – one place where government agencies have done a good job of protecting a wonderful mountain wilderness resource. Can be a good four or five day experience, all details handled by the pack master.

## **SPATSIZI WILDERNESS PARK IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

The Spatsizi Wilderness covers 3,600 square miles and is inaccessible by road. This is a land of crystal clear lakes and streams where the native rainbow trout are plentiful and wildlife abound. As the only lodge licensed to guide and fly

anglers in this remote setting, our outfitter ensures a wild and pristine experience. Lots of fly outs as they have three float planes for the maximum of 8 guests per week. We've just added this family operated lodge to our list of preferred properties due to the outstanding recommendation of Bill Dinsmore, supported by some independent research.

## **PRIVATE WATERS – WHITE RIVER VALLEY, COLORADO**

A group of local guides who used to guide at the famous (and now defunct) Elk Creek Lodge banded together and secured some leases from large ranchers in the White River Valley. Wonderful walk'n'wade fishery on the main river and, due to exploratory efforts last year, two spring creeks and a beaver pond with large browns. Also, float fishing is available on other rivers. Unique and tastefully restored 100 year old five bedroom ranch house on the property is your headquarters. The entire ranch house can be rented exclusively for a family or group for \$600 per night making this an exclusive type experience. Do your own cooking or a chef is available. Generally, the weather usually allows this to be a good early season fishery from mid March to mid April. Good four night trip with three days fishing.



Spring Creek Brown, White River Valley

## **PRIVATE WATERS – THREE FORKS RANCH, COLORADO**

This 250,000 acre ranch straddles the border of both southern Wyoming and northern Colorado and is an outdoors fantasy playground. It simply is the finest fly fishing lodge operation in the lower 48. It starts with the quality of the fishing which includes, to quote a well traveled client of ours, "more 20+ inch fish than I've ever caught anywhere." Over 16 miles of private access, easily waded, insect-rich, streams are available. These streams provide challenges for every skill level of fly fisher, from beginner to the most experienced. If you can survive the price (very pricey), you'll love it!!

## **TRIP REPORT: SOUTH TEXAS REDFISH**



Tailing redfish provide an exciting fly rod target. I've heard this many times, but experiencing it did indeed prove to be challenging and fun.

Redfish occur in many places throughout our South Atlantic and Gulf coastlines. Some areas in Florida and Louisiana provide lots of redfish action. I was attracted to the southern Gulf coast of Texas, near the Mexican border, for these reasons:

- The promise of 200+ plus square miles of mostly shallow flats with limited fishing pressure.
- Frequent shots at tailing fish on those shallow flats.
- A new lodge that offered a unique headquarters for a few anglers, but especially for gatherings of four or six fly fishing friends who could reserve the lodge exclusively for their group.

- A destination that could provide an interesting fly fishing opportunity in either late October/early November or the spring – times of the year which traditionally can be hard to find a place to satisfy the passion in the USA.



My trip took place in early November on the Lower Laguna Madre, one of the countries largest estuary systems, which extends into northern Mexico. We had marvelous weather for three days with temps in the low 80's with light or no wind. From a fishing perspective, there were two days of great productivity with sighted fish and two that the fish were more difficult to find, but still available.

The lodging arrangements were indeed unique - a large lodge with two independent floors, each floor with four bedrooms and its own large kitchen plus a well appointed living area with big screen TV. It is located on the water and at night, attracted by large flood lights, baitfish and shrimp swim close to the dock in the back yard, attracting larger predators. Fun action with an after dinner drink and fly rod! Comes with a cook to prepare the meals.....or you can have groceries supplied and cook yourself. Packages are tailored individually and the pricing is not outlandish.

As far as the fishing went, in addition to the tailing fish, we had some heart-pounding opportunities with 5 to 7 pound fish in very shallow water, literally right on the bank.....in a few cases, their backs were out of the water as they pursued their prey. Good stuff. Hit "reply" if you have specific questions.



### GIANT PIKE AND LAKERS IN NORTHERN CANADA

Jim Hine (aka Mad Dog Hine) was introduced to pike fishing on a trip we took together to Labrador a few years ago. In Labrador, our primary quarry was trophy brook trout. He developed a passion to find the best northern Canada operation which offered fly fishing for giant pike and lake trout in addition to the other species commonly found in this neighborhood. He dug into the research with his typical fervor using the following points as his guide.

- Focus on Fly Fishing- Large Pike and Lake trout fishing has historically been a spin fishing endeavor, but over the past decade or so, most of the lodges have added emphasis on fly fishing for these giants, as well as fly friendly Grayling, and a few other species including Artic Char and Walleye. I wanted an outfit for which fly fishing was a key element, not an afterthought, with guides who really know fly fishing.
- Fishing from boats based at the lodge, not an over-dependence on fly outs (though availability of fly outs was a plus as an option)
- Food and Accommodations
- General vibe, references, and price



Lake Trout



Grayling



Northern Pike

If you have interest in these fisheries and would like to see Jim's entire report on his research, just hit "reply" and we'll forward. As a result of his study, Jim and his son, Andrew, will be making a trip to the far north this summer and will be filing a report on the outcome.

## NEW ZEALAND – A PLACE TO CATCH YOUR FIRST FISH ON A FLY???



It's the time of the year when reports on New Zealand, Amazon, and Patagonia trips begin to flow. However, as far as New Zealand trips go, this report is a first – a couple who chose the demanding environment of New Zealand as the location of their first fly fishing experience. Jeffrey and Rhonda Caldewey were the couple and here are some comments from Jeffrey: “The trip was wonderful (as in wonder-filled) and as you predicted, very challenging. But as you can see from the photo of Rhonda (left) and her NZ Rainbow, we were up to the challenge. We did test the patience of our helpful guides who attempted to polish our rudimentary casting skills.” Rhonda did an interesting report on a novice's view of fly fishing NZ – her entire report is at the bottom of the NZ page on our website [www.flyfishingadventures.org](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org).

From John Kitchen: “Just got back. It was an awesome trip. Apparently, your fish have to be at least two feet long to rate a picture in NZ, but I landed a couple that qualified.” John, with one of those big browns, in the photo at right.

PHOTO CREDITS: Spring Creek Brown – Ted Relihan; Rhonda with First Fish – Jeffrey Caldewey; NZ Brown – John Kitchen

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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