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We are in the seventh 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.

ALASKA – RAINBOWS, DOLLY VARDEN, AND SILVERS ON THE SURFACE

(We have a long term relationship with the top “fly out” lodges and float trips in Alaska. About a year ago, we received an interesting request to locate a stationary lodge that provided a unique Alaska fly fishing experience, but *without fly outs*. After presenting the best options to the group below, they favored a special August period at the Goodnews River Lodge when rainbow and dolly varden fishing would be good and also, numbers of silver/coho salmon could be taken on the surface right at the lodge. The location of a stationary lodge is critical and this operation was located perfectly to supply all these options as well as long fishing days - virtually “fish until you drop” if you choose - and a solid overall reputation as an outstanding fishing lodge.)

Ben Resch, Ken Webb, Jeff Reinke and Gordon LaFortune (left to right in photo at right), had these “edited for space” comments on their week at Goodnews River Lodge:



Gordon (left with silver): “The trip was fantastic! It was everything I wanted and needed; really good fishing, comfortable but not too fancy lodging, good food, relaxed and informal atmosphere, good guides and staff and the list could go on. I don’t think I’d change anything.”



Jeff (left with rainbow) reported he fished for silvers subsurface with streamers on the first day only. After that, it was all surface fishing and the visual experience of watching the silvers attack the fly or popper was a thrill. He had 20+ fish days, all on the surface, with fish from 8 to 14# and lots of 10 to 13 pounders. Visual excitement also came from vicious strikes on a skated fly from dolly varden.



From Ken (with silver at right): “Definitely a record setting week in quantity and size for many of us.....you were right on the money when you said it was a ‘serious fishing camp’.....only thing I would add is a seriously fun, comfortable and pleasant fishing camp.... For me personally, it was the best fishing trip of



my life.” Ken arrived as a spin fisherman wanting to develop skills as a fly fisher. By his last day, he was double hauling and casting into the wind.

From Gordon on the surface action for Silvers:



Ben Resch w/silver

“I had heard of taking Pacific Salmon on the surface but had never done it..... when I saw the ‘popper’ style flies at Goodnews, I was surprised. I gave it a shot on the third day and caught several, about six during the morning alone. I did it several other times and I could have caught more fish than I actually did if I was more experienced with it. I think we were fortunate because you could fish poppers all day if you wanted. It wasn’t quite as productive as streamers, but once I got it down it was productive enough. It’s hard to describe the excitement of watching these big fish chase the fly or attack it from the side.”

Ben added, “There were days when the silver fishing was so productive that we had to stop periodically just to rest our exhausted arms. The enthusiasm and professionalism of Mike Gorton and his guides and staff rounded out an absolutely perfect week of Alaskan fishing.”



The main attractions: silvers on the surface, rainbows, and dolly varden.

“For me the fishing highlight was the variety of water and fish. I ended up doing something different most days and that was my choice. After a day of wearing out my arm on silvers it was a nice change to go after rainbows or dollies. The number and variety of fish that I caught was outstanding”.....Gordon

(Note: one option was to fish silvers in the morning, rainbows and dollies upriver in the afternoon, and then back to silvers in front of the lodge after dinner.)

For additional information (including pricing) and photos, click on the link below to see a photo essay of this trip: http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/pe_AKtrip.pdf

NORTHERN PIKE, GRAYLING, AND LAKE TROUT ON THE FLY



The report below comes from Jim Hine (at left with Northern) who ventured into Northern Manitoba, the land of the midnight sun, with his son Andrew (below right with lake trout), early this summer. Jim did extensive research on all the Northern Canada options offering Northern Pike, Grayling, and Lake Trout before deciding on his destination. His following report capsulizes a great adventure. Jim mentioned that he would be available to take a phone call from anyone interested in more information about his research or this specific trip. Just hit reply if you’d like to speak with him and we’ll arrange it.

“Sight casting poppers to 36” Northern Pike in 3 feet of water is not for the weak of heart.

The Northern fishing was fabulous in this late June/early July trip to Kasba Lake at the Northwest Territories in Canada. Just after ice out, the big pike are in close in the shallow bays and viciously strike poppers and large streamers. Steel leaders are a must for these fresh water barracudas. We landed over 100 pike in the 4 days of the 8 day trip we spent hunting them. 40 were over 30", with 8 trophies over 38", the biggest at 41".

Two of the other four days were spent stalking Lake Trout. We hooked up with 80+ lake trout over 3lbs, 40 over 5lbs, largest landed by us was 10lbs, though fish over



30lb are caught every summer.

Both sight and blind casting streamers over reefs is effective all day, with some great dry action (classic head to tail like the big Brookies in Labrador) with Caddis in the bays in the evening, and sporadically during the day.



The last 2 days of the trip focused on trophy 2-4lb grayling (left) in the beautiful outflow river, the Kazaan. We nymphed the riffles and cast dries (caddis, mayflies) in the flats to rising fish, landing 40 over 2 pounds, 15 over 3 pounds.

The most interesting moment of the trip was when a 20+ lb lake trout inhaled the 3 lb grayling that had taken a nymph on the 6 wt. Thirty minutes later, we almost boated both, but alas, we missed the only shot we had with the net and Mr. Laker said adios to the lightweight tippet.



Prime time for big pike in the shallows is early summer, but both grayling and laker action continues and improves through August. The accommodations are “wilderness first class,” with the 4 star food guaranteed to add 5 pounds to your own girth.”

OCTOBER'S NEWSLETTER EARLY



The October newsletter is a little early for two reasons. First, the two major articles in this edition deal with trips that are offering the same “early booking” program that many world class fly fishing adventures have. In the case of both of these lodges, if you book and deposit prior to Oct 15, you can reserve your 2009 spots at the current 2008 prices, not the increased prices that will be in effect after the 15th. Second, Marte and I are going to be doing extended travel in October that will include Dubai (in the United Arab Emirates), the Seychelles, and an outstanding safari camp in Zambia that, just coincidentally, is located on the river with Africa's finest tiger fishing. We won't be doing much fishing in Dubai

(checking out the great new planes that Emirates Airlines has purchased), but the Seychelles should provide excellent bonefishing, trevally, and the world's best milkfish fishery. My assistant, Tammi, will be in the office in the mornings, and I'll be in touch with e-mail regularly so will be able to answer questions and inquiries as usual.

OCTOBER “MEMORY PHOTO”

Alaska.....maybe still the last best place for giant native rainbows! That's true if your there at the right time, fishing the right waters, and it helps to have the right guide. Thanks to Greg Schurger for the photo of a truly giant Alaska rainbow!

PHOTO CREDITS (top to bottom): Goodnews Lodge trip - Ben Resch, Ken Webb, Jeff Reinke and Gordon LaFortune; pike, grayling, and lakers – Andrew and Jim Hine.

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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