NEWSLETTER #12 - MAY 2003

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CORPORATE AND FAMILY GROUP ADVENTURES:

There is a wide range of possibilities for group adventures built around a fly fishing experience in the great outdoors. Whether you're looking for a team-building or incentive reward activity or a family happening, there is something available to fit your time frame.

In Northern California, within a 3 to 4 hour drive from the Bay Area, are private lodges and/or cottages available for rent on a 600 acre ranch with their own private lakes and streams stocked with large and willing rainbows and browns. These can range from "do it yourself" housekeeping cabins to four bedroom lodges that come with a talented cook to prepare a selection of appetizing meals for your group/family.

With a short airline flight, you can put together an exciting three night adventure at the base of the Grand Tetons. An overnight float trip through the South Fork of the Snake River Canyon is the centerpiece of your trip. The overnight is spent at a stationary tent camp on the river and is a very comfortable experience that can be enjoyed by new fly fishers or veterans alike.

For those with more time available, there are lodges in British Columbia, Alaska, or the Rockies that cater to both family and corporate groups with activities available to suit many different situations. Crocodile Bay (mentioned later in this newsletter) is a tropical destination with both great fly fishing and many non-fishing options.

Obviously, these types of adventures have to be tailored to meet the needs of your specific group or family. Give us a call if you'd like to explore possibilities.

CROCODILE BAY LODGE – A UNIQUE FLY FISHING EXPERIENCE WITH MANY NON-FISHING OPTIONS:

Crocodile Bay Lodge on Costa Rica's Pacific Coast has developed a reputation in the fly fishing world as one of the most diverse destinations possible. Fishing opportunities vary from billfish offshore, sailfish on a fly, coastal waters that teem with rooster fish and a variety of saltwater species to jungle rivers for snook,

snappers, etc. In addition to the fishing, this destination is located in the center of what National Geographic calls "the most ecologically intense place on earth" which provides many interesting non-fishing activities for a non-fishing spouse, families, or groups. This exquisite lodge on the Osa Peninsula features 34 air-conditioned rooms, a top of the line daily menu, swimming pool, hot tub, massage room and a conference center that accommodates up to 80 people. As the gateway to the Corcovado National Park Wildlife preserve, Crocodile Bay Lodge enjoys some of the finest Eco Tours in Central America. We have a free video or CD available – let us know if you'd like to receive one.

NORTH PLATTE RIVER BUILDS ON IT'S EARLY SEASON REPUTATION:

Wyoming's North Platte River has proven over the last few years to be possibly the best early and late season trout fishery in the west. We have sent several shop clients there in early April and Oct/Nov with outstanding results. This year, Don Nelson returned the first week in April and together with a father-son team, David and Mark Penskar, they released over 200 fish in four days fishing. The majority of the fish were in the 14 to 18 inch category with Don capturing a mammoth 9 pound, 9 ounce rainbow. Overall, everyone had a great experience.

We are again putting together a four day trip (8 fishermen max) for the Leland shops for next April. If you'd like to get your '04 trout season off to a early and fast start, give a call for details.

FOR PERMIT ADDICTS ONLY:

The permit fly fisherman is a special critter. Why would someone put themselves through the pursuit of this fabulous salt water sport fish when repeated failure is guaranteed with the chances of success remote? Maybe it's the spectacular tropical settings this fish frequents? Maybe it's just the challenge and nothing more? One thing is for sure, there is a new organization just for these deranged fly fishermen – The Distinguished Order Of Permit Angling Purists. They have their own quarterly publication which, for permit addicts, is sacred stuff. I have several extra copies of their latest publication and, if you'd like to check it out, send me your snail mail address and we'll put one in the mail.

RETURN OF THE FALL RIVER?:

Northern California's Fall River has special meaning for me and my son, Scott. Twenty-plus years ago, the Fall provided the setting where the two of us were captured by fly fishing and launched what would become a lifetime of pursuing fish with a fly rod in the world's most pristine destinations. We made several trips to the Fall in our first ten years of casting a fly. Eventually, we began turning our attention to other waters as the Fall fell victim to a series of maladies which reduced the quality of the fishery. I've heard from other

fishermen over the last few years that the river is rebounding. And, to provide proof close to home, Scott and a friend, Kim Laur, experienced a wonderful trip there last week with numbers of good size fish taken on the surface as well as subsurface. The size of the fish and numbers of double hook-ups they enjoyed reminded me of days gone by. Maybe those days are returning?

Either call or drop us an e-mail if you have questions or would like more information about any of our destinations.

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