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We are in the twenty-first year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on the great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We’ve been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new destinations. 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.**

**BOLIVIA JUNGLE ADVENTURE – TRIP REPORT**



This trip report is from an adventure at the Tsimane Lodges in the remote jungles of Bolivia by Jim Hine (at left with Golden Dorado) and son, Andrew (at right, with a trophy Pacu). This report begins with an answer to this question: “In our world of globe-traveling fly fishers with many over-pressured fisheries, why was this outstanding Golden Dorado and Pacu fishery undiscovered until 10 years ago?” The answer is there was a Mormon missionary serving the indigenous Indians in these isolated Bolivian jungles in the foothills of the Andes mountain range. When he returned to the city of Santa Cruz, he mentioned to someone that there were many of these large, yellow/gold fish in the rivers. A fisherman familiar with



Golden Dorado heard about the conversation and made a visit.....that’s how this saga of what has become one of the world’s hottest destinations began.

Photos below, l to r: Golden Dorado in air; spotting large Golden, next, fish on; landing on the jungle runway.



The key to this fishery is the baitfish, Sabalo. Not just a small minnow, the Sabalo can grow to as large as six pounds. They migrate by the millions, on their annual spawning run from the immense watershed of the Mamoré

River, which drains into the Amazon basin. The Golden Dorado follow the Sabalo, both to feed and also to spawn in the headwaters of the rivers and streams in this region.

Below, l to r: native hunting Sabalos; Jim casting from the dugout canoe; up the rapids in a tributary; Caiman.



Some highlights from Jim's report (link below to full report):

- "We boated down to the mouth of an even smaller stream, the Chimoro, for a full day of walk and wade. It was an extremely intimate experience, with sight casting to good size Dorados."
- "We experienced a fabulous Tsimane treat - an overnight up the Agua Negra river, staying at the beautiful outpost camp about 14 kilometers up the river, awakened in the morning by the jet engine level roar of the Howler Monkeys."
- "The Dorado fishing on this stretch is very special - almost entirely sight casting to medium and large dorados. This is definitely team hunting, with Santi (our guide) and the locals spotting the fish, getting us our one shot."

This link is to Jim's very complete trip report: [Bolivia Jungle Adventure - Photo Essay By Jim Hine](#)

## RISING TIDE FAMILY TRIP – KIDS LEARNING TO FISH



Over the last 40 years, our kids and grandchildren all developed their interest in fishing on salt water trips in Belize. We used motherships for a private family experience living on the water. Not many parents understand that salt water (with child-friendly guides) offers an easy introduction to fishing with a good level of action to keep a youngster's attention - an excellent entry into the joys and excitement of fishing.

The story of a recent trip on the Rising Tide, by the Erin and Glenn Prichett family of six, is the best story we've ever heard regarding kids getting excited about fishing. Erin and Glenn had taken a Belize mothership trip in the past, without the family, so had an understanding of the possibilities. They are an amazing fishing family with outstanding results and photos from their recent trip.



The four Prichett children were: above at left with snook, Lyle (age 7), Burke (age 9), Wynne (age 11) and Cole (age 13). Cole and Papa Glenn were the only experienced fly fishers. The majority of the fishing done by the others was with spin equipment. Burke and Wynne, with instruction from the guides, also did some fly fishing and Mama Erin is a budding fly fisher. Above right, Burke and Wynne with barracuda and, at left, Cole with a nice bonefish.



Glenn's comments: "Really special time for all of us. Staff and guides were so good with the kids. We had one morning where all three boats jumped large tarpon (80+ pounds) trolling as the sun was rising. It was one of my favorite

memories ever watching super small people jump fish twice their size. It really was a multi species extravaganza.”

Cute comment.....”seven-year-old Lyle is a most serious fisher person. When she would hook a big fish and the guide would try and help her - she only weighs about 40 lbs – she would tell them that they can’t touch the rod as it would not be an official catch.”

Below, l to r: Burke with tarpon, Lyle and Cole with jacks, Erin with baby tarpon, and the Rising Tide at anchor – the website for the Rising Tide trip is [www.flyfishbelize.com](http://www.flyfishbelize.com)



Below, l to r: Wynne and Glenn with a nice cobia, Erin and a jack, Burke with a fly-caught baby tarpon, and Burke with a snook.



Below, l to r: Erin and a nice snapper, Cole with mackerel, Lyle with a jack, and Burke and a barracuda.



## FLY FISHING TRAVEL NEWS

Here is some information on three of the most difficult to book destinations on the globe.

- **New Zealand:** The exchange rate between US \$\$ and New Zealand dollars is the best I’ve seen in many years, hovering around  $.60\text{US}\$ = 1\text{NZ dollar}$ . An exchange rate in the  $.6$  area makes NZ a bargain! Because NZ has been closed for two years (Covid) and is just now opening again, they are dealing with a backlog of their regular traveling anglers who’ve been waiting to get back. We’ve been working on a few client itineraries attempting to put them together for early 2023.....very difficult as the top guides and lodges are almost fully booked. However, it is possible to assemble a 2024 itinerary now to take advantage of the current exchange rate. If you’d like to see what a list of the initial questions to



be answered when exploring the options of a NZ itinerary, that list is available through this link: [10 Steps To Pre-planning New Zealand](#)

- **Patagonia – Chilean Andes:** Our favorite traditional trout fishing Patagonian lodge is tucked into the Chilean side of the Andes, near the Argentine border. They have the most exciting and varied options in Patagonia and is an owner-operated operation with outstanding service. We have several client trip reports – ask if you’d like to see some. Open 2023 dates:
  - 7 nights / 6 days of fishing - including Palena River Overnight float trip
  - December 18 to December 25 , 2022 - 6 spots
  - January 1 to January 8, 2023 - 6 spots
  - January 15 to January 22, 2023 - 1 spot
  - January 29 to February 5 , 2023 - 6 spots
  - February 19 to February 26, 2023 - 2 spots
  - March 5 to 12, 2023 - 5 spots
- **Cosmoledo and Alphonse/St Francois Atolls, Seychelles:** Cosmoledo and Alphonse Atolls in the Seychelles are both world class saltwater fly fishing destinations, but they differ greatly. Alphonse is “couples friendly” and the more comfortable of the two, while Cosmoledo would be more the isolated, “hardcore fishing type” of operation. Both are very hard to book. Our June newsletter was largely dedicated to trip reports from the Seychelles – this is a link to that newsletter [June '22 Fly Fishing Adventures Newsletter](#). Open 2023 weeks at both:
  - 2023 Cosmoledo: 3/16 – 23; 11/2 – 9, 11/16 – 23 (1 spot)
  - 2023 Alphonse/St Francois: 1/7 – 14 (1 spot); 1/21 – 28; 1/28 – 2/4; 2/25 – 3/4 (1 spot); 3/18 – 25; 4/8 – 15; 4/29 – 5/6; 11/4 – 11 (1 spot); 12/2 – 9 (2 spots)



## WHAT WE DO AT FLY FISHING ADVENTURES

This is a link with a description of who we are and what we do.....also, listing the destinations around the world that we can provide reliable information regarding the experience and how to prepare for your visit:

[Fly Fishing Adventures - About What We Do](#)

## OCTOBER MEMORY PHOTO



Rusty Goff sent us this giant rainbow photo and report – certainly worth some great memories! “Our Son, Billy Goff, who owns Rio Grande Anglers in Creede Colorado, and I caught this in June while floating the Rio Grande River. 29” long and weighed 14+ lbs. Caught in the Rio Grande River as it runs through Creede, Colorado which is in South Central Colorado. Neither of us have seen a fish like this caught on the Rio Grande in the last 35 years?”

PHOTO CREDITS: Bolivia – Andrew and Jim Hine; Belize Rising Tide – the Prichett family

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,

Don Muelrath

Fly Fishing Adventures

[www.flyfishingadventures.org](http://www.flyfishingadventures.org)

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