



IN THIS ISSUE:

- **STREAM FISHING FOR TROPHY GOLDEN DORADO – TSIMANE, BOLIVIA**
- **WHY WE RETURN.....GIANT BROOKIES OF THE MINIPI RIVER**
- **TOP ALASKA LODGE – INCREDIBLE OFFER**
- **A SPECIAL THRILL.....THE FIRST PERMIT**
- **JULY MEMORY PHOTOS**

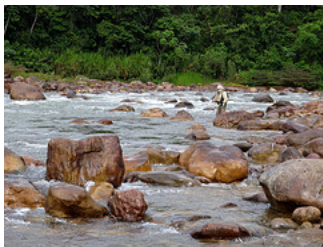
We are in the eighth year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We've been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new destinations. Whatever unbiased information on timing and locations we can provide comes at the same cost to you as booking direct – i.e., **NO EXTRA COST.**

STREAM FISHING FOR TROPHY GOLDEN DORADO – TSIMANE, BOLIVIA

Where the Amazon jungle meets the Andes Mountains in Bolivia are a collection of rivers and streams which provide a wade-friendly environment to fish for trophy Golden Dorado. This jungle remains in an absolute virgin state, but lacks the heat and humidity of the tropical Amazon jungle of Brazil – you can actually get cool here and waders can be comfortable when wading. This fishery combines some of the most desirable aspects of fly fishing: large fish, freestone wading, light tackle/floating lines, majestic scenery, and mountain rivers and streams which can run clear, depending on recent rainfall.



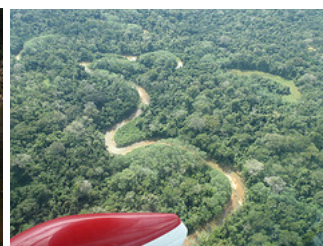
The operation consists of two main lodges and recently, they have opened smaller outpost camps to fish some of the headwaters areas, waters which have never been touched by rod and reel. These outpost camps will not have the comfort level of the main lodges and are for the more adventurous and physically fit.



The prime time here differs dramatically from the more well known northern Argentinean Golden Dorado fisheries. In Argentina, the most productive times range from October through April and into May. The exact opposite months are the best at Tsimane.

Globe hopping fly fisher, Jack Edict (above with Golden), has visited Tsimane twice. Jack's comments and the outstanding photos are Jack's as well as the following comments: "As for Tsimane Lodges and my experiences there, all I can say is WOW,

what an extraordinary experience, on every level, including the fishing, the lodges, the absolutely incredible and remote location, the food, the guides, the staff, the jungle, the indigenous people, their way of life, the waters, the wildlife... everything!"



“All of the rivers and streams we fished were essentially small, but the further up-stream you go, the clearer, rockier (many large boulders), and faster the water becomes. The sight fishing was quite challenging, with fewer opportunities than I had expected, but when they did occur, they were intense. The water can be quite difficult, with many boulders and currents to cast across. A good trout fisherman might have an advantage as long as they can cast the large flies! Muddy water did not hurt the fishing, and, for larger fish, it actually seemed to help. Hell, it was exciting on every cast, muddy water or clear!”

Below - l to r: Amazon type catfish were present; the Pacu (left – middle) is a great sportfish



Below – l to r: lodges were nicely appointed and the group that accompanied Jack



WHY WE RETURN.....GIANT BROOKIES OF THE MINIPI RIVER

As we considered making our reservations for a 2014 return, prime time, to the Minipi River in Labrador for our 8th trip in the last 15 years, we asked ourselves: “This is a long way to go for a couple of California boys.....why do it?” The obvious answer is to sight-cast dry flies to stalked, five to eight pound brook trout. Other answers are we place a high value on “things that are the way they were.” In this remote part of Labrador, the country is undisturbed – it is the way it was centuries ago. Like always, the pike chase the brookies and about half the large brookies bear the scars. The giant brookies rise to the massive mayfly hatches as they have for centuries. Everything is au natural and there is no better place, anywhere, to take a five pound or larger brookie on a dry fly. For us, this has been a classic example of why to repeat an adventure you have enjoyed, building on the experiences of past trips while you learn the fishery.



The reasons, in photos:





TOP ALASKA LODGE – INCREDIBLE OFFER

When special offers come from lodges, it's usually from a "B" or "C" lodge or maybe an "A" lodge for the shoulder seasons. This offer is different..... an Alaska "A" fly out lodge in the heart of prime time. Due to forfeited deposits from a large group that had to cancel late, Bristol Bay Lodge has some discounted prime time space. A regular week at Bristol Bay Lodge in Alaska is \$7,850 per person. This is one of Alaska's top fly out lodges and one we favor due to their outpost camps which add a special dimension to a week with them. The weeks of Aug 3 – 10 and 10 – 17 still have some rods available for just \$4,700 for the week. The week of Aug 10 – 17 is right in the middle of the prime time with the silvers fresh in the rivers and rainbows peaking.

Some reliable client reports on Bristol Bay are available through this link: [Top Alaska Fly Out Lodges](#)

A SPECIAL THRILL.....THE FIRST PERMIT

For a variety of reasons often detailed in this newsletter, the permit is the most exciting stalking challenge in the realm of fly fishing.....and the most difficult fish to take on a fly. For novice salt water fly fishers, the guide is all-important in taking a permit and the guides on the motherships in Belize may be the best anywhere! Proof of that is the high percentage of first timers who take their first permit while on a Meca or Rising Tide trip. In the last few weeks, three more were added to that list. That's Murray Schultz at right with his first permit. At left is Mark Nonis with his first. Murray and Mark were with a few other friends on their first Belize mothership trip.



Murray had these comments on the overall experience: "The weather was indeed a challenge for 3-4 days with rain and high winds with lightning and thunder in the evening. The crew and the boat were fantastic though. I cannot say enough about the captain, crew, and the FOOD! They worked their asses off to ensure that we were happy. I have never been on a trip where the guides are willing to fish as hard as we wanted to. 6am-7pm..... we landed a few Tarpon and lost many large fish."

JOHN LANDIS' FIRST PERMIT IS A "TWIN"

There is a very small number of fly fishers who, on the day they took their first permit, actually took multiple fish.....John Landis just joined this very small club with his first two permit on the same day (one of those is pictured at right). John is relatively new to fly fishing and has worked hard at developing the skills as well as his expertise as a fly fishing photographer (see "Memory Photos" below). He has contributed several photos and photo essays published to our newsletters.



This was John's second Belize mothership trip on the Rising Tide. This trip was sort of a reunion of old classmates. Comments from John about the trip: "Everyone loved the trip. Belize is beautiful and the boat and crew make this trip very special. It was a good time to reconnect. The time on the boat was as enjoyable as the fishing. I was thrilled to get my first permit."

Below, l to r: John with one of his first two permit; jacks are always a tough critter; when the sun goes down in the tropics, some things come alive – nice tarpon taken at dusk by Shelly; John casts to permit.



John's brother, Terry, was on his first saltwater trip and related these thoughts on the trip: "To steal a line from Forrest Gump, fishing in saltwater is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you will get! Although we never caught large numbers of fish, we caught tarpon, permit, snook, jacks, mackerel, grouper, cobia, barracuda, and tuna. Another highlight of the trip was the crew. The cooking was wonderful. Probably the most memorable to me was catching my first tarpon! When I saw that first leap and twist in the air, it was an amazing sight."

Below, l to r: Terry with tarpon; relaxing card game during a break – John in shades, clockwise from him is dealer Shelly Craft, John Davisson, Terry Landis, and Dennis Poor. A pair of Manatees come up for a breath. The group stayed an extra day and visited some Mayan ruins close to Belize City.



JULY MEMORY PHOTOS

These "memory photos" are actually an extension of the photos above by John Landis from their Belize trip, but deserve separate mention! They found a concentration of "Baby Tarpon" in a small mangrove lagoon and John captured this series of babies in the air.





PHOTO CREDITS: Golden Dorado – Jack Edict; first permit – Murray Schultz and Mark Nonis; Rising Tide trip – John Landis and group.

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

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,

Don Muelrath

Fly Fishing Adventures

www.flyfishingadventures.org

888-347-4896