



THE ANGLING REPORT

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2009 Vol. 22, No. 2

DATELINE: TEXAS

**FREE Trip Report
Are You Ready To Go
Stand-up Kayak fishing?**

(Editor's Note: Anyone who has ever tried to flyfish from a standard kayak, whether cockpit or sit-on-top version, knows that it usually doesn't work very well. Casting from a confined, seated position is awkward, and spotting fish is almost impossible. Enter South Texas Fishing and a FREE Fishing offer they gave us to get an on-scene report on some "stand-up" kayak fishing trips they are offering in the Lower Laguna Madre down in Texas. Subscriber David Fleig got the nod for this FREE trip. See our website, www.anglingreport.com, for more details on our FREE Fishing Program.)

They say variety is the spice of life and I recently enjoyed a most interesting new experience - flats fishing along the lower Texas coast from "stand-up" kayaks. I did so through the *The Angling Report's* FREE Fishing Program. Host for my adventure was Jeff Kean of South Texas Fishing LLC (956-343-3829; www.txlodge.com), who outfits his trips out of Casa Arroyo City Lodge located on the Arroyo Colo-

rado River near the famed Laguna Madre.

The objectives of this trip were to assess his trips and his lodge, as well as the Freedom Hawk Expedition 14 "stand-up kayaks" (www.freedomhawkkayaks.com) he uses to get his anglers on the water. First, the kayaks: These kayaks are different. Flush lever handles on each side of the craft



are easily accessed by a seated angler to split the last three feet or so of the kayak and deploy two pontoons. When closed, these pontoons function as a standard kayak stern; when opened they form a "split tail," resulting in an amazingly stable platform, even in choppy water. The boats used by South Texas Fishing are dark olive

drab which, Jeff Kean believes, does not disturb nearby game fish. My experience for two days suggests he is right about that.

All boats are compromises, and the stability of these kayaks comes at the price of speed and maneuverability. Nonetheless, I still found them relatively easy to paddle.

Now to the water: The roughly five-mile run to the bay from the lodge is lovely even in winter. Shore birds are plentiful, including brown pelicans, great blue herons, snowy egrets and roseate spoonbills. The bonus this time of the year is thousands of migrating waterfowl of many species.

The Lower Laguna Madre is an enormous flats fishing Mecca covering 268 square miles with an average depth of only two feet. The southern end is near Port Isabel, close to the Mexican border. From there, it runs almost 70 miles north to the "land bridge" south of Corpus Christi. This remote and pristine lagoon is flanked by the King Ranch to the west and Padre Island National Seashore to the east. I would estimate that over 60 percent of the bay floor is covered by several varieties of sea grass which filters the water and keeps it very clear even in relatively high winds. I have fished the Lower Laguna for over 20 years, and it can hold its own with any saltwater flats destination I have experienced, including Florida, the Bahamas, Belize, the Mexican Yucatan and Los Roques.

The areas we selected for our drifts had small sandy potholes dispersed throughout the fishing landscape. The fish we were targeting, spotted sea trout ("specks") and red drum ("reds") tend to hang in the grass beside the potholes to ambush baitfish, crabs and shrimp.

On Day One of our exploration,

**SUPPORT OUR
CORPORATE SPONSORS**



**Dream
Outdoors**

IN THIS ISSUE

Bahamas

News About Nassau, San Salvador, Grand Bahama
PAGES 3 - 6

US West

Major Hatches - Part II:
The Salmonfly Hatch
PAGES 4 - 5

Europe

An Intriguing New Option
On France/Italy Border
PAGES 6 - 7

Hawaii

Some Brand-New Information
On The Bonefishing Situation
PAGES 7 - 8

Thailand

Update On The Safety Issue.
Plus, A New Fishing Operator
PAGES 9 - 10

Subscriber Trip Reports

New Brunswick, Argentina, Alaska.
Plus, Two Alaska Controversies
PAGES 11 - 16

THE ANGLING REPORT

the lodge's 21-foot Dargel flats skiff ferried us and our kayaks to our starting position for a drift down the western edge of the main bay a few hundred yards inside the "big ditch" (Inter Coastal Waterway). Conditions were windy, 15 to 20 mph; and, worse, we had 90 percent cloud cover until it was too late in the day to matter. These conditions made sight casting virtually impossible, so we switched to conventional tackle with soft plastic baits. Jeff drifted within 100 yards or less of me in a separate kayak. In all, we drifted approximately six miles, stopping a few times to paddle and reposition our drifts. We also enjoyed a shore lunch on a small spoil island in the middle of the bay.

Despite less-than-favorable conditions I was able to catch a three-fish limit of slot-sized reds (averaging 25 inches) and several specks.

Let me confess that, prior to this trip, I was no fan of kayaks. Their fatal flaw, in my thinking, was poor vision. My passion is sight casting to reds and trout in Texas and bonefish and permit in the tropics. An angler seated in a kayak is very close to the water. It's hard to spot fish from a low angle. However, kayaks are quieter and less obtrusive than even the smallest flats skiffs, allowing closer approach without spooking the fish. When you add the ability to fish from the standing position, this old kayak-

hater quickly became a convert!

On Day Two, in sustained winds approaching 30 mph under mostly clear skies, I hooked what turned out to be a 25-inch speck - perhaps the largest in girth I have ever caught. The wind eventually subsided to 15 to 20 mph but the kayaks were drifting too quickly. We were seeing reds on a fairly regular basis but having difficulty delivering the fly in time due to our rapid movement. Since we didn't have drift socks to slow our drift, we waded with the kayaks just behind us, split tail forward and with a small anchor dragging from the bow. Fishing this way, I eventually landed a 28-inch red which crowded the top of the Texas slot limit.

In the last 30 minutes of our fishing day, drifting in the stand-up position to gain vision as the sun fell, Jeff and I both missed shots. That aside, I am convinced that at least some of the fish we took would never have been caught without the stealthy approach and improved vision provided by the stand-up kayaks.

Based on my experience, I would say that anyone attempting this unique style of flats fishing should be in good to excellent physical condition and reasonably nimble. Intermediate to advanced casting skills are essential. Casting from a drifting kayak is similar to making presentations from the casting platform of a

Honor Roll Subscribers

■ *The Angling Report* encourages subscribers to file reports on great places to fish and/or important news developments that help the rest of us decide where to go (or not to go!) fishing. Subscribers who file unusually important and useful reports are placed on our Subscriber Honor Roll and are sent a complimentary *Angling Report* Honor Roll Fishing Cap. Honor Roll subscribers also get special consideration in the awarding of FREE Trips. You can find out more about our FREE Fishing Program on our website. Click on FREE

Fishing. If you have been on an interesting trip recently, send in a letter-length report and see if you can get on our Subscriber Honor Roll. Send it via e-mail to: doncausey@msn.com. Our newest Honor Roll subscribers are **Richard Young, Walter Kleckley** and **Eldon Larson**, who filed important reports in this issue on bonefishing opportunities in The Bahamas. You can find the complete list of our Honor Roll subscribers on our web site at: www.anglingreport.com. Click on Honor Roll Subscribers.



THE ANGLING REPORT

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

Don Causey

MANAGING EDITOR

Tim Jones

MARKETING MANAGER

Edi Bell-Suffoletto

INFO. SYSTEMS MANAGER

Nicholas Titus

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Tracy Sanchez

ILLUSTRATIONS

Gordon Allen

The Angling Report

800-272-5656

The Angling Report (ISSN: 1045-3539) is published monthly by Oxpecker Enterprises, Inc., 9200 S. Dadeland Blvd., Suite 523, Miami, FL 33156-2713. Periodicals Postage Paid at Miami, FL, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Angling Report, 9200 S. DADELAND BLVD STE 523, MIAMI FL 33156-2713. The Angling Report is not a booking agent, nor is it affiliated with a booking agent, outfitter or guide.

How can we help you?

New Subscriptions: A one-year subscription costs \$49. Add \$11 per year in Canada/Mexico. \$29 overseas. Visa/MC/Amex ok. Contact us on the web (www.anglingreport.com), by phone (305-670-1361), by fax (305-670-1376), by e-mail (mail@anglingreport.com), or by regular mail (The Angling Report, 9200 S. Dadeland Blvd., Suite 523, Miami, FL 33156-2713).

Online Extra Upgrade: One year cost \$24, in addition to regular subscription fee. Puts one on list to receive e-mail invitations to go fishing FREE in return for filing a report. Also, invitations to review (and keep) fly tackle. Unlimited access to our Trip Planning Database also included. Plus, e-mail and hard copies of monthly newsletters. Same contact details as above.

Trip Planning Materials: Same contact details as above. By phone, fax, e-mail or regular mail. Do your own searches on our web site, www.anglingreport.com. Click on "Trip Planning Tools." Thousands of pages of subscriber reports and previously published articles.

Subscription Questions: Same contact details as above. On our web site, www.anglingreport.com, click on "Subscribe."

poled skiff but with no guide on pole to turn or stop the boat! Shots at fish may well be close and provide a window of only a few seconds, with second chances rare. Finally, as with other saltwater flats fishing, you must be able to spot the fish! On a sandy bottom, redfish are easier to see than bonefish. On a grassy bottom, spotting them can be a real challenge. Fish-sighting skills become doubly important in a kayak; there is no guide on an elevated platform to assist.

Would I recommend this trip to others? Absolutely, but with the above caveats about physical conditioning and skills.

Jeff Kean is a most gracious host and personally guides all kayak excursions. He is also a trained chef. Don't come here to lose weight! Accommodations at the lodge are spacious and comfortable, including big screen TVs and bedrooms with private baths. Should you not be exhausted after a day on the flats, speckled trout fishing under the dock light at night on the Arroyo is available for most of the year. I enjoyed almost non-stop fishing one evening, releasing roughly three dozen fish in an hour.

For late fall and winter fishing, high-quality breathable waders and booties are essential. Other useful accessories for this kayak adventure are a small dry bag, a GPS and a wearable stripping basket. Sun protection, including good sunglasses, is a must. Enjoy! – *David Fleig*.

*(Postscript: The normal cost of a South Texas "Kayak Fishing Package," which includes two days of fishing and two night's lodging, is \$769 for the low season (November 1 thru March 30) and \$969 for the high season (April 1 thru Oct 31). The package includes airport transfers; waterfront lodging for two nights; two breakfasts; two lunches; one dinner; and orientation, shuttles and use of a kayak with guide. Not included are alcohol and gratuities. Jeff Kean tells us he is offering *Angling Report* subscribers a chance to add one night of lodging plus dinner to this itinerary*

for only \$100 per person, \$150 during the high season.)

DATELINE: BAHAMAS

Honor Roll Reports News About Nassau, San Salvador, Grand Bahama

(Editor's Note: Now, here is a first for us – a trio of Honor Roll Reports rolled into a single Dateline. They are from subscriber Richard Young, Walter Kleckley and Eldon Larson. All three reports break new ground on bonefishing in The Bahamas. See page 2 for more details on our Honor Roll Program.)

So, why is there no bonefishing program in Nassau, the largest city in The Bahamas and cruise ship capital of the entire Caribbean? Well, the answer is –



there is such a program, and we are indebted to subscriber Richard Young for an on-site report. There on a business trip, staying at the huge Atlantis Resort, and with only one day to fish, Young made contact with Secret Soul Fly Fishing Adventures (863-229-1171; www.secret-soul.com) and arranged a half-day trip (\$500 plus a \$100 tip) with guide Aaron "Big Bones" Bain.

Young and his companion fished mainly by wading with some casting from a skiff in a lagoon northeast of Paradise Island. Despite a high wind (which prevented them from fishing the south side of Nassau for larger fish), and despite the fact that this was only their third time fishing for bones, the two anglers landed a total

of seven smallish fish weighing one to two pounds. Young notes that he brought his own tackle but would use the guide's next time. He describes Bain as a good guide and good teacher, and he would recommend the trip to a friend.

Inspired by Young's discovery, we talked to Clint Kemp, the head honcho of Secret Soul (which is an Orvis Endorsed guide service) and discovered that he and Bain do indeed usually fish the south side of the island for bigger fish. The lagoon Young fished is their fallback position on very windy days, or when they are dealing with novice anglers. "Most of our clients are in Nassau for vacations or business," he says. "Some come to us from cruise ships. Typically, they book a half day trip just for the chance to get on the water."

However, Kemp notes that he's developing a second client base of anglers who are traveling to other Bahamas fishing destinations, and who must overnight in Nassau. "Some of these experienced anglers book a half day with us and are amazed at the quality of our equipment — we have two new Beavertail skiffs — and the 20-plus miles of flats we fish. The fish we take are a surprise, too, as large as any in the Bahamas."

It should also be noted that Aaron Bain's brother, Simon Bain, runs an independent guide service in Nassau, booking through Fish In The Bahamas (800-688-5871; www.fishinthebahamas.com/captain_simon.html). At press time, Simon had not returned our call.

□

■ In a second report, subscriber Walter Kleckley walks us through a Do-It-Yourself trip on San Salvador – another virtually unknown corner of the Bahamas fishing scene. He fished the waters around Pigeon Creek. Kleckley says he went the do-it-yourself route because he wanted to do something that allowed him to afford to take his son along. "That ruled out lodges and guides," he writes, going on to note that his experience on San

THE ANGLING REPORT

Salvador was his first attempt at on-
your-own bonefishing.

“My son and I wade fished the whole time. We used a rental car to get us close to where we wanted to be,” he writes. “San Salvador is not known as a bonefish destination and I found little info on the web on fishing there. But if you look at it on Google Earth you can tell there have to be bonefish there. One of the reasons I picked San Salvador was the road system that looked like it would provide easy access to fishable areas.

“I used Google Earth to mark possible access points and road intersections and to set waypoints on my GPS. This turned out to be a very accurate and effective way to proceed. Once we arrived and my son and I started fishing, we set new waypoints whenever we found better access.

“The weather was not ideal. A

cold front came in with lower temps and 15 to 20 mph winds the whole week except for Friday, our last fishing day. Still, we found some really nice flats in Pigeon Creek. Some were



easier to wade than others. Fish were not around in great numbers, but there were enough singles and groups of two or three fish to keep things exciting.”

Kleckley says he and his son man-

aged to catch only one fish the first two days but caught from three to eight fish each day the last four days. The size of the fish averaged two to four pounds, but he says they caught a couple in the six- to eight-pound range.

Kleckley says the highlight of the trip was spending a week with his son. The fun and pleasure of doing that was enhanced by the sense of accomplishment they got by successfully fishing on their own. He gives the total cost of his trip, including airfare, as around \$2,500 for two persons. One of the advantages of fishing San Salvador, he notes, is convenient air service. You can fly into San Salvador on Bahamas Air without overnighing in Nassau.

“We rented a car for \$75 a day and stayed in part of a house rented out by a local for \$90 a night,” he writes. “As for food, we bought cereal

□ Close-Up: US West

Understanding Major Hatches - Part II

By Bill Cenis

(Editor Note: In Part II of his series on Western fly hatches, correspondent Bill Cenis turns his attention to the famed salmonfly hatch. His report last month was largely on the Skwala stonefly hatch. Enjoy!)

■ In the January issue of *The Angling Report* I focused on early spring hatches, including the Skwala stonefly, blue wing olive, pale morning dun and western March brown mayfly hatches. This month, I focus on the granddaddy of all hatches: the salmonfly hatch.

The western salmonfly hatch is a significant event for trout and trout fishers alike. In both their nymph and adult stages, these insects are large – up to three inches in length. Their size and (I believe) their flashy orange body often send hungry trout into a feeding frenzy. The large dry salmonfly imitations most anglers use are easy for fly fishers to follow on the water. And, of course, because of the size, color and numbers, it's easy to know when the hatch is on.

The salmonfly usually hatches in early June, just about the time runoff begins in the Rocky Mountain West. Timing is important when fishing this hatch. Although Montana biologists and guides have come up with a tentative hatch schedule for major rivers in the state (see postscript below), high water and/or adverse weather can throw the timing off.

Salmonfly hatches begin near the mouth of a river and move upstream. This process can take days. Because of the hatch's popularity, local media, in Montana at least, report not only the beginning of the hatch but also the exact location on the stream the hatch is occurring as it proceeds upstream. The nymphs, easily distinguished by their two short tails, normally inhabit fast water and rapids. The nymphs crawl underwater to the shoreline, and then cling to rocks or bushes to shed their outer shells. I've seen streamside willow branches covered with these super-sized bugs as they prepare to test their flying capabilities. The females then fly over the stream, mate with the males and plop down upon the stream and lay their eggs. In mid-hatch, the flying bugs can be so numerous I've had them bouncing off my body like winged hailstones.

To avoid the heaviest competition from other anglers, some anglers prefer to fish just upstream (ahead) of the actual hatch using size 2 and 4 stonefly nymph imitations in deep runs and shallows along the banks. According to some, if the timing is right, this is the best of the salmonfly fishing. Others prefer to fish in mid-hatch, hoping trout will select their salmonfly imitation over the real thing. Still others are partial to fishing just behind (downstream of) the hatch to avoid the crowds.

And crowded it can be. On Montana's Big Hole near the

THE ANGLING REPORT

for breakfast and sandwich materials for lunch. We ate dinners out at an average cost of \$30 to \$40 per meal.”

The only caution Kleckley raises about his trip is the amount of effort it required to wade fish day after day. You have to be in good enough condition to walk the flats all day to enjoy this trip, he says.

■ Finally, in a third report, Eldon Larson has checked in with our first subscriber report on Water Cay Lodge on Grand Bahama, partly owned by [Angling Destinations](http://www.anglingdestinations.com) (800-211-8530; www.anglingdestinations.com). The lodge is about 20 miles from Freeport, on the north shore of Grand Bahama, an area known for its big bonefish. Easy to reach, the lodge still has a very remote feel to it, Larson says, giving the place a rave review:

“My stay at Water Cay Lodge was

my best bonefishing trip ever,” he writes. “The lodge and food are great, and so are the boats. When you stay at Water Cay, the boats tie up at a dock right out front, and it is only a



three-minute run to fish. That’s a huge improvement over the way some other outfitters on Grand Bahama operate. They start the day by trailering a boat to a ramp, launching, then mo-

toring to the fishing area. All of that can take an hour.

“As for guides, I fished with Ezra, who is unbelievably good. His brother, Sidney, is the head guide, and there is no doubt in my mind as to how good he is. But what about the fish? They are big, abundant and wild. I landed 18 in one day as a cold front moved in. They were all between four and nine pounds. I also lost several that day that would have gone into double digits.

“There wasn’t anything more I could have asked for on this trip except to have my wife there to fish and enjoy it with me. I’m bringing her next time....”

Larson gives the cost of his trip as \$2,995, plus \$300 for single occupancy, for seven nights and six days. (*Postscript:* At press time, we called Scott Heywood of Angling Destina-

town of Divide, I’ve had to wait over a half hour to launch a raft. The profusion of tents and campers at the nearby campground can make the area resemble a refugee camp. Once you get on the water, however, boat traffic thins and the fishing usually proves worth the hassle.

Historically, the Sofa Pillow is a favorite salmonfly imitation, as is a simple stonefly nymph. My personal favorite dry is a large (size 2 to 6) orange-bodied stimulator. Some guides and fly shops have created their own versions – they can tell you on the spot what is working.

Here’s a tentative salmonfly hatch timetable for some major trout rivers across the state of Montana. Just keep in mind that exact timing is subject to weather and runoff conditions: Smith (May 20 to June 1); Blackfoot, Big Hole and Rock Creek (May 25 to June 20); Big Hole (May 25 to June 10); Bitterroot and Clark Fork (June 1 to 15); Gallatin and Madison (June 25 to July 4); and Yellowstone (June 25 – July 14).

The salmonfly hatch is not confined to Montana, of course, or to big or small streams. Other rivers in other western states have a salmonfly hatch, notably the Henry’s and South Forks of the Snake in Idaho; the Roaring Fork in Colorado; Hat Creek, McCloud and Feather rivers in California; the Pecos in New Mexico; the Deschutes in Oregon; and the Blacksmith Fork in Utah.

Many additional rivers throughout the West have a salmonfly hatch. If your favorite is not mentioned here, call any guide service for that stream. Now is the time to make reservations, by the way, as guide services are usually in high demand during the salmonfly hatch.

If you don’t like crowds or can’t time your fishing to one short window, the salmonfly isn’t the only game in town. The golden stone, a mid-sized stonefly, appears on the scene about two weeks later than the salmonfly – sometimes the two overlap. I’ve seen golden in good number into early July.

When nymph fishing with the golden, remember that the bug’s body is actually brown or black. After molt, however, the mature golden’s body is a golden yellow. Like the salmonfly, the golden nymph makes its way to shore, sheds its outer layer, takes flight, mates and then sits on the water to lay eggs. Though it does not draw hordes of anglers, the golden does attract trout and is my personal favorite western stonefly. I believe the golden inhabits more waters than the salmonfly. If I see a golden or two on a bush, or flying above the water, a yellow stimulator is coming out of my fly box, and I’m going to catch fish.

To conclude on the subject of major western hatches, I must confess that I do not know exactly what fly to use to match every hatch. For stonefly hatches, I use the stimulator in various sizes and colors. When a mayfly hatch is on, a parachute Adams will usually do the trick. For caddis, it’s the elk hair caddis. And, finally, when nothing else seems to be working, what many Montanans call the “tourist fly,” (better known as the Royal Wulff) is my fly of choice. These four flies are the must-haves at all times in my fly vest. Enjoy! – *Bill Cenis*

(*Postscript:* You can get a good overview of insect hatches in the state of Montana by visiting: www.fwp.mt.gov/fishing/fishingmontana/hatches.html.)

THE ANGLING REPORT

Day 1: USA to Italy/Malpensa Airport (near Milan). Flights normally depart in the evening and arrive the following morning.

Day 2: Pick-up rental car with GPS (we also provide easy maps) and drive two hours to the Valle d'Aosta region in northwest Italy. Lunch either en route or upon arrival at a four star hotel. Meet fishing guide and chaperone in the afternoon. Tour a medieval castle. There are three within a 10-minute drive. You can see one from the window of the hotel.

Day 3: Six hours guided fishing in local waters; two hours touring with chaperone in the evening.

Day 4: Same services as day three.

Day 5: Leave at 8 am for a three-hour drive through Switzerland into France. Lunch at a neat, small, French country hotel on the river. Four hours guided fishing in the afternoon.

Day 6: Eight hours guided fishing on the French Jura (Special local trout: Mediterranean Brown Tigree which has changed its colors over the years to match the river bottom).

Day 7: Four hours guided fishing in the morning, returning to the hotel in Val D'Aosta in time for dinner.

Day 8: Four hours guided fishing in the morning on Italian streams, followed by lunch and two-hour drive to Malpensa Airport. Return rental car. Stay in 4 star hotel near airport.

Day 9: Complimentary shuttle to Airport, return flight to USA.

"Included in the itinerary are: all lodging, fishing licenses/local permits, fly fishing guide, chaperone, lodging and meals of guide while in France, plus our usual travel booklet providing maps, photos and history. Excluded from the itinerary are: international flights, car rental, gas, tolls, tips and meals (about \$90 to \$100/per day for two, depending on what is ordered). Projected cost is \$5,000 per couple at the present exchange rate of 1 Euro = 1.25 US Dollars. Cost per couple, excluding chaperone and guide for excursion into France, again based on the above exchange rate, is: \$4,150 per couple. All prices are

based on double occupancy, two fishermen/one guide."

□

■ Has anyone fished at the relatively new Big Ku Lodge (907-248-3256; www.royalwolf.com/bigku.htm) in Alaska? We just heard of the place from Brian Gies of Fly Water Travel (800-552-2729; www.flywatertravel.com). Seems the lodge consists of duplex cabins and a small main lodge perched on a bluff overlooking the outlet of Lake Kukakle on the Big Ku river. It's surrounded by Native-controlled land, and was built by Chris and Linda Branham of Royal Wolf Lodge. Strictly fly-in, limited to four to six anglers, Big Ku apparently allows easy access to some world-class trout waters: Big and Little Ku, Battle and American Creek,



the Moraine, Kulik and Kvichak systems. There is also said to be quality water within walking distance.

Gies notes two unique aspects of this lodge which might make it of interest to our readers. First, they will limit the facility to intact groups of four to six anglers if you want a private experience. Second, they are offering partial-week trips and fly-outs as options at several different price levels. Gies lists the 2009 per-person prices as \$5,850 for five nights/four fly-outs; \$5,450 for five nights/three fly-outs; etc.

We have no subscriber reports on Big Ku, and the only report we have on Royal Wolf (entirely positive) is 10 year's old. If you fish Big Ku, do file a report.

□

■ Here at *The Angling Report*, we

have been writing sporadically about bonefish in **Hawaii** for some time, mostly in a downbeat way. Our first report on the subject, way back in October 1996, was entitled, "Why You Can Forget Bonefishing Here." Needless to say, we didn't follow our own advice. We now have five articles and two subscriber reports in our database, all filed since we told you to forget about the subject.

The problems bonefish face in Hawaii are partly geological and partly cultural. The Hawaiian Islands, it seems, are essentially the exposed tops of mountains rising from the ocean floor. This means the water around the islands drops off quickly in most areas, leaving relatively few bonefish flats. The flats that do occur tend to have deeper water and a more difficult bottom for wading and sightfishing than the flats traditionally fished elsewhere in the world. Add to this the fact that the best flats are on the windier, wetter and therefore cloudier side of the islands, and you have a number of complex factors at work against the development of a viable bonefishery.

As for negative cultural factors, the most important one is an established subsistence fishery and a near-absence of harvest regulations. At present, the only restriction on retaining bonefish is a 14-inch minimum length limit. There is no daily catch limit and there are no seasons.

This new information about a local bonefish harvest comes to us from Kimberlee Harding, a marine biologist who is actively involved in ongoing bonefish research in Hawaii. She was among the speakers at a recent symposium sponsored by Bonefish Tarpon Trust (www.tarbone.org).

Harding tells us Hawaii is on the cusp of developing an economically significant sport fishery, and that development is beginning to rub against the traditional consumption patterns. "The cultural significance and importance of fish, including bonefish, to the Hawaiian islands should not be ignored," she says.

THE ANGLING REPORT

"Fish provide a important resource to a lot of communities. The problem is, few people have been responsible in their take of near-shore and offshore fishes. We have practically no enforcement and, unfortunately, that becomes an enabling factor in the irresponsible take of wildlife. To compound the problem, Hawaii's coastline has also been drastically changed by development, altering important nursery habitat.

"Education is the only thing that can make our fisheries healthy again. You can tell people that they can't fish for a particular species, but until they understand and accept the reasoning behind the regulations, those regulations will not be followed...."

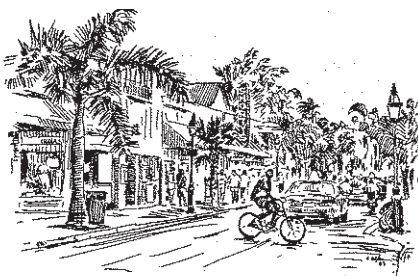
So, how much subsistence harvest is there of bonefish? Harding says it is substantial, but no one knows just how substantial because the take is not recorded. She says one focus of her work has been to reach out to local fishermen to promote catch and release and/or conservation. "I do not want bonefish to become a non-take fishery in Hawaii," she says flatly. "That would run counter to long-standing cultural traditions. But I do want to see regulations drastically changed."

Where do traveling fly anglers fit into this picture? Harding says they can play an important role by helping make catch-and-release sport angling for bonefish a more important part of the local economy. And, incidentally, by helping Harding tag and release bonefish. Tough assignment, but one we're sure *Angling Report* subscribers will rise to!

With that in mind, it is worth noting that we have in our Trip Planning Database first-hand reports on two Hawaiian bonefishing guide services – namely, Clayton Yee's Nervous Water Fly Fishers (808-734-7359; www.nervouswaterhawaii.com); and Dave Hill's Blue Heron Outfitters (406-360-6731; www.bonefishinghawaii.com). Both operate on the main island of Oahu where Honolulu is located.

Harding also keyed us into other guides now operating and tagging fish for research: Terry "Coach" Duff (808-292-9680; www.coachduffshawaiianbonefishing.com); Mike Hennessy (808-366-7835; www.hawaiionthefly.com); and Louie "The Fish" DeNolfo (808-741-5622; www.louiethefish.com/page8.html). She also sent us some terrific maps showing some of the more accessible spots to look for bonefish around the island of Oahu. It is just what you need if you are interested in a do-it-yourself day of fishing. We have posted it to the home page of our website, www.anglingreport.com. Click on: "Oahu Bonefish Spots: 3 Detailed Maps."

Hawaii, of course, is a natural stopover on the way to New Zealand



or Christmas Island. It's also a superb destination to take a non-fishing spouse. And make no mistake, bonefishing in Hawaii has its special appeal – namely, HUGE fish. Eight-pound fish are common and there are unofficial reports of fish that would crack the current all-tackle record.

□

■ Remember our update last month on the Chaiten volcano eruption down in **Chile** from Honor Roll subscriber Robert McMeekin? Well, we have now received another detailed report on the volcano and the damage it has caused to fisheries in the area. This one is from Steve Selway, owner of Puma Fishing LTDA (954-922-5389. www.pumafishing.com). Puma Fishing operates a floating lodge on Lake Yelcho and a land-based lodge on the Yelcho River.

Selway sent us the report after a personal visit to the area last month. Some of what he says corroborates and duplicates what McMeekin said last month, so what follows is an edited version of his report:

"I have just returned from my lodge in the Chaiten area of the Yelcho watershed in the Chilean Patagonia and here is an update on the Chaiten volcano and the effect it has had on the infrastructure of the region, including travel, the waters we fish, the fishing, the air quality, etc. First, the volcano still vents water vapor but of a much decreased and variable height with no significant ash production. It has been like that for over four months. Importantly, there is little ash on the ground in our area. The air is clean except when a vehicle travels on a gravel road or when a strong wind occurs. I am a rather severe asthmatic, and I experienced no asthma during my stay, nor eye or throat irritation.

"The town of Chaiten and its airport have been severely damaged, not by the eruption directly, but because the Rio Blanco which originates near the volcano and runs through the town had its river bed destroyed by mud, ash and debris. Subsequently, the area sustained heavy seasonal rains for three weeks. With no riverbed to carry all that water away, about 80 percent of the town was severely flooded. As for damage to the airport, that has affected the entire region, not just the immediate Chaiten area. It has also created challenges for one of the only industries that generates outside income – namely, sportfishing.

"The Chilean government evacuated all residents of Chaiten at the time of the eruption, and they do not want the people to move back. They want them to build a new Chaiten in an adjacent area. Although residents are allowed into the area, they are not allowed to stay on a permanent basis. The upshot is, we have no airport and no commercial services at Chaiten.

"Fortunately, the Port of Chaiten is open and there is ferry service be-

THE ANGLING REPORT

tween Puerto Montt and Chaiten three days a week. I arrived by this ferry, as we were bringing another vehicle and supplies. The cost of this service is only about \$30 (US), but it does take 10 hours. Sleeping cabins are available at a small additional cost. Otherwise, you sit in seats similar to business class airline seats. There are meals and a snack bar as well.

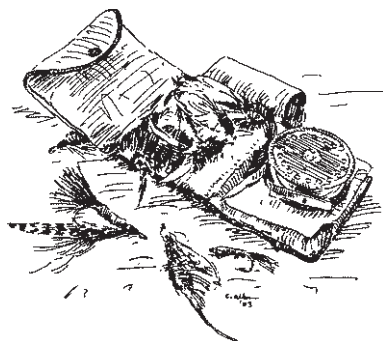
“Since October of last year, there were supposed to be commuter flights to three airports a bit further south (Futaleufu, La Junta, and Alto Palena), with daily flights to one of these three and with two flights a day on the weekends. But, as of last November, flights were available only on Fridays and Saturdays and only to Alto Palena. This means the drive to the lodge from the nearest airport, which used to take only 30 minutes, now takes as much as 2½ hours. I am considering shortening the road travel an hour or more by receiving clients at Puerto Piedra on the Futaleufu River at the south end of Lago Yelcho. This, of course, would be logical only for those clients planning to stay on PUMA II, my floating lodge.

“I was told by the agent handling the commuter flights that the number of flights will be increased after the first of the year and will probably include the other airports as well. I am going to coordinate flights with the agent in Puerto Montt and other lodges in the area so we can use these flights efficiently and avoid cancellation due to under-bookings. The cost of these flights is approximately \$500 (US) round trip.

“Here are two additional developments: First, Parque Pumalin, the acclaimed eco park in which the Chaiten Volcano is located, is closed, and it will remain so until next season. Unfortunately, this means we will not be able to enjoy the fantastic dry fly fishing in the lake that we fish in the park until next season. Second, our brand-new PUMA II mother ship/floating lodge has finally been completed. We expect to have the boat in

the lake the first week in January. As for our land lodge, it is in good order and ready to go.

“The good news buried in the bad news surrounding the eruption of Chaiten Volcano is there will only be PUMA FISHING and possibly one or two other lodges open in our area this season. This means the fishing will be like it was when I first fished the area about 20 years ago. I’m happy to report that all the waters I sampled on my recent trip were in very good shape. The fishing both in Lago Yelcho and Rio Yelcho was probably as good as I have ever experienced. I brought to net 18 fish (up to eight pounds) in a half day in the Bay of Lions, all on dry flies. Capitan Patricio, my resident manager and captain of PUMA II, had similar suc-



cess. I have never caught that many fish in the Bay of Lions, even when I’ve fished a full day there. The north end of the lake produced about 20 to 25 nice fish per day on dries and nymphs. The river fished as well as I have ever experienced the two days we fished it. The numbers of fish brought to net were embarrassing. Without going into detail, in one morning alone, I caught 62 fish. All the fish were in good shape, fought well and showed no negative effects from the eruption. The only waters that I did not fish were the upper (south) end of the lake, Rio Futaleufu and the lake in Pumalin Park. The estuary that we fish for Atlantic salmon and steelhead was quite turbid (probably due to the heat and possibly some effect of the volcano indirectly), but we expect it to be in good shape

by February or March.”

□

■ So, what is the latest on **Thailand** as a fishing destination? We published a lengthy and generally positive FREE Fishing report on this country in the September issue by subscriber David Sylstra. He fished the Khao Laem reservoir for giant snakehead and jungle perch and some stocked, semi-urban lakes for barramundi with Max Skues of Fly Fish Thailand (www.flyfishthailand.net).

Well, we now we have a second report on the Skues operation by subscriber Fred Shvetz who was passing through Thailand on his way to Bhutan in November, 2008. Shvetz didn’t have time to sample the wilderness fishing (which would typically require five to seven days), but he did get to spend two days fishing with Skues on some local private ponds with large fish. He’s generally enthusiastic about the experience and intends to go back to sample the wilderness fishing.

Unlike Sylstra, who brought his own rods and reels (and ran into security problems in transit through Hong Kong), Svetz chose to use tackle provided by Skues, which he describes as “first class.” Certainly, the option to use quality borrowed tackle makes this opportunity more available for anglers who might be passing through, or who are in Thailand on a non-fishing vacation or business trip.

Importantly, Svetz says his fishing went off like clockwork, an important consideration when trying to sandwich fishing into a trip with other activities: “Max is an ex-Atlantic salmon guide from The Hebrides, and he is one of the more organized guides I have met. Everything went on schedule,” says Svetz. “I was met by Max at the airport, and it was an easy drive to his home, where I had very good meals prepared by his wife, Grace - a true lady. Max and Grace make you feel right at home, but at the same time you have your own privacy. I rate the food and accommodations as excellent.”

THE ANGLING REPORT

Svetz is well aware that the fishing he experienced was not what he would have found on a longer, more elaborate fishing-specific trip. Still, he reports landing nine barramundi ("which fought like tarpon") ranging in size from five to 12.5 pounds and losing about the same number. He also landed two Amazonian red tail catfish of about 22 pounds each and he lost one in the 40-pound range after fighting it for 40 minutes. "The catfish slowly stripped out my line into the backing. He just didn't quit," Svetz writes.

Svetz also tried for pacu but found them scarce. "I was simply not able to hook a pacu on a fly," he writes. "However, I observed one fisherman from the UK hook and land a rather large one on live bait."

Despite the ok fishing he found, Svetz has some minor reservations about recommending the experience: "If you are traveling in Asia and can pass through Bangkok, the pond fishing for two or three days is something

very different than anything most American fisherman have experienced. However, I am not sure fishing in stocked ponds for exotic, though trophy-sized, fish would be of sufficient interest to justify it as a destination opportunity. I look forward to joining Max on a future jungle trip when my schedule permits a longer stay in Thailand."

Fortunately, both Sylstra and Svetz were out of Thailand before political protests shut down that country's main airports in late November. At that time, the US State Department issued a Travel Advisory warning US citizens of airport closures, large-scale demonstrations and possible isolated outbreaks of political violence.

Near press time, we contacted



Skues about the political situation in Thailand. Here's his reply: "Let's set the record straight. There have been NO riots in Thailand. What we have had were political protests, and they took place mostly at Government House. These were peaceful protests for the most part. The occupation of the main airports by political protesters - which is what made the most international news - was a disaster for us. It stranded many tourists, and this has severely impacted our tourism economy. In fact, it has reduced it by 80 percent. Your readers need to know that the airport occupations ended nearly a month ago. Since then, all air traffic is as normal.

"Thailand is not some kind of 'war zone' like Iraq or Afghanistan, although irresponsible reporting by

CNN, etc. suggests otherwise. There has never been a better time to visit Thailand, as hotel prices have been cut to rock bottom.

"As for our operation, we have added expedition fishing in the jungle (which requires an overnight) and river fishing on the River Kwai Noi for jungle perch. We have also developed some new river fishing on the Burma border, and we are arranging float trips on the Kwai Noi. Tell your subscribers to come fish with me."

(*Postscript:* It is worth noting that we have discovered another fishing company in Thailand called "Fly Fishing Thailand," (www.flyfishingthailand.com; email: fft@flyfishingthailand.com). The company has been in business for seven years. It is owned by a Ms Sabaitip Mahahong. We talked to her English-speaking representative at press time, Mr. John Martin, and learned that they are offering guided catch-and-release fly fishing on a water called Kingfisher Lake near Bangkok. The cost is 8,000 Baht (about \$240 at this writing) per day. They also offer fishing on a large lake called Ciao Lan in Surat Thani province, about (400 miles from Bangkok). This program is based out of a floating lodge accessed by motorized pirogues. The representative told us the lake offers snakeheads, jungle perch, panfish and even mahseer. But fair warning - Martin says catching a giant snakehead here on a fly can be difficult. "I don't want people to think it's easy and be disappointed, but it can be done," he says. He declined to give a firm price for this expedition, noting that prices in Thailand are changing rapidly as this is written.)

■ Subscriber Bob Dahlberg's report last month about fishing with Louisiana redfish guides Gary Taylor, Blaine Townsend and Greg Arnold inspired some important feedback, as witness below. Dahlberg, you'll recall, was inspired to visit Louisiana and fish with the aforementioned guides by reading an enthusiastic re-

Our Tipping Survey Is Finished!

■ Our "Survey of Attitudes Toward Tipping On Fishing Trips" is finished. You can download a free copy now by going to our web site www.anglingreport.com. Click on "A Survey Of Attitudes Toward Tipping On Fishing Trips." Alternately, we can mail you copy. Enclose \$2.50 for postage and handling in the US; \$5 outside the US. We consider this survey so important we encourage you to pass it on to friends and associates. Fishing professionals are invited to do the same thing. Our only request is that you credit us as follows: Survey Conducted By The Angling Report, www.anglingreport.com. If you are among the subscribers who contributed to this survey, thank you. If you want to comment on it, please do so. Electronic publishing of this survey allows us to add comments as they come in. Write: doncausey@msn.com.

THE ANGLING REPORT

port in these pages by Lefty Kreh. Dahlberg's trip, though enjoyable, did not produce the results Kreh had.

Harry W. Robertson, III writes: I was on that trip with Lefty Kreh that Bob Dahlberg mentions in his report. We fished with Captains Gary Taylor and Blaine Townsend, two of the guides Dahlberg fished with. Lest anyone think Lefty failed to describe his experience accurately, I have a picture of Lefty and me with a 26-pound fish I caught after having let the Master conquer five fish in that average size. He asked politely that day for me to fish after each fish, and he was sincere. It was a special day with the two best guides that state has to offer. — *Harry Robertson, of Hanover Fly Fishers, Ltd., LLC, www.hanoverfly.com.*

John Schneider writes: Just read the redfish report by Bob Dahlberg. I have fished with both Gary Taylor and Blaine Townsend many, many times and consider them friends as well as good guides. I only know Arnold by reputation and from reports from some of his clients. All in all, I think Dahlberg's report was accurate. Since I am the guy who arranged the trip for Lefty Kreh, I can attest to the accuracy of his report. I was in his boat most of the time, and I shared a boat with several of his friends the rest of the time.

It's unfortunate that hurricanes have dealt our area such devastating damage. The fish are always there, but the marsh is changing dramatically.

The larger land masses are being slowly divided and reduced. Also, lots of the aquatic marsh grasses are being killed by the very high salinity. Lefty was amazed at the rapid land losses Louisiana is experiencing. We had excellent conditions for Lefty's trip, and quite a few fish in the 20-pound range were landed by all three boats. The very large fish are there, but as with any type of trophy hunting, the conditions must be right and Mother Nature is always in charge. It



would be a mistake to assume that it is easy or normal for every angler to tangle with a 20-pound redfish. Several of my friends and I have caught reds exceeding 40 pounds on the fly. I have had days with over 30 fish exceeding 15 pounds, with a dozen exceeding 20 pounds. Those are the glory days that one remembers. I have also had days when we could not buy a fish for many reasons.

It is always a pleasure to be on the water for me, no matter how the fish are biting. The saltwater marsh is

unique and full of life. We are lucky to have a few really professional sight fishing guides that specialize in redfish. I would be more than happy to tell any of your readers about my guide and area preferences. Louisiana has some great food, music and untouched marshes. Unfortunately, our marsh is rapidly disappearing at the rate of 50 square miles a year. One day it will be gone, so your readers should go ahead and sample the best sight fishing for redfish our country can provide. — *John Schneider, crowhunter@mac.com.*

□

■ And, finally, in case you haven't already heard, a fire on New Year's Eve destroyed the main building at Cheeca Lodge in Islamorada, **Florida**, one of the iconic fishing lodges (and angler watering holes) in the Keys. The information we have says that the fire may have started in the palm-thatch canopy along the edge of the building, possibly by a cigarette dropped out of a room.

The fast-moving fire was confined to the main building, we understand, but the damage there was extensive. We called Cheeca at press time and the spokesperson would only say that damage assessment is still incomplete. They are currently planning to re-open at the end of June, she said. We got the definite impression that that was nothing more than a tentative goal. For continuing updates, go to: www.cheeca.com.

● OUTFITTER CRITIQUES ●

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

(This section of The Angling Report is based entirely on subscriber-written Fishing Trip Report Forms. Our policy on these forms is we publish excerpts in the newsletter of Angler Network Forms as received and exert no censorship. Agents, guides, lodge operators and/or outfitters who disagree with anything said about them in this section are free to submit a rebuttal. As a subscriber, you can help extend the reach of this program by filing a Fishing Trip Report Form yourself. You should have found one inside this issue of your newsletter. Alternately, you can file a report online by going to our website, www.anglingreport.com. Click on File A Report. For details on how to order printouts of Angler Network Reports, see page 2 of this issue.)

■ Subscriber Bob Tyrrell fished for Atlantic salmon at Wilson's Sporting Camps (877-365-7962; www.wilsons.camps.nb.ca) on New Brunswick's Miramichi River this past September

and came away impressed enough to give the Orvis-endorsed lodge an "excellent" rating across the board. According to Tyrrell, he and his three companions hooked about 16 fish

over five days and landed 11 using floating lines on No. 8 rods and a local "hot" fly called the Green Machine. The biggest salmon landed weighed 10.5 pounds; most of the

THE ANGLING REPORT

fish were grilse.

Transportation up and down the river was by traditional 28-foot canoes with outboard jets, Tyrrell says, but all of the fishing involved wading. He reports that the weather generally cooperated during his visit: "We had mainly cloudy days, with only about 40 minutes of rain and little wind. Water levels in the river were considered good, though some rain was needed to bring fresh fish upriver."

Though this was his first trip for Atlantic salmon, Tyrrell was clearly happy with his experience: "The fishing was tough, as we were there probably two or three weeks too early. But Wilson's is a first-class operation with good accommodations, terrific food, great guides and 16 pools on North America's most prolific Atlantic salmon river. There were lots of fish in the river, but we all know they're there to spawn, not feed, so it was a case of cast, cast, cast . . . patience is key. The tedium of it all is amply offset by the spectacular beauty of the river, the wonderful stories of the guides and the simple joy of fishing a classic salmon stream."

Tyrrell gives the cost of his trip as approximately \$4,000, and he notes that the Atlantic Salmon Museum and Atlantic Salmon Association Hall of Fame is about 10 miles down the road and worth a visit.

(Tim Jones postscript: As Tyrrell reports, the Miramichi is indeed primarily a grilse river, but that is changing over time as regulations preclude the keeping of large salmon. According to Wilson's website, a 52-inch hen salmon — which would likely weigh between 50 and 60 pounds — made it all the way to the barrier pool in the upper reaches of the Main Southwest Miramichi at Juniper recently. Current New Brunswick regulations allow you to catch and release up to four salmon per day or retain one grilse under 63 cm per day before you must quit fishing.)

□

■ Subscriber Thomas Pak checked

in this month with a positive report on Arroyo Claro Lodge (www.arroyoclaro.com). E-mail: jorge@arroyoclaro.com) with special kudos for host/personal guide Jorge Graziosi. Pak booked this trip with Chip Bates at Angler Adventures (800-628-1447; www.angleradventures.com), and he fished this past December during an unusually warm spell.

According to Pak, the drill here is to float the rivers for access, then wade to fish, mostly with large attractor dries and streamers on five- to seven-weight rods. He describes his catch as "numerous" rainbow trout in the 12- to 22-inch range, some very nice browns and a few brookies. Among the highlights of the trip was a 26-inch brown (about six pounds) that "...hit a brown woolly bugger



like a ton of bricks and fought like a bulldog."

Pak notes that this was his third trip with Jorge. He calls Jorge a great host and very knowledgeable guide, but notes he doesn't guide much personally anymore. "He likes to guide me because I'm a little guy, I fish solo and I like to smoke cigars with him," Pak writes. "On previous trips, I've fished with several of his other guides who are all great, including his son, Sebastian, and Juan Pablo."

Pak notes it is a bit of a pain to get to Arroyo Claro Lodge: "You need to fly to Bariloche and then drive for three hours south, much of it on gravel roads. So I would plan on spending at least five or six days fishing here, unless you want to combine fishing here with fishing in some other places in the Lakes region."

Pak sums up his recommendable trip this way: "Great fishing, great lodge, great location." He gives the cost of his trip as \$3,400.

□

■ Subscriber Bryan Whiting simply can't say enough good things about the fishing he and his son had last July on the Kanektok and Arolik Rivers in Alaska. Their trip was based in a fixed tent lodge called Alaska West. The operator is Deneki Outdoors (800-344-3628; www.alaskawest.com). He writes:

"My family had been to Alaska West in August 2004 and 2006, fishing for silvers. This time, my son and I wanted to catch a fresh king, so we went the first week in July and spent six of our seven days focused on kings. On our best day we landed 14 kings; our slowest day three. They averaged 25 to 30 pounds. Our largest weighed 42 pounds. You could also catch as many chum and sockeye salmon as you wanted. The chums averaged 12 to 15 pounds with the occasional one nearing 20. The sockeyes weighed six to eight pounds.

"We also spent one day on the Arolik, a neighboring river about half the size of the Kanektok, where we targeted rainbows and grayling with mouse flies on top and sculpins deep. The rainbows would eat anything, including eggs, even though nothing was spawning yet. The mouse fly fishing was extraordinary. All you had to do was cast the mouse up on the grass, drag it off, swim it next to the bank and the fish would literally rush the fly. The largest fish here, which ran upwards of 25 inches, preferred sculpins, but catching 20-inch rainbows on the surface with a mouse fly is hard to beat. My son and I each landed 20-plus rainbows before lunch and didn't bother to keep track after that. We caught a similar number of grayling, with the largest measuring about 20 inches.

"Both the leopard rainbows and the grayling were just plain beautiful. The Arolik is crystal, crystal clear. You can literally see specific rocks at

THE ANGLING REPORT

the bottom of an eight-foot-deep hole. You can look and look and swear there are no fish. Then, when you cast, there are suddenly a multitude of brilliant red stripes on the sides of the rainbows attacking your fly. The grayling would reflect a golden color as they rose.

"We generally used jet boats for access, then waded. A few times we anchored up and fished from the boat in a tidewater section of the river. Most of the fishing for kings was with big tube flies in a variety of colors. The overall best seemed to be blue/black and red/pink. The problem with the red/pink was that, if a king didn't hit it out in the main channel, a chum would hit it as soon as it finished the swing. Then you'd have to play the chum, land it and release it. Great fun, but all I could think about, as I was playing a chum, was there might be a king going by right now. Nice problem to have, however.

"The first afternoon, we arrived at camp at 2 pm and were on the water by 3pm. My son could hardly wait to jump out of the boat as we stopped at the first gravel bar. On his second cast, halfway through the swing, the tip of his rod went from parallel to the water to nearly in it. Line was screaming from his reel as Matt, our guide, said: "Jump in the boat! It looks like we're chasing this one." Fifteen minutes and three bends in the river later, Jason looked at me and smiled as Matt scooped up his first king. It's a look I will never forget and only a Dad can appreciate.

"Obviously the fishing we experienced was extraordinary, far beyond expectations, but so was everything else, including the camp, the food, the staff and the guides. Ultimately, though, it was the Kanektok River that made this trip special. It is just full of fish. Go upriver from the camp and you can explore channel after channel, never hearing another boat all day. On these channels we saw moose, caribou, bears digging out beavers, rainbows hiding under deadfalls and eagles grabbing up sock-

eyes. The only problem with fishing at Alaska West is that both the place and the fishing are addictive. You may physically leave the Kanektok, but it never leaves your mind."

(Postscript. Whiting gives the cost of his trip as \$4,500 per person.)

□

■ Still on the subject of recommendable **Alaska** fishing trips, subscriber David Fleig has this to say about his trip last August to the Copper and Gibraltar rivers near Lake Iliamna: "I hosted some clients on a black bear hunt in southeast Alaska a few years back, and the experience left me wanting to return to focus exclusively on fishing. My plans to do that accelerated last May when my wife and I met Jim King of Yellow Dog Flyfishing Adventures (888-777-



5060; www.yellowdogflyfishing.com). We were at Turneffe Flats Lodge in Belize at the time, and we began to discuss the possibilities there. The finalist turned out to be Alaska Rainbow Point Lodge (877-850-5858; www.akrpl.com), as it seemed to be perfect for a couples trip. The accommodations are very nice and they take a maximum of eight guests per week, King said. We expected to fish for rainbow trout, several species of salmon, dolly varden, grayling and perhaps char. More on that later....

"We flew to Anchorage and spent Sunday evening at the Millennium Hotel near the big airport. Early the next morning, we grabbed a cab to a smaller airport a few miles away to catch our flight on Lake Clark Air (800-662-7661) to Iliamna. From there, the lodge had arranged for a

float plane to deliver us to our home for the week. All flights were smooth and on time. We were warmly greeted by the AKRPL staff and fed an early lunch, at which point we 'waded up' and headed out to fish for the rest of the day.

"Due to strict observance of the Sabbath, AKRPL does not allow guests to arrive (or depart) on Sunday, which means all guests must begin their week after arriving from some other location (usually Anchorage) on Monday morning. Day one is billed as a full day of fishing, which is simply not the case. Having said that, however, the fishing on Monday and the rest of the week was fantastic, so in our case at least the late start on Monday didn't matter.

"The rainbow trout fishing for the week was sensational. The lodge uses jet boats to fish the lower stretch of the nearby Copper River and, on three of our days, we flew out to the lakes above the Copper and Gibraltar rivers to float fish our way downstream in nicely equipped rafts. While we caught some fish during the week from the rafts, we used them primarily to get to the next likely spot to wade fish. Our personal guide, Dave Kraft, worked very hard all day, every day, not just helping us catch fish, but also making up some mighty fine shore lunches.

"This was late August and the trout were singularly focused on eating eggs, so we fished with beads almost exclusively. The sockeye salmon producing the eggs were so abundant that they literally became a nuisance at times. Still, witnessing firsthand the culmination of their amazing life cycle was a real privilege and fascinating.

"We caught and released hundreds of quality rainbows during our week of fishing. An early highlight was a 50-plus-fish day on the lower Gibraltar. That day, Dave and I took the lodge's big boat across the lake (Lake Iliamna is 75 miles long and 20 miles wide), and we hiked up a mile or so through some beautiful country,

THE ANGLING REPORT

including a dense stretch of woods where fresh moose rubs were evident on trees along the trail. I assumed this day would be the highlight of the week. That did not turn out to be the case, however, as Dave and I, a few days later, floated the Gibraltar alone and brought an astounding 70-plus rainbows to the net. The fish averaged more than 20 inches. It quickly became apparent that the day was going to be the number one fishing day of my life!

"I must admit my wife and I were somewhat disappointed that the variety of fish and fishing locations mentioned on the lodge's website and in its brochures were not explored while we were there. We both thought it would be great to catch some salmon

and have it shipped home. However, the guides at AKRPL appeared to have no interest at all in fishing for salmon.

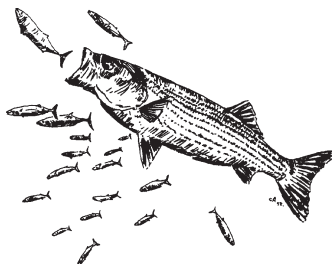
"That problem aside, our week at AKRPL was great. I highly recommend the lodge to anyone interested in trophy rainbow trout fishing. At around \$6,800 per person, not counting airfare, it is a pricey trip, but that is in line with other exclusive Alaskan fishing lodges, according to the folks at Yellow Dog."

□

■ How often do you find a guide that you add to your Christmas card list? Subscriber David Frances says that he's done just that with guide Kalil Boghdan of Downriver Charters (978-407-7901; www.downrivercharters.com)

Correction

■ Oops. In the December issue, it appears we gave the wrong name for a lodge on Andros Island in the Bahamas – namely, Two Boys Inn. We mistakenly called the place Neymour's Guest House. We did have the right web address for the place (www.twoboysinn.com or www.twoboysinnandros.com), and the land line phone number we gave was right as well. However, subscriber Cameron Dilley tells us Frankie and Melinda Neymour's cell phone numbers are more likely to be working these days than the lodge's land line number. Their cell numbers are: 242-554-1233; and 242-464-3485. We regret the errors. Dilley, incidentally, is the subscriber who filed the report we published in December pointing out that Two Boys Inn is wonderfully inexpensive and good. He says he's just back from another trip to Two Boys Inn, and nothing has changed except for some upgrades to the rooms and landscaping. He reiterates his rave review. You can read his report on page 8 of the December issue. Or you can retrieve it from our Database by asking for Article No. 2248.



.com) on the Essex River, Cape Ann, Massachusetts, north of Boston.

Frances fished with Boghdan three days this past July, his second trip with him. "Our quarry was striped bass and, we hoped, chopper blues to liven things up," he writes. "While the blues didn't cooperate on our trip this year, my wife Kim and I had a blast catching schoolie stripers."

Frances discovered Boghdan in 2007. "I'm not a huge fan of Orvis guides (we've had bad experiences with Orvis guides we've hired in Florida, but that's another story), but after speaking with Kalil, I was impressed enough with him that we decided to book him. We had such a good time I wanted to return.

"Kalil is a retired high school science department chairman, with a Ph.D. in biology, thoroughly versed

in the behavior of striped bass and bluefish, as well as the natural history and ecology of the area. He fishes the historic Essex River near Cape Ann, Plum Island, Crane Beach and Hog Island from a 20-foot Lund Alaskan with a full complement of brand new 7-, 8- and 9-weight Orvis fly rods. He also has medium-light spinning rods.

"Kalil treats you like family on a trip. He takes plenty of pictures so you can concentrate on fishing, and he mails you a CD of your pictures after your trip.

"Fishing on the Essex River seems to peak at the bottom of the falling tide and the start of the incoming tide. Kalil will advise on tidal conditions when you book your trip with him, and arrange start and stop times accordingly. His charters are priced for two anglers – half-day charters run \$250, and full-day charters are \$375. His full-day charters last at least eight hours, and more if the fishing is good. You will feel like you've gotten your money's worth.

"Kalil is an enjoyable guide and host, and Kim and I are looking forward to planning another trip with him in 2009. As far as activities other than fishing in his area, the Cape Ann/Essex area is filled with history, quaint little B&B's, stores for shopping and wonderful restaurants."

Controversies

• Subscriber John Harrison says he and his group of seven other anglers enjoyed their trip to Dave Egdorf's Wilderness Camp on the Nushagak River in Alaska this past September, and he congratulates the Egdorf's on the remarkable job they have done putting such a remote camp together. However, he concludes that he personally would not repeat the trip. The reasons for his discontent include rainbow fishing that was not up to what he expected, long runs daily to get to the fishing area and some simple camp shortcomings such as the absence of a drying area for clothing and the practice of turning the generator off early each night. He also complains that Dave Egdorf used the

THE ANGLING REPORT

camp's reserve boat while he was there to take his daughter moose hunting. "Indeed, Egdorf seemed more focused on his moose hunt than on our fishing party during the latter

part of the week," Harrison writes.

Pat Pendergast of The Fly Shop and Dave Egdorf have both filed extensive rebuttal statements that are must reading by anyone seeking to

understand the problems that developed on this trip. Their comments clarify what this trip is set up to deliver, and they put in perspective some of the shortcomings Harrison

More Fishing Reports

(Editor Note: Over the past few months we have received reports on fishing trips in the following parts of the world. All of these reports have been added to our Trip-Planning Database and copies of them can be obtained through our Trip-Planning Service. See page 2 for details on how to place an order. Online Extra subscribers can view the full text of these reports free on our web site at www.anglingreport.com/online_extra/index.cfm.)

Alaska: The remote and uncrowded Kisaralik River and Frontier River Guides (877-818-2278; www.frontierriverguides.com) are the subject of a positive report by Oscar Martinez who floated the river the first week in August, 2008. Rainbows were abundant, especially later in the trip, grayling were numerous ("more than you want") and silver salmon were there "when needed," according to Martinez who notes that good equipment is a necessity on this long float. He gives his outfitter and personal guide Marty Decker excellent ratings.

Alberta: Paul Oldaker took a day off from working in the Calgary area to float the Bow River with Westwinds Fly Shop (403-278-6331; www.telusplanet.net/public/flyshop/). He rates the Fly Shop and his personal guide, Dwayne Visser, as "good" across the board, and notes that rainbows were "average," while both browns and whitefish were scarce, perhaps due to a cold front that moved through late in the day.

Bahamas: Tom Collins has nothing but good things to say about a one-day October trip to Green Turtle Cay on Abaco Island, fishing with Ronnie Sawyer (877-459-9108; www.go-abacos.com/ronnie/): "Ronnie was on-time, organized, had the day planned and it was a pleasure to be on his boat for the day," he writes. Collins says the abundant bones averaged two to five-pounds. He lists the cost as \$425 (*Editor note:* Sawyer's website gives his prices as \$200/half day, \$300/full day.)

Belize: Subscriber Kenneth Spint has

checked in with a report on El Pescador Lodge after fishing there this past September. He targeted mainly tarpon and had shots at six fish, hooking two, landing one of about 25 pounds in four days. He describes the bonefish in the area as abundant and eager. Spint notes that weather was a negative factor - namely, a dark sky hindered sight fishing, and he lost a full day of fishing to rain squalls. On top of that, Hurricane Ike shut down Houston airport on his way to the lodge, delaying his luggage. Problems aside, he gives high marks to the lodging, noting the villa he stayed in was beautifully constructed, outfitted and maintained. The staff's attention to detail reminded him of "a four-star cruise line." His says his non-fishing wife enjoyed "the two pools, reading and excellent meals." He booked the all-inclusive \$5,000 trip (for two) through Yellow Dog Fly Fishing (888-777-5060; www.yellowdogflyfishing.com). He notes they were particularly helpful in sorting out the transportation problems caused by the hurricane.

• Subscriber Frank Hallowell visited the same lodge in October, targeting "abundant" bonefish and "average" permit. He reports landing 100-plus bones and his wife landed her first permit. Muddy water on the tarpon flats due to an unusual west wind limited their shots at tarpon, however, and their chances for a Grand Slam. Hallowell booked his trip through Frontiers (800-245-1950; www.frontierstravel.com) and lists the price as \$4,395 for two.

• Med Peck gives Turneffe Flats (www.tflats.com) an across-the-board excellent rating for a fishing and scuba trip he booked through Orvis (800-547-4322; www.orvis.com/travel). He found lots of small bonefish (most of them were one- to two-pounders, he says), and he managed to land six or seven each day. He notes that he saw permit every day, too, though none would take. "A very well-run lodge with great food and world-class scuba diving," is his assessment. Cost of the trip is given as \$4,153.

Christmas Island: Subscriber Jim Vogel

rates the accommodations "fair" and the food only "good" at the Captain Cook Hotel after a recent visit, but he calls the fishing on Christmas Island "excellent." "Where else is a 30- to 40-bonefish day not only possible but fairly common?" Vogel writes, noting he encountered some large bones, too: "I hooked (and lost) a couple of fish that looked to be in the 10-pound class." He also notes that he saw more than a dozen trevally a day when he was targeting that species. He booked his trip through Frontiers (800-245-1950; www.frontierstravel.com).

Florida: Subscriber Chad Allen weighed in this month with a lengthy, detailed and positive report on drift fishing the flats around the Bradenton-Sarasota area with Jack Hartman of Lucky Dawg Charters (941-951-0819; www.sarasotafishingcharters.com). Allen describes mostly spin fishing for a variety of species including tarpon, redfish, sea trout, snook, jacks and many others, but notes that Hartman guides fly anglers as well. Hartman's rates (for the boat and guiding, which may be split among two or three anglers) are \$250 for 4 hours and \$500 for 8 hours, but he has other options, including summer specials and six-hour tarpon trips.

Montana: Art Carlson and his wife, Sue, visited Five Rivers Lodge (800-378-5006; www.fiveriverslodge.com) in Dillon, Montana, which fishes the Beaverhead, Big Hole, Ruby, Madison and Jefferson Rivers, as well as some private-access spring creeks, rivers and ponds. Seems they'd met owner Jay Burgen while fishing in the Coyhaique area of Chilean Patagonia and decided to give his Montana property a try. "Five Rivers Lodge is one fine operation," writes Carlson. "Jay and Mary worked hard to promote a friendly atmosphere and generous hospitality to satisfy the needs of their guests. We had fishermen in the lodge of all abilities who were pleased with their daily ventures. That's a testament to a good guiding program."

THE ANGLING REPORT

objected to. The rainbow fishery, they both point out, is a completely wild fishery for moderate-size but pristine specimens.

“The rainbows on the Nushagak, on average, do not get as big as those in the Iliamna Basin, but they are remarkable for their wildness, their incredible beauty and their fierce fight,” Pendergast writes. “It is worth mentioning that the leopard rainbows anglers catch on the Nushagak are absolutely pristine. They do not suffer the facial disfigurements that many of the Iliamna/Katmai Basin trout have, a result of being hooked and landed hundreds of times. Nushagak rainbow trout are as near a perfect specimen as we have ever experienced in Alaska. Rainbows on the Nush average about 18 to 22 inches, with a big fish stretching the tape to 26 to 27 inches.”

In his rebuttal statement, Egdorf goes on to point out that unusually cold water temperatures were at least partly to blame for the lower than average daily take Harrison and his group experienced: “We hope Mr.

Harrison will return to give our rainbow trout fishing another go, as he most certainly missed out on what normally is a fantastic trout fishing experience,” Egdorf writes. “The major reason Mr. Harrison’s group did not catch larger numbers of rainbow trout was a rain episode just prior to their trip. That rain dropped the river temperature from 49 to 43 degrees. The cold water made the trout lethargic and they stopped feeding.” Egdorf goes on to note that the drop in water temperature was directly related to one of Harrison’s other major complaints – namely, long boat rides. “The guides were simply doing their best to find fish,” he writes.

□

• *The Angling Report* has received quite a few pages of back-and-forth comment regarding a trip subscriber William van Tobel made this past September to a lodge in Alaska that has changed hands recently – namely, Alaska Clearwater Lodge, previously known as Ole Creek Lodge. van Tobel, who fished Ole Creek repeat-

edly before the turnover, says the lodge was overcrowded during his stay this year and the guides young and inexperienced. He does not recommend Alaska Clearwater Lodge to fellow subscribers. New owner David Wilson disagrees with just about everything van Tobel says in a detailed, multi-paged rebuttal statement that is must reading in its entirety by anyone considering a stay at this lodge. Wilson feels van Tobel simply didn’t like some of the changes he has made and that left him so disappointed he was not able to assess accurately what the lodge is like under his ownership. He says much of what van Tobel says is exaggerated or simply wrong. Since the correspondence on this matter is lengthy, we are not publishing it in its entirety. However, for the next 30 days, copies of it can be obtained free by clicking on the following hyperlink: http://www.anglingreport.com/report_details_3978.cfm. At the end of 30 days, copies of the correspondence will be available in our database. See page 2 for details on how to order.

● Back of the Book ●

(All items in this section are paid advertisements. Ads cost \$1.50 per word. They are published as a reader service. For more details on our ad rates and policies, contact: Edi Bell, The Angling Report, 9200 S. Dadeland Blvd., Suite 523, Miami, FL 33156-2713. Tel. 305-670-1361. Fax 305-670-1376.)



UNIQUE FLY FISHING DESTINATIONS
STEWARDS OF THE RIO GRANDE FOR 25 YEARS. KAU TAPEN INTRODUCED CATCH AND RELEASE IN 1983
SPONSOR OF THE RIO GRANDE STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

WWW.NERVOUSWATERS.COM
santiago@nervouswaters.com * P. 877-637-8420

NERVOUS WATERS

THE ANGLING REPORT

When you're planning your next fishing trip.

ESPLANADE TOURS OFFERS THE BEST AIRFARES!

Esplanade has been planning customized individual itineraries for fishermen & hunters since 1954. Our destinations include: Argentina • Australia • Chile • New Zealand • Southern Africa.

Web: www.esplanadetours.com
Email: info@esplanadetours.com
Toll Free: 1-800-628-4893

The Best of New Zealand Fly Fishing

For over 20 years, we have specialized exclusively in New Zealand fishing and travel. Fly fishing is our central focus, but we are experts in many other activities and accommodations available in New Zealand. We create exclusive fishing programs, as well as sightseeing and other nature-based activities. Call for brochure or visit New Zealand's most exciting fishing site.

Mike McClelland

10544 W. Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90064
Tel. 800-528-6129

E-mail: info@BestofNZ.net
Web: www.BestofNZflyfishing.com

Lower Yokanga and Kola River Russia

Great mid-summer weeks on offer, floating line, riffing hitch. Last season, these weeks on the Kola River produced between 350 and 500 salmon weekly. In second week 2008, Yokanga produced during one test-fishing week 156 salmon between six rods.

Special offer for Kola River

Week 30: (18/7 - 25/7) Euro 2,980.
Week 31: (25/7 - 01/8) Euro 2,980.

Special offer for Lower Yokanga River

Week 30: (17/7 - 24/7) Euro 2,980.
Week 29: (24/7 - 31/7) Euro 2,980.

For more information, please contact:

Lax-á Angling club.
Steffen: steffen@lax-a.is
Arni: arnib@lax-a.is

bahiahonda
Sporting Club

Florida Keys

Our lodge is a beautiful Mediterranean-style villa, amid a 16-acre estate in the lower Florida Keys. Our chef, Mike, treats guests to sensational cuisine, making good use of fresh local seafood. Our guides are all experienced, young professional fishermen and very friendly. We fish for trophy tarpon, bonefish and permit. March through July. Book Now!

Visit us at: www.bahiahondaclub.com.
Call us at: 305-395-0009
E-mail: fish@bahiahondaclub.com

CUBAN FLY FISHERS

Cuba - Las Salinas

Fantastic bonefishing, permit, tarpon.
One guide per fisherman. Excellent rates.
Tel. 011-44-207-731-6871 (England)
E-mail: mike@cubawelcome.com
Web: www.cubawelcome.com

Dream Outdoors

We specialize in providing custom outdoor experiences for individuals and corporations. Salt and fresh water angling and even heli-skiing all come within the purview of Dream Outdoors.

Tel: 877-364-5623 Ext. 103

Tel: 970-300-2428

www.dreamoutdoors.com

World's Greatest Redfishing

Fly fishing and light tackle.
Corporate groups welcome.

Call Gulf Coast Outfitters in SE Louisiana.
Tel. 877-redfish (733-3474)

CHILEAN PATAGONIA

Now booking 2009 - 2010 (we do have a few openings for this season because of cancellations - please contact us for details and special pricing).

Floating lodge - PUMA II - Brand-new, custom-built mothership. Capacity: six fisherpersons. Fish the bays and rivers, including the Futaleufu, on the 28-mile-long Yelcho Lake. Mostly DRY FLY fishing for true trophy rainbows, browns and brook trout of three to 15 pounds. The closest thing to flats fishing there is in fresh water.

Our second lodge is located about halfway between the lake and the ocean (18 miles from the lake) on the Yelcho River. Pristine river fishing for browns and rainbows, with occasional cohos, chinooks, Atlantics, and sea-runs. Also available: Other lakes in the immediate area, including the lake that clients since 1998, including legendary guide Capt. Bill Curtis, said "was the best dry fly fishing they ever experienced." We also offer a river estuary reached by a 45-minute horseback ride up the ocean beach that has been amazingly productive, especially for double-digit steelhead and Atlantics. This first-class lodge (we even have a hot tub) is reached by boat and has a capacity of eight fisherpersons.

We offer nature and glacier treks and excursions to Doug Tompkin's world-acclaimed eco park, Parque Pumalin, adjacent to the lodge.

PUMA FISHING LTDA

www.pumafishing.com

Contact: Stephen Selway, D.V.M.

Tel/Fax (May 1 - Nov 30)

516-775-0827

Tel/Fax (Dec 1 - April 30)

954-922-5389

E-mail: fishhorsesjs@aol.com



F • I • S • H • A • B • O • U • T

Discover The Villages of Christmas Island

This unique fishing lodge has the distinct advantage of being located on a lagoon beach overlooking the bonefish flats. Your boat picks you up each morning just a few steps from your bungalow. This means less time traveling and more time spent fishing each day. Excellent guiding, service and meals have been getting rave reviews from returning anglers. The flats are easy to wade and the sheer numbers of bonefish are amazing. In addition, there is offshore fishing within a mile of the beach for giant trevally, tuna, wahoo, sailfish and much more. Seven nights, six days of fishing, \$2,195. Air fare extra.

Tel. 888-409-2008

E-mail: howard@fishabout.com

www.fishabout.com

Cascade Canyon

Fish the "Blue Ribbon" Missouri River in Montana's famous Cascade Canyon.

Luxury riverfront lodge on ten acres of Gary Cooper homestead.

Sleeps seven plus guide cabin.

E-mail: donnawiesn@aol.com

Tel. 703-671-5602

South Texas Fishing

Fishing the Lower Laguna Madre.

Over 268 square miles of two and a half feet of water. The largest saltwater flat in North America. Sight casting for redfish and speckled trout. Hard bottom flats and clear water.

Waterfront lodge.

Tel. 956-343-3829

www.txlodge.com



4th Generation Guides. 32 years in business in Alaska and 19 years in Kamchatka, Russia. Rafting and Fishing - Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Ouzel Expeditions Incorporated

Paul and Sharon Allred

P.O. Box 935, Girdwood, AK 99587

800-825-8196, Fax: 907-783-3220

www.ouzel.com, E-mail: paul@ouzel.com

OUZEL
EXPEDITIONS
KAMCHATKA AND ALASKA PRUDY FORME TRIPS

THE ANGLING REPORT



SPANISH PYRENEES

Dry fly fishing traditional concept wading, upstream and using fine lines, while discovering the most hidden and beautiful Pyrenees Mountains rivers, fished by Hemingway

**All-inclusive FF Lodge
Helicopter Expeditions
Non-fishermen vacations**

Exclusive guiding services for adventure anglers since 1999 in a lost primitive Western Europe area. Brown, rainbow & brook trout.

**Contact us for complete brochures
SALVELINUS LODGE
info@salvelinus.com**



FISH PATAGONIA THE RIGHT WAY

For the quintessential Patagonia trout fishing adventure come to where it all began over a half-century ago – and do it in style at the brand new Chime Lodge on the banks of the legendary Rio Chimehuin. From there we have unlimited access to the greatest trout water in the world, including the Alumine, Malleo, Collon Cura, Traful and Quillen rivers and countless lakes. Our 20 years guiding experience in the area is your guarantee of success. Chime Lodge – superb accommodations, great food and wine, exemplary service, sensational fishing!

Visit www.chimelodge.com

Trophy Redfish

Fly fish 25 miles from New Orleans in skinny water year round. Specializing in catch-and-release sight casting. Accommodations for up to eight guests, includes meals. I have four flat boats running. Two of the boats are fully booked. Two boats available for the trophy redfish season, October through February 2008.

Capt. Gregg Arnold – 504-237-6742

River Gaula – Exclusive Salmon Fly Fishing in Breathtaking Norway!

Norway 2009 – a great destination that gives you high value for the money in the “mother country” of salmon fishing. Five kilometer full exclusive water on some of Gaula’s best beats.

Special offer for Gaula river prime weeks.

15th June – 21st June – Euro 3,680
29th June – 5th July – Euro 3,680
6th July – 12th July – Euro 3,680

For more information, please contact
Lax-á Angling club.
Steffen: steffen@lax-a.is
Arni: arnib@lax-a.is



Flies for the Serious Angler. Specializing in tarpon, bonefish and permit flies. Check out our new patterns for this season. Fantastic custom-tying program for all your other needs. Visit www.ssflies.com or call 207-452-2343.



Experience.

You can never have enough.

Come and experience the finest catch-and-release Atlantic salmon fishing in New Brunswick. We are getting geared up for the 2009 fishing season and want you to be part of it! Atlantic salmon fishing in the spring is a great group or team-building experience. Book your trip today!

Please contact us for pricing and package details or visit:

www.miramichiblackrapids.com

Katherine Hughes

brslodge@westervelt.com

800-281-7991



FLY FISHING IN ITALY

From the Italian/Austrian Alps and Slovenia, south through Tuscany and Umbria regions, for those who dream of fishing in scenic, pristine surroundings, we organize exceptional angling experiences by selecting the best waters and the best time to fish them. Stay in a medieval village or quaint hotel lost in the countryside. Epicurean delights await, including gourmet streamside lunches with your English-speaking guide. We can also include programs for non-fishing companions.

Tel. 302-436-0153

E-mail: AWAFlyFISH@aol.com
www.westerneuropeantravel.com or
www.awatravel.net

Fly fishing in Cuba

www.avalonfishingcenter.com *Since 1993*
info@avalonfishingcenter.com

More than 15 years working to achieve excellence you deserve.
More than 15 years working for the moment you can enjoy this exclusive and luxurious natural paradise.

Avalon
cubanfishingcenters

JARDINES DE LA REINA · ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD · CAYO LARGO · ANA MARÍA

CORTLAND

design: hope baratta / credits: matt harris