

## THE FISHING NEWS: VOL II 2011

Greetings fellow Fishermen: As most of you know, I write fishing updates on my blog at [www.doradokiller.blogspot.com](http://www.doradokiller.blogspot.com). Therefore, I won't bore you with old news. This issue will concentrate on the best places in the world to catch trophy fish in my opinion. I had the opportunity to fish these waters or hope to soon!

### **LA ZONA LODGE GOLDEN DORADO BORDER OF ARGENTINA/ URUGUAY URUGUAY RIVER**

As most of you already know, this is my favorite place in the world to fish. Here you will have the opportunity to catch the largest golden dorado in the world. The fishing is near the Salto Grande Dam on the Uruguay/ Argentina border. Fishing is year round with the best months in my opinion for monster dorado over 40lbs being March, April, and October. January through March being the best time for fly fishing with usually low waters.

Recently, Uruguay has opened a lodge which put a stop to the netting which was taking place. Since this has happened the fishing has gotten better with more monster dorado landed weekly.

Positives: Great guides, great lodging, great meals, and the best place in the world to catch monster dorado.

Negatives: Long flight for only 4 days of fishing.



# **PUMICE CREEK LODGE**

## **ALASKA PENINSULA**

### **SILVER SALMON AND DOLLY VARDEN CHAR**

Gary LaRose's Pumice Creek Lodge is the best kept secret in the fishing world! Here you are away from the crowds as LaRose keeps the clients to a maximum of 6 per week. Daily flyouts are for either silver salmon or dolly varden char. You will not see any others on these waters which are away from the expensive flyout lodges in Bristol Bay.

Fishing is done by wading the rivers using either spinning, casting, or fly equipment. The best time for silvers is the last 2 weeks of August and the weeks in September.

Positives: Small lodge away from the crowds. Simple yet adequate housing in a bunk house with hot showers and toilet. Great, ample meals are in the main lodge building. Great guides and very inexpensive compared to the other flyout lodges in Alaska where you need a name tag for dinner, won't catch nearly the amount of silvers and char, and will spend more than double than what LaRose charges. Having fished the Peninsula for 20+ years, the fishing is as good as ever especially at Pumice Creek Lodge where you are away from the competition.

Negatives: If your looking for fancy lodging and catering, book a charter in Chicago and stay at the Hilton. I am here to catch fish and lots of them.



**VENICE LOUISIANA  
CAPTAIN KEITH KENNEDY  
BORN TO FISH CHARTERS  
REDFISH AND SEA TROUT  
BEST TIME APRIL TO OCTOBER BUT YEAR LONG  
FISHING. IF WEATHER COOPERATES, EXCELLENT  
YEAR ROUND.**

Captain Keith Kennedy of Born to Fish Charters was probably the best kept secret before guys like Dr. Gary Clark put the word out. Captain Keith week in and out constantly puts fishermen on monster bull redfish. Keith is also a fantastic cook as many know. Friends who have fished with Keith return again and again for the great fishing.

Positives: Keith provides everything from tackle, meals, and housing. Great cook. Boat and motor are in great shape. Keith will go the extra mile to put you on big bull reds. Very cheap trip compared to the International trips. Keith will book short trips plus long trips depending on your preference. Most guys fly into New Orleans and rent a car for the roughly hour drive to Venice.

Negatives: Guys I can't think of any, so let me know if you have some which I doubt! However, might be difficult to get a booking in the future as the word is out!



**TREE RIVER  
CANADIAN NANAVUT, NWT  
MONSTER ARCTIC CHAR**

**JULY AND AUGUST (recommend mid to late August)**

The Tree River in the Northwest Territories, Nanavut, holds the largest Arctic Char in the world! Here char reaching 30lbs have been landed and 20lbs char being caught weekly. Less than 250 people fish the Tree each year. The Tree River flows from the Arctic Ocean in the Coronation Gulf. It is a 520-sq-km drainage for numerous large lakes that sit in the barrenlands. It leads to the Arctic Ocean via 3 sets of falls.

Plummer's Lodges has the only camp on the Tree River. The camp sits about 5 kilometers from the mouth and near a set of falls.



The camp has boats to move fishermen from spot to spot with most fishing done on shore either by fly or spin fishing. Fishing normally begins in July and ends in August when the char turn into their magnificent spawning colors. Char do not die like salmon when spawning but return to be caught other day.

Positives: Biggest char in the world and lots of them. Comfortable lodge and great scenery.

Negatives: Only offered as a side trip from Plummer's Great Bear Lake Lodge or 3, 4, or 7 day trips from Kugluktuk



**TROPHY LODGE  
GREAT BEAR LAKE  
CANADIAN ARCTIC, NWT  
RECORD LAKE TROUT AND GRAYLING  
JULY TO AUGUST (recommend middle July)**

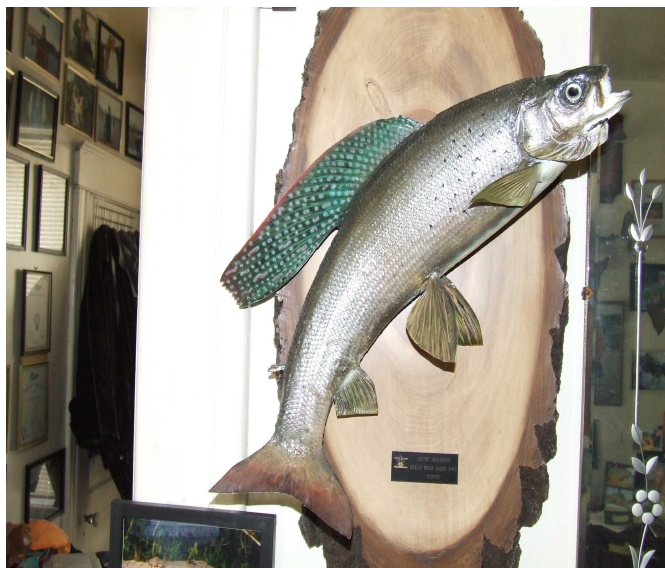
Trophy Lodge on Great Bear Lake is located in Ford Bay on the Smith Arm. It is the only lodge on the west side of the lake and offers monster lake trout and grayling.

All trips are guided with either 1 or 2 fishermen sharing a boat. Most of the fishing will be trolling or casting large spoons and flatfish. The lakers are shallow in Great Bear due to the cold water so fly fishing is also good.

An added bonus is the great arctic grayling fishing available close to the lodge. The grayling are abundant and can reach lengths in the 20 inch range. They are landed on both spinning gear and fly gear.

Positives: Best chance in the world for lakers over 50lbs. Very comfortable lodge with great meals. Comfortable 18 ft closed bow Lunds powered by 40 hp two stroke outboards. Many isolated bays to fish in when the waters are very rough.

Negatives: Lodge holds about 40 guests so won't get the individual attention you get from smaller lodges. Great Bear is massive so waters can get rough. Trophy Lodges offers optional flyouts only to the Coppermine River for char which are not nearly as big as those which swim in the Tree River.



# **MNYERA & RUHUDJI RIVERS TANZANIA/ AFRICA TIGERFISH**

## **JULY TO OCTOBER ( recommend mid to late October)**

The Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers are situated in the southern part of Tanzania. The Tengo and Samaki Camps are located on these rivers and offer some of the largest tigerfish found anywhere. These tigerfish are a cross between the Goliath Tigerfish and normal tigers. 20Lbs+ tigerfish are a possibility in these rivers.

Guests fly into Dar Es Salaam and then to the landing strip on the Mnyera River.

The Tigerfish are landed on casting, spinning, and fly equipment.



Positives: Best rivers to catch monster tigerfish. Lodge holds 4 fishermen which are rotated during the week between the Mnyera River camp and Ruhudji River camp. Very comfortable individual tents and adequate meals. Fantastic opportunity for wildlife viewing.

Negatives: Long flight to Dar Es Salaam. Guides tend to cater to fly fishermen. Very strict rules such as single barbless hooks and cannot fish an area on the rivers twice during the week. Had numerous monster tigerfish bite through the small nets, thus losing the trophies.

**THAILAND**  
**NUMEROUS PONDS**  
**GUIDE FRANCOIS HELIAS**  
**MULTIPLE SPECIES YEAR ROUND**

Thailand offers an excellent opportunity to catch numerous species of monster fish such as piraracu, giant snakeheads, giant Mekong catfish, redtail catfish, and Siamese Carp to name a few.

Capt. Francois Helias is based in Bangkok and sets up the fishing in various ponds depending what type of species you are after. If you have the time, a trip into the jungle is also an option. Francois can set up all housing and has back up fishing equipment if needed.

Bangkok is a very friendly town with great restaurants and nightlife.



Thailand offers the angler the chance to land very rare species which are seldom caught in the wild. Many of these species reach enormous sizes.



Positives: Best chance in the world to catch rare, monster fish. Lots of variety to choose from. Can workout with Francois all details and days fishing.

Negatives: Long flights to Bangkok. Some purists frown on stocked ponds which I have no problem with as you still have to catch these fish!

## **SURINAME**

### **WOLFFISH AND MONSTER CATFISH**

#### **YEAR ROUND BEST TIMES AUGUST AND MARCH**

Most folks have never heard of Suriname which lies in the Northeast side of South American. The fisheries are very remote and offer some of the largest rain forests in the world.

Monster Wolffish swim in Suriname and have become popular since shown on television shows such as Larry Dahlberg's "Hunt for Big Fish". The Wolffish is similar to the traida landed on peacock bass trips but much larger reaching weights to 50lbs. Giant catfish also swim in these waters.



Positives: Virtually unfished waters and no crowds. Best place to land monster Wolffish and catfish. Trips are very reasonably priced compared to other South America trips.

Negatives: If looking for peacock bass the ones in Suriname are very small so go elsewhere. Unknown fishery with new locations popping up each year.

\*\*have a friend who is currently fishing new river systems in Suriname. He will be gone for 3 months and has fished in Suriname for numerous years landing monster fish. Will send out more details on the new fisheries and the best locations once he returns.



**NOMAD SPORTFISHING ADVENTURES  
QUEENSLAND COAST, AUSTRALIA  
NUMEROUS OFFSHORE SPECIES  
YEAR ROUND FISHING**

Nomad Sportfishing offers mothership fishing charters along the eastern Queensland Coast of Australia. They target giant black marlin, popper fishing for giant trevally, and numerous other species.

Nomad runs expeditions to the Outer Coral Sea reefs, the Great Barrier Reef, Lizard Island, Capricorn Islands and other locations.

Fishing is done with either fly, casting, or spinning equipment.



Positives: Monster fish. Lots of trip options and type of fishing.

Negatives: Expensive trip. Long flight to Australia

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
NEW GUINEA BASS  
BEST TIMES JULY AND AUGUST**

Papua New Guinea is virtually untouched. A few lodges have recently opened offering New Guinea Bass fishing. Many have reported this species as being the toughest freshwater fish on earth!

Papua New Guinea is located Northeast from Australia. Most of the land is very remote and never seen by humans.

The New Guinea Bass get huge reaching weights exceeding 50lbs.

I have never fished this area, but friend Steve Yatomi has and runs trips for these brutes.

**HIGH ARCTIC LODGE  
VICTORIA ISLAND  
CANADIAN NWT, NANAVUT  
LAKE TROUT AND ARCTIC CHAR  
MID JULY TO EARLY AUGUST**

High Arctic Lodge is way up North! It is located about 300 miles past the Arctic Circle on Victoria Island. The lodge sits on Merkle Lake which has decent lake trout and land based arctic char. The lodge offers numerous flyouts to hot spots for trophy char such as Hadley Bay. The fishing season is extremely short with about 5 to 6 weeks of open waters. The lodge holds around 12 to 15 guests weekly.

Positives: Excellent chance at a trophy char. Adequate housing and good meals. Guided fishing either by wading or by boat. Fishing is either casting, spinning, or fly.

Negatives: Weather can get nasty on Victoria Island. Char and lakers are not as big as those which swim in the Tree River and Great Bear Lake. Long flight to Cambridge Bay, Victoria Island. Char here are more orange colored than reddish.

**LAKE GURI  
VENEZUELA  
STEVE SHOULDERS HEADWATERS CAMP  
PEACOCK BASS AND PAYARA  
YEAR ROUND**

Massive Lake Guri in Venezuela was one of the first locations for monster peacock bass. I first visited Guri in 1990 before the Brazilian peacock lodges came about. Guri offers a excellent opportunity to land monster peacock bass along with trophy payara on the same trip.

Steve Shoulders operates the best camp on Guri. His lodge is reported as being very comfortable and the meals are top notch.



Positives: Excellent chance at trophy peacock bass and payara. Very cheap when compared to peacock fishing in Brazil plus cheaper to fly to Caracas than Manaus. Excellent housing and meals at Steve Shoulders Camp.

Negatives: Odds of landing a 20lbs+ peacock bass are much greater in Brazilian but good odds of landing trophy payara.

In closing these are my favorite trips. I am not an agent nor outfitter. However, I can answer most questions on these trips or put you in contact with someone who can. Also please remember that no destination guarantees you fantastic fishing with monster fish being the norm! Always try to make the best out of your fishing trips and don't set your expectations too high!

Make sure to check out [www.doradokiller.blogspot.com](http://www.doradokiller.blogspot.com) for fishing reports.

# GOOD FISHING, BOB DALY

