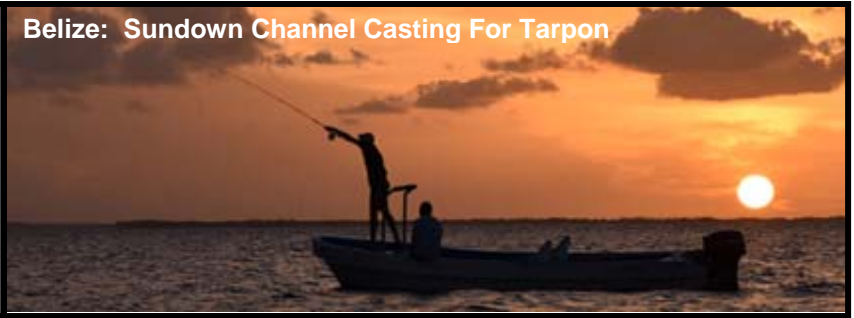




Belize: Sundown Channel Casting For Tarpon



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

ARABIAN SEA PERMIT FANTASY



Globe hopping fly fisher, Paul Wilms, made his first trip to fish the coastal Arabian Sea waters of Oman in 2017. They took over 40 dorado and two sailfish and hooked, but couldn't land, three Indo Pacific permit. Late in 2018, Paul returned and, on this trip, he experienced a rare “permit fantasy.” There was a special tidal situation and, with exceptional high tides, the permit were able to access food/muscle beds high up in the crevices of a rocky shoreline. He found numbers of tailing permit in this rocky area and were able to catch and release 20 fish, most in the 15+ range....all sight cast to while tailing! Photo at left, Paul with an Arabian permit.

These Arabian permit are of the species *T. Africanus* and have a body slightly more elongated than our traditional Caribbean permit (which are of the species *T. Falcatus*). The other two permit species, both taken at places like the Ningaloo Reef in NW Australia and the Seychelles, are *T. Blochii* and *T. Anak*. The *T. Blochii* and *T. Falcatus* differ in that, in their spawning colors, the *Blochii* can have golden accents and tones, while the *Falcatus* tones are yellow.

NEW ZEALAND FAMILY ITINERARIES

Over the years of arranging itineraries for family travel to NZ, we have had the pleasure of working with five different families. Each itinerary was different and based on the overall family interests. Various interests ranged from rock climbing to tying in an Australia stop and, in some cases, introducing kids to their first flyfishing experience (at right – Michelle Owens with one of her first ever fly caught trout). A few weeks ago, we sent out a newsletter entirely devoted to New Zealand travel options.....the different ways to approach a New Zealand adventure ranging from couples trips, where one spouse did not fish, to hard core fishing. That newsletter did not mention “family itineraries” as one option for a NZ trip, hence this article. The link for that New Zealand Travel Options newsletter is [New Zealand Travel Options](#)



If you'd like to see samples of different types of NZ itineraries, hit "reply" and ask.

PLANNING THE PERFECT “BUCKET LIST” FLY FISHING TRIP



Most of us have a fly fishing “bucket list.” Your fly rod can take you to most spectacular and pristine environments on earth in pursuit of those dreams. When you begin planning that special fly fishing trip, the first thing to identify is what are your objectives.....what do you want to get from this trip? Objectives and questions can be many and varied, such as:

- I’ll be accompanied by a friend or youngster who I’d like to get excited about fly fishing.
 - Enjoy a wilderness experience in a spectacular environment.
 - Pursue a certain trophy species – such as “want to catch a 5 pound brook trout on a dry fly” or release my first permit.
- Want a fly fishing challenge that matches my current skill level/casting ability or I want to stretch my skills.
 - I want guides and a fishing environment that will help me develop my skills, with a low frustration level.
 - Prefer unpressured, waters.
 - Regarding accommodations and cuisine, I like to “rough it”...or...I prefer comfort and a high level of service or somewhere in the middle.
 - Place a high value on avoiding crowded conditions.
 - How many days are needed to make certain destinations viable – blend with my available time and budget.



There are destinations, lodges, and outfitters throughout around the globe and in the Western US and Canada that can satisfy any and all of these objectives. From four night trips with three days of fishing to a week or two, there are many possibilities that can meet whatever goals you have.

MY PERSONAL PERMIT QUEST



A year ago, I made a decision to change my focus when fishing saltwater. I’ve always been a “variety guy” and when I fished in Belize (which I have since ’85). I evolved to carrying 5 fly rods rigged for all the various species that were available there; maybe I’d spend a day or two fishing for permit during a week long trip. When I did a serious evaluation of all my fly fishing experiences, there were many exciting stalking recollections – big brookies on the Minipi River and the special NZ crystalline streams with their large browns. In saltwater, sight casting to snook on the mangrove edges and sight fishing to tarpon stood out. However, the most special stalking experiences belonged to the permit. Nothing matched the thrill and challenge of stalking the tailing permit!

A year ago, I had released 43 permit to date. I decided that my new saltwater goal would be to release 100 of those devilfish by time I’m 84 (I’m 75 now). Since that time, I’ve added 8 permit so I’m now at 51. Six came from using the Rising Tide in Belize and two from the Ningaloo Reef. I must admit that I fished hard for those 8 fish. And, in the process, I learned a lot about the permit and fishing for them. I’m hoping that the considerable knowledge gained in the last year will get me a dozen or more fish in the next twelve months with the same (or less) amount of effort. Stay tuned.....I am committed to making this happen and that goal has added a little extra spice (and frustration!) to my angling life!

WHAT WE DO AT FLY FISHING ADVENTURES

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

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

PHOTO CREDITS: Arabian Sea – Paul Wilms; NZ family – William Owens and Michelle

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