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Aspen Inn & Suites

"The Fishermen's Headquarters"



Smithers, BC Toll Free 1-800-663-7676

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Top Photo: Posted Friday October 28, 2011. Hi Noel, Thank you again for all your help with our trip this fall. As you know, we had driven down to Idaho this fall for the first time to fish Steelhead with the rivers in Terrace and Smithers being high. The experience fishing the rivers down there just did not compare to Skeena Country. When we got word from you on Monday October 3rd that the rivers in Terrace were coming down in height, we hopped in our truck and drove 1800km to spend the remaining 5 days of fishing around Terrace and Smithers. We had an amazing trip and hooked several Steelhead and a few Coho. Really appreciate your help and tremendous knowledge of the area! As requested I have attached a few photos. Thank you, Dave Brown **Pic is Dave with a Bulkley River Steelhead.**

Cast here http://www.noelgyger.ca/subscribers_form.htm to sign up to receive an e-mail notification when a **New** substantial report is posted.

River, Ocean and Lake Reports

(Smithers, Terrace, Kitimat, Prince Rupert and Meziadin North)

Last update was Monday October 31, 2011 - 9:00am

To read Fishing Report for ALL of **September** cast on this link:

http://www.noelgyger.ca/archived-fishing-reports/september-1-30_2011.pdf

To read ALL past Fishing Reports cast on this link:

<http://www.noelgyger.ca/past-fishing-reports.htm>

New! **FOR SALE:** Condos **On** the Bulkley River See pics and detail in **Market Place** below:

Commentary: Weather cloudy with sunny breaks (+4 degrees C). Most of the rain is staying in the mountains as snow and is having minimal effect on the rivers. All rivers are in good shape. Good runs of Steelhead and Coho are noted. **Reg:** Coho fishing will close on October 31st. **Update:** **Product Profile Shimano** <http://fish.shimano.com> **Update:** **FOR SALE:** Condos **On** the Bulkley River - See pics and detail in **Market Place** below. **Update:** Cast here to read the [full August report](#). **Update:** [Photo of the Week](#) posted. **Click on the photo for a larger size.** **Updates:** for Skeena, Kalum Rivers. **Update:** for Bulkley, Morice and Kispiox Rivers. The folks at [Oscars](#) in Smithers says, "The rivers are in good shape and there are fish around, lots of fish! Now is the time to go out there!" More updates should come in as the day moves on. Cast on link to send me your [fishing report](#) or [feedback](#). Or phone **250-635-2568**, if I am not available leave your report on my answering machine. **Scroll down to read ALL the Current updates in Red highlighted in Yellow**

The most up-to-date reports are DATE STAMPED (Example: **Tue July 11/11**) So when you scroll through the report look for these markers.

Mon October 31/11 5:20am

Skeena River:

Water is very low and clean. Some great Steelhead and Coho fishing can still be had. **Reg:** Coho fishing will end October 31st. **Reg:** all wild Steelhead everywhere in British Columbia are catch and release. I suggest the fishing rod be a [GLoomis](#) STR 1265c/10'6" MED-HEAVY Moderate Action (GL 2 8-17lb – 3/8 to 1 oz.). Reel [Shimano](#) Calcutta (400B) filled with 20lb test [Maxima](#) mono. [Gibbs](#) makes some great floats. Be sure to use a [Gamakatsu](#) hook. [Sockeye](#) fishing is great. **News:** The Sockeye run on the Skeena is predicted to be low this year but chart below shows an above average run has come-in so far. **Reg:** Sockeye limit: 2 per day. 0 per day from a boundary sign on the north bank of the Skeena River 100m upstream of the confluence with the Kitwanga River downstream to Mill Creek.

Tue October 11/11 5:35am

FISH STORY: The Big ones always get away: 35-pound Steelhead: Ya I had it in the net, estimate to be 45 inches, a huge male and he jumped out so fast, I couldn't lift the net fast enough, ran up river past my waders and broke off, I'm sick telling the story, client Mr Suzuki **Sage** 7 wt 15 lb [Maxima](#). I think it was the BIGGEST Steelhead that I have even seen. Would have been nice to take a quick pic but nice to see the big guy swim away unharmed anyway. Thanks for posting [Noel](#). Best regards, [Tracey Hittel](#) of [Kitimat Lodge](#)

Tue October 11/11 5:40am Update: from Tracey Hittel for Sunday October 9th: Thanks, this morning 3 on the fly one was a 40 incher and all spit the hook! 2 clients. Sent from **iPhone**. Thanks for posting [Noel](#). Best regards, [Tracey Hittel](#) of [Kitimat Lodge](#)

Sat October 2/11 5:30pm

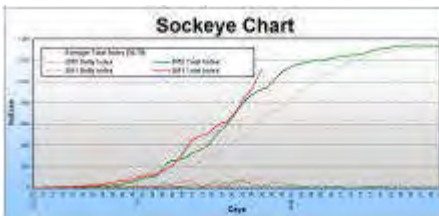


Scenic fall photo taken from speeding jet boat October 2, 2011

The river is fishing very good for Steelhead and Coho around the Terrace area. My friends and I fished on the Skeena Oct. 2/11 for Steelhead and Coho. We did great, although our land-lose ratio was not very good. We went 6 for 16....means we hooked a total of 16 fish. Lost 10 and landed 6 of which 2 were Coho and 4 Steelhead. I'll try and cut a video but not sure if I got enough good footage. The weather today was excellent, mostly sunny and no wind. Water had a tint of colour but the fish did not seem to care and keep attacking our tackle. We also landed a bunch of Dolly Varden Char...or Bull Trout. It was just a wonderful day. Hope to do it again soon. Report from Noel Gyger

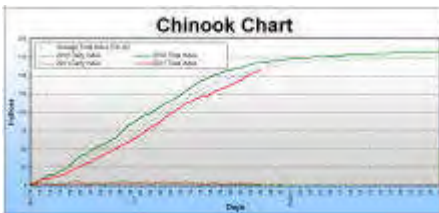
LAST UPDATE: Sat September 24/11 **Cast on PDF links for current view of Charts**
Note: Tye Test Fishery is shut down for this year.

Sockeye Charts



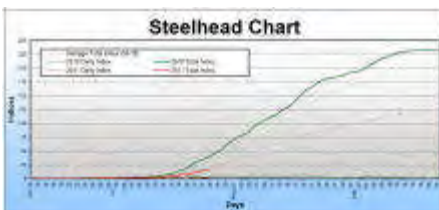
- [Current, Average and Previous Year](#)
 - [Cumulative Index 1956-2010](#)
 - [Average Daily Index 1956-2010](#)
-

Chinook Charts



- [Current, Average and Previous Year](#)
 - [Cumulative Index 1956-2010](#)
 - [Average Daily Index 1956-2010](#)
-

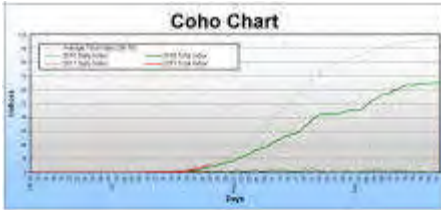
Steelhead Charts



- [Current, Average and Previous Year](#)
- [Cumulative Index 1956-2010](#)

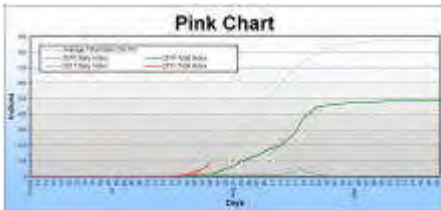
- Average Daily Index 1956-2010

Coho Charts



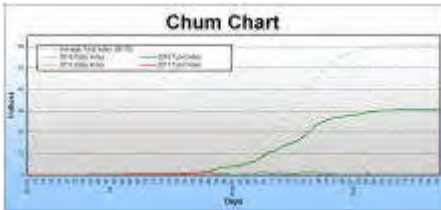
- Current, Average and Previous Year
 - Cumulative Index 1956-2010
 - Average Daily Index 1956-2010
-

Pink Charts



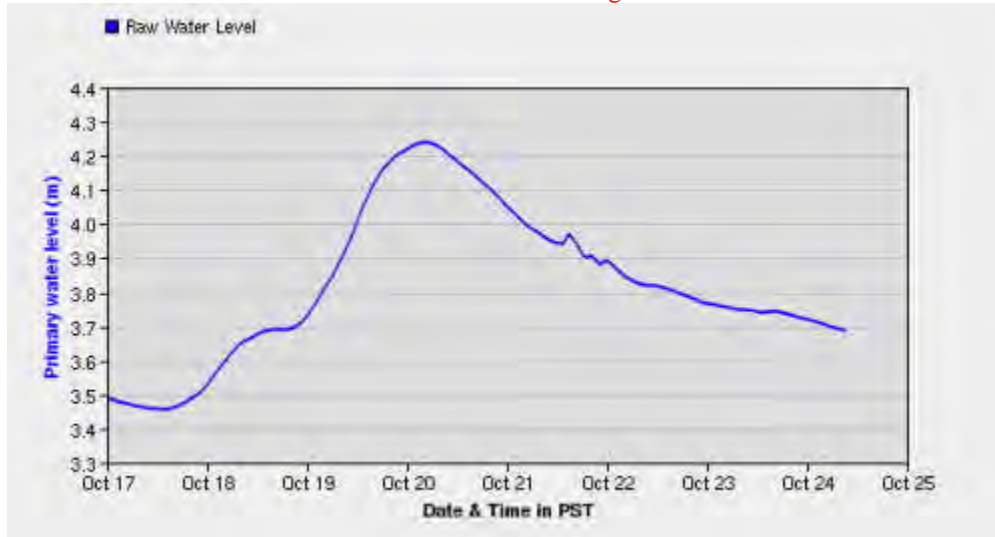
- Current, Average and Previous Year
 - Cumulative Index 1956-2010
 - Average Daily Index 1956-2010
-

Chum Charts



- Current, Average and Previous Year
- Cumulative Index 1956-2010
- Average Daily Index 1956-2010

Mon October 24/11 11:30am **Current Skeena River heights below:**



Direct Link to Skeena River water heights

http://www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/graph/graph_e.html?stn=08EF001



Mon October 31/11 5:20am

Kalum River:

Both the lower and upper sections are in fishable shape. The lake is still stained with a little colour. It has been cleaning a little bit each day. **Fact:** Coho and Steelhead are coming in now! **How to:** This is a good river to float fish a Pink Worm or Goopy Bob. I suggest the fishing rod be a [GLoomis STR 1265c/10'6"](#) MED-HEAVY Moderate Action (GL 2 8-17lb – 3/8 to 1 oz.). Reel [Shimano Calcutta \(400B\)](#) filled with 20lb test [Maxima](#) mono. [Gibbs](#) makes some great floats. Be sure to use a [Gamakatsu](#) hook. **Fly fishing suggestion:** [Kamloops Dragon fly rod](#), [10' Kamloops fly reel](#), AFTMA #8line. Backing [Dragon Fly "Bright Orange"](#) 30lb, 150 yard spool. Fly line [SA Sharkskin Steelhead WF-8-F](#).

Sun September 18/11 2:20pm

Lakelse River: The water is dropping and very clean. Coho are coming in now but NOT in huge numbers. This is "prime-time" for Coho but the fish just are not there in any good numbers. Pinks are in good numbers and most are spawning everywhere. The Bears and the Birds are having a feast. **Update:** I have a report from friends who fished off the bridge today. It was slow, apparently only 4 Coho's landed today. Coho could be seen just below the bridge hovering in the current but they were not biting. **Where:** The Bridge on the lower end is a popular spot to fish for Coho. **Tip:** Fishing off of the bridge with a marabou jig is the most popular method, so is a [Hot-shot](#) or [Kwikfish](#) plug. **Camping:** There is a rough forestry campsite close to the bridge. **Where:** Fishing on the Skeena River at the mouth of Lakelse River is a good spot to fish for the current migrating fish. I have reports that fishing for Cutthroat, Dolly and Rainbows in the upper end is very good right now. Not Many Coho in the upper end yet.

Wed October 26/11 5:20am

Zymoetz (Copper) River:



Water is in very good shape. Steelhead fishing is outstanding. I have many reports of good catches. **Facts:** Last year we had a record run of Steelhead, lets hope at least we have another good run this year. The fly rods work extremely well in this river. **Fly fishing suggestion:** [Kamloops Dragon fly rod](#), [10' Kamloops fly reel](#), AFTMA #8line. Backing [Dragon Fly "Bright Orange"](#) 30lb, 150 yard spool. Fly line [SA Sharkskin Steelhead WF-8-F](#). **Where:** Sockeye fishermen are working the bars across from the Copper River. Fly fishing is the choice of many anglers on this river. Wading with quality [Simms](#) waders and

accessories is the way to go. A friend of mine is very happy with his new [Islander](#) fly reel. [Trophy XL](#) fly rod, [Cortland Line](#) and [Maxima Tippet](#) . **Tip:** Fly fishermen please wade safely by using a wading staff. [Trophy XL](#) makes a nice one in 7 sections. Easily folds up and stores in a pouch on the waist.

Direct Link to Zymoetz (Copper) River water heights:
http://www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/graph/graph_e.html?stn=08EF005

Kitimat River:

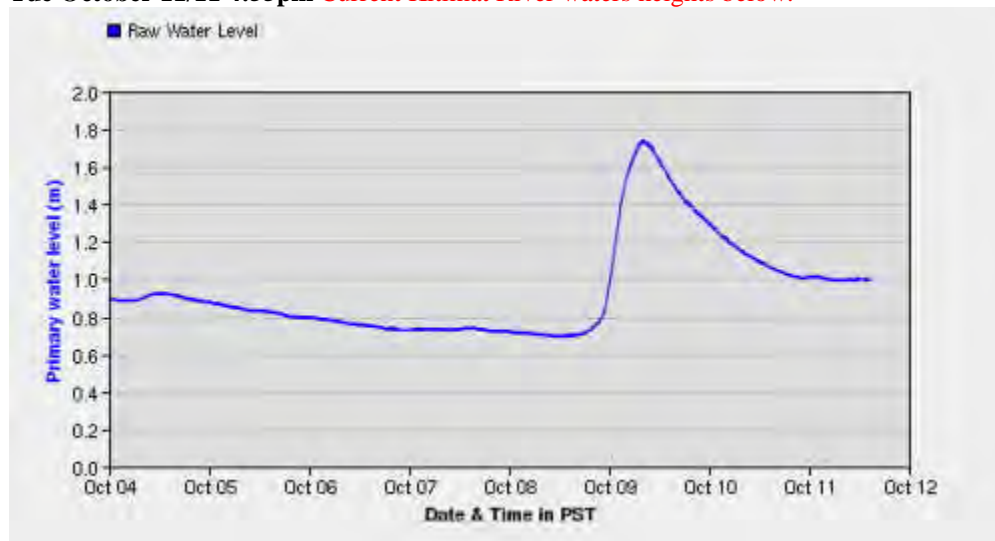
Tue October 11/11 5:30am

Kitimat River has dropped and is in good shape. The main run is over, so anglers must target holding fish. The challenge will be to figure out the best times and tackle to catch them. **Best time:** Early mornings and evenings are usually the best times. **Best tackle:** [spoons](#), [hot shots](#), jigs, spinners, float-fishing or bottom-bouncing roe are some of the most effective methods but on any given day one, none or all may work. BTW - fly fishing works also. Coho fishing in this very low, clear water is a challenge. The expectations for the Kitimat River in the coming weeks will be "Big Water" as we can expect our typical fall rain and "Big Coho" as we expect to see more and more of what we locals call the "Northerns". We can also expect to see some Coho starting to change to their spawning colours but we can expect to see some silver that the Coho Salmon are known for. **Tackle suggestion for Coho:** Pull a [Luhr Jensen](#) Hot Shot for a drift boat. The smaller sizes work best.



Here is a couple of very bright Coho landed on the Kitimat River. Thanks to Mike Herzberg for sending these pics. Mike is a associate/assistant guide for [Ron Wakita](#) of [Reliable Guide and Charters](#). Mike has been guiding for Ron for many, many years and really knows his stuff. BTW that is Mike on the left.

Tue October 11/11 4:55pm **Current Kitimat River waters heights below:**



Direct Link to Kitimat River water heights:
http://www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/graph/graph_e.html?stn=08FF001

Sat October 1//11 5:40am

Kasiks River:

My two friends fished the Kasiks yesterday. The river was clean in the morning until about 11:00am then the river went out. Before the river went out they landed 3 Coho. **Gear:** Jig and lure work well. **Where:** Early in the Coho season try fishing the pool right below the highway 16 bridge. **Tip:** don't fish for them unless you see them rolling. This is the first river to go out of shape from rain but is the first river to come back into shape once the rain stops. Sometimes, when the rain stops you can see the river cleaning right in front of you.

Sun September 11/11 5:45am

Exchamsiks River:

Water dirty but cleaning fast. Should be OK in a day or two-three. Coho are coming in now. **Tip:** don't fish for them unless you see them rolling. Jigs and Lures works well most of the time. This river is closed for Chinook (King) Salmon above the highway 16 bridge. **Tip:** Below the highway bridge can be a good spot to fish for Coho.

Sun September 11/11 5:45am

Exstew River:

Water totally dirty. Coho are coming in now. How to: This is one of the best rivers in the world to fly fish for Coho...but first conditions must be perfect. This rivers is usually colored up and fishing is not that good. Timing is everything. This river is closed for Chinook (King) Salmon above the highway 16 bridge.

Tue September 20/11 5:40am

Douglas Channel: NOTICE: DFO closes recreational halibut fishery as of Sept. 5. The Douglas Channel is still producing some Coho but it is a situation of being in the right place at the right time. Most of the Coho will be migrating to their spawning rivers but can still be caught by the Saltwater anglers. We also received reports of Bottomfish still being caught further down the Douglas Channel. Weather conditions will start to be more of a factor but fishing for Coho and Bottomfish in the Douglas Channel can still be very productive. Dungeness Crab trapping this time of year is usually very good as the Crab are stacking up at the river/creek mouths expecting a feed of dead spawned out salmon. **Suggestion:** To make it very easy to pull your Crab or Prawn traps use an [Ace Line Hauler](#).

Prince Rupert:

Tue October 4/11 5:10am

Hi Noel, With the Coho fishing winding up in the ocean and fall is upon us, there are still lots of opportunities to take advantage of the superb prawning and crabbing that is available right in the Prince Rupert Harbour. So don't put that gear away just yet. While you wait for your traps to fill up try your hand at Trolling for the Residential Winter Chinook that frequent our waters. Good luck and Tight Lines, Jeff Carlson of J&E Tackle Shop and <http://bcstylefishingcharters.com>

NOTICE: DFO closes recreational halibut fishery as of Sept. 5



SplitKing –Freshwater and saltwater trolling spoon

Unique Shape Makes it Highly Effective For: **King Salmon, Coho, Steelhead, Trout, walleye and Northern Pike** **Lure features:** Heavy duty solid brass construction 3 3/8"long 1" wide. Opposing curved surfaces with premium plating for maximum flash and reflection.

SplitKing Lures are available at **J&E Tackle Shop in Prince Rupert, B.C.**
<http://www.splitkinglures.com> for testimonials, tips, online store and more...

Prince Rupert (Chatham Sound area):

NOTICE: DFO closes recreational halibut fishery as of Sept. 5

Thu August 18/11 9:10am

Lakes - Smithers: Lake fishing in the area is still very good. Fishing for rainbow trout and lake trout has been very productive.

Morice River:

Mon October 31/11 5:20am

The Morice River is also dropping and fishing is good.

Sat October 22/11 5:15am

Again, great water conditions. Maybe a touch high for this time of year. Fish being caught through out the system.

Fri October 14/11 5:30am

The Morice is still high but clear. Fishing well!

Thu October 6/11 5:40am

The Morice is still high and cleaning up a bit. Be careful wading as it is a higher gradient river - meaning faster water.

Wed September 28/11 5:40am

The Morice is high and dirty. It has snowed there today as well. 3 inches of snow striking to the ground.... If it warms up....

Bulkley River:

Mon October 31/11 5:20am

The Bulkley River is dropping and the water is clear. Fish are being caught through out the Bulkley. Dress warm!

Sat October 22/11 5:15am

The Bulkley River is in great shape for clarity and water height. Best water conditions since early September.

Fri October 14/11 5:30am

The Bulkley River is still a bit high but the water is clear. Big fish are being caught. Lots of fun.

Thu October 6/11 5:40am

The Bulkley is fishing! The river is still high but the visibility is improving day by day..... We have had some reports of fish being caught all through the Bulkley.

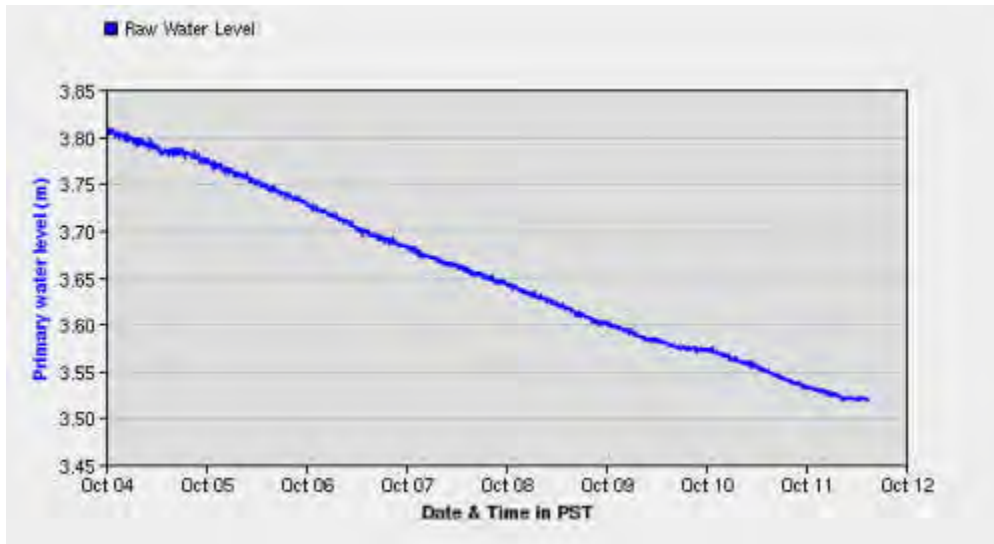
Tue October 4/11 5:10am

There is 12-18 inches of visibility on the Bulkley! The water is still high but fishable... We all hope that the rain will stay away for a while, for quite a while.... But there will be some more rain...

Wed September 28/11 5:40am

The Bulkley River is "fishing". 2-3 feet of visibility. Fish tight to shore and light..... It is snowing at higher elevations so the river could come up again in a flash.... if it warms up.

Tue October 11/11 4:55pm Current Bulkley River water height near Smithers BC below:



Direct link to Bulkley water height near Smithers:
http://www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/graph/graph_e.html?stn=08EE005

Kispiox River:

Mon October 31/11 5:20am

The Kispiox is up and down a bit. Fishing is good.

Sat October 22/11 5:15am

The Kispiox blew out due to warm weather and snow melt. Should be fishing good in a day or two depending on weather conditions.

Fri October 14/11 5:30am

The Kispiox is in perfect shape! Again big fish are being caught!

Thu October 6/11 5:40am

The Kispiox is high but visibility is excellent. Lots of people fishing...



Hi Noel, here is a photo of a nice Steelhead landed on the Kispiox River! The angler is Hubert Anderlan who is from Souttirol, Italy. Hope your readers enjoy it. Regards, Christoph Steidl

Tue October 4/11 5:10am

The Kispiox is a very busy place. It is high but fishing....

Wed September 28/11 5:40am

Borderline fishable yesterday at the bottom. Better higher up. Some fish caught. Busy place....

Direct Link to Kispiox River water height:

http://www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/graph/graph_e.html?stn=08EB004

Babine River:

Wed October 26/11 5:20am



Hi Noel, here is a pic of a Buck Steelhead I landed on the Babine River, very nice fish on an Echo 5 wt. Hope your readers enjoy it. Regards, your friend Bill Johnson

Tue September 20/11 5:40am

Babine is dropping bit by bit. Coho and Steelhead are being caught

Direct Link to Babine River water height at outlet of Nilkitkwa Lake:

http://www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/graph/graph_e.html?stn=08EC013

Babine Lake:

Thu September 8/11 5:45am

Babine Lake is still producing lots of fish. The limit has been increased to 4 fish on the lake. Please see notice in the news and events section of [our website!](#)

NOTE: Don't forget that it is **September 1st**, and on most rivers you will now need your **classified waters** stamp and regardless if you are targeting them or not; your **steelhead stamp**.

Check your regulations book to be sure you have the correct licence!

Special Thanks: to [Oscar's Source for Adventure](#) for **FISHING REPORTS** from the Smithers area including Bulkley, Morice, Kispiox and Babine Rivers PLUS Babine and other local lakes.

Lakes - Meziadin:

New content for October coming soon..

Tight lines,

Marvin Reid

marvin_reid@telus.net

250-639-9856

Internet problems are preventing Marvin from sending his report. Hopefully they can solve the problem soon. Please stand by.

Guest Reports and Photos:

Fri October 14/11 5:30am

Hi Folks, my good friend Guy Gangl of Luxembourg was in Terrace fishing on multiple rivers for Steelhead and Coho. He said he had a pretty good trip. In 10 days of guided fishing he landed 30 Steelhead and two Coho. Three of the Steelhead were landed by fly fishing. Last Sunday October 9th he landed three Steelhead all of which were over 15-pounds. Sorry no out of water pics as the guide wanted to quickly remove the hook while the fish was still in the water. I think Guy told me this was his 13th trip. Thank you for this report Guy. Best regards and hopefully see you again next year. Noel

Thu October 13/11 5:30am



Tobi with Morice River Steelhead Dave with 36" Bulkley River Steelhead



Dave with Zymoetz (Copper) River Steelhead Phil with Zymoetz (Copper) River Steelhead

Hi Noel, Thank you again for all your help with our trip this fall. As you know, we had driven down to Idaho this fall for the first time to fish Steelhead with the rivers in Terrace and Smithers being high. The experience fishing the rivers down there just did not compare to Skeena Country. When we got word from you on Monday October 3rd that the rivers in Terrace were coming down in height, we hopped in our truck and drove 1800km to spend the remaining 5 days of fishing around Terrace and Smithers. We had an amazing trip and hooked several Steelhead and a few Coho. Really appreciate your help and tremendous knowledge of the area!

As requested I have attached a few photos.

Thank you,

Dave Brown
Whistler Real Estate
www.davesellswhistler.com

Tue October 4 /11 5:10am



Hi Noel, rivers are coming back into shape. I caught this nice Steelhead on all white fly. Best regards, Ray Barker.

Past Top Photos:



Posted October 22-23-24-25-26-27-28_2011 Here is a fresh Coho (Silver) Salmon landed on the Kitimat River this fall. The lucky angler is Liz. Liz was fishing with pro angling guide Mike Herzberg. Mike is an AAG (Assistant Angling Guide) for [Ron Wakita](#) of [Reliable Guide and Charters](#).



Posted October 18-19-20-21-22_2011 Here is a huge northern Coho (Silver) Salmon landed with a spey fly rod. I would like to thank Darren Bisson for this beautiful photo. Darren is an AAG (Assistant Angling Guide) for [Tracey Hittel](#) of [Kitimat Lodge](#) The angler is one of Darren's clients.



Posted October 14-15-16-17-18_2011 Hi Noel, here is a pic of a Steelhead I landed on the Zymoetz (Copper) River this fall. Hope your readers enjoy it. Thanks, Dennis Therrien



Posted October 10-11-12-13-14_2011 Hi Noel, Mr Suzuki landed this chrome buck on the Skeena system Friday October 7th as well a nice pair of fresh Coho (Silver) Salmon, the rivers are shaping up! Thanks [Noel](#). Best regards, [Tracey Hittel](#) of [Kitimat Lodge](#)



Posted October 6-7-8-9-10_2011 Hi Noel, we are having some good fishing for big northern Coho. I have enclosed a photo from one of the fish we caught. Louis had several nice fish for the day. He said he will

remember this day for a long time. We have another group from France this week targeting Steelhead and Coho (Silver) Salmon.
Best Regards, [Andrew Rushton](#) of [Kalum River Lodge](#).



Posted October 1-2-3-4-5-6_2011 Hi Noel, here is a photo of a nice Coho (Silver) Salmon caught by my client this fall. Hope your readers enjoy it. Thanks for posting [Noel](#).
Best regards, [Tracey Hittel](#) of [Kitimat Lodge](#)



Posted September 25-26-27-28-29-30_2011. Hi Noel, here is a photo of a nice Steelhead landed on the Morice River this fall. The angler is Onorio Zotti who is the Vice President of the E.U.F.F (**European**

Union of Fly Fishers). Our group really, really enjoyed fishing your waters and hope to return often. Thank you. Carla Paderni of Italy.



A few pics of our lodge and some great fishing. To see all latest pics just cast to this link:

<http://smg.photobucket.com/albums/v718/JamieHunt/Salmon%20fishing%202011/>

Super Special Deal –Update including a discounted trip for \$1,999.00 per person

Hello everyone. I just wanted to share this special offer with you before it hits the media in the coming days.

Great Pacific Salmon Lodge was designed with one main goal and that was to become to the BEST Salmon fishing Lodge in all of BC.

I know that we have set it up to be exactly that. However now that we have it up and running, we need to prove it. I need you give us the chance to do exactly that. That is why we are very proud to offer the following inaugural year special.

**\$1,999 per person for a 3 day/3 night trip
(Based on 3 people per boat)(+tax)**

Yes we know this is a drastic discount compared to other lodges, especially when you consider that this is a fully guided setup, equipped with the best possible gear and you will be staying in an extensively renovated Lodge.

Promotion is subject to availability. Please call for details.

I encourage you to take advantage of this offer as soon as possible as spots are filling rapidly.

Feel free to call me directly, I look forward to talking with you soon. 403-813-2704

Sincerely **“This is where YOUR Adventure begins”**

Jamie Hunt

Owner www.GreatPacificSalmonLodge.com



SplitKing –Freshwater and saltwater trolling spoon

Unique Shape Makes it Highly Effective For: King Salmon, Coho, Steelhead, Trout, walleye and Northern Pike Lure features: Heavy duty solid brass construction 3 3/8”long 1” wide. Opposing curved surfaces with premium plating for maximum flash and reflection.

SplitKing Lures are available at J&E Tackle Shop in Prince Rupert, B.C.

<http://www.splitkinglures.com> for testimonials, tips, online store and more...

Steve Hidber - Oscars Source for Sports, Smithers BC www.oscarssports.com



GRAND OPENING

Thank you to everyone who stopped by over the last few days! Also, thank you to all the participants: The car and ATV dealers, Friends of Wild Salmon, Steelhead Society, Ken Driedger, Billy Labonte, Pierce Clegg, Paul's Bakery, BV Wholesale, Schimmels, the Conservation Officers.

We at **Oscar's Source for Adventure** had a fabulous time and we are looking forward to a great fishing season. A new fishing season is upon us and we at Oscar's are very excited to announce the opening of our new store: **Oscar's Source For Adventure**.

The new store will be all about the **outdoors** with fishing as our focal point. In addition to fishing we will carry footwear from **Merrell, Patagonia** and **Lowa** as well as apparel from **Marmot, Simms** and **Patagonia**. Great brands to enjoy the **outdoors!**

The new store will also house a fine selection of family camping products from Camp furniture to sleeping bags, to tents. We look forward to welcoming you to the new store!

Kerry, Alex & Steve

Oscar's Source For Adventure

1222 Main Street

Smithers, BC Tel: 250-847-3377 Email: info@oscarssports.com website: www.oscarssports.com



www.bcstylefishingcharters.com

Tight Lines and see you on the water.

Jeff Carlson – owner



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Kitimat BC

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E-mail: wakita@telus.net

They also operate a Fishing Guide and Charter Boat: [Reliable Guide and Charters](#)

Contact [Noel Gyger](#) to book a guided fishing trip both river and ocean

Product Profile:

Shimano <http://fish.shimano.com>



<http://fish.shimano.com>



The **Calcutta TE** series of reels is, simply put, one of the finest examples of design and construction you will ever hold in your hand. Crafted with a machined aluminum frame, and featuring **Shimano's** best technological advances, the Calcutta TE exudes quality. Tolerances and play are minimized to the point where you won't notice them now-or years from now. This is more than an excellent fishing reel, it's an heirloom



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AVAILABLE RIGHT NOW at: City Centre Hardware and Sporting Goods in Kitimat, Oscars Source for Sports in Smithers and Fish Tales Tackle Shop in Terrace

Weather Reports telephone numbers: Terrace: 250-635-4192 **Kitimat:** 250-632-7864 **Prince Rupert:** 250-627-1155 **Smithers:** 250-847-1958.

Tide Charts – for BC Coast:

<http://www.lau.chs-shc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/tide>

[shc.cgi?queryType=showZone&language=english®ion=1&zone=18](http://www.lau.chs-shc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/tide/shc.cgi?queryType=showZone&language=english®ion=1&zone=18)

Fight for Halibut – **Take Action Now!** <http://fightforhalibut.wordpress.com>

Robin Rowland - Visual Journalism and Editorial

Robin Rowland, the editor and publisher of **Northwest Coast Energy News**, first encountered the northern British Columbia wilderness as a toddler on the shores of Ootsa Lake. After a short time in Vancouver, his family moved to Kitimat, where his father Fred, was the assistant property manager for Alcan. For the first two years, the family lived in the old Smeltersite (where from time to time his father would go fishing with others with Haisla guides on Douglas Channel and take the kid along). After that the Rowland family

moved to main the Kitimat townsite. After seven years in Kitimat, the family moved to Toronto where Fred Rowland joined the development department of the booming city. Robin attended York University and then studied journalism at Carleton. He worked as a reporter photographer for the *Sudbury Star* and later was hired by CBC News, where he would work for most of his career (with gaps for travel, book writing and six years at CTV News). In 1996, he joined the new CBC news online division. In 1998, he was named web producer for The National and in 2003 became photo editor for CBC News. In 2010, Robin decided to take early retirement and return to northern British Columbia to pursue his interests in photography and writing.

Robin is co-author with James Dubro of *King of the Bootleggers*, about organized crime during the Prohibition era and a follow-up. *Undercover Cases of the RCMP's Most Secret Operative*. In 1995, Rowland co-wrote, with Dave Kinnaman, of Washington State, the first book on how to do research on the Internet. In 2000. Robin wrote *The Creative Guide to Research*. His latest book, published in 2008 is *A River Kwai Story: The Sonkrai Tribunal*.

He founded Northwest Coast Energy News in 2011 as an independent, neutral news website covering all aspects of the environmental and energy issues facing northwest British Columbia from the perspective of the northwest.

Robin also continues to freelance for major media, including CBC News and the Canadian Press picture service. As a freelance photographer he is available for editorial, wilderness and commercial assignments throughout the northwest region. His long term aim over the next couple of years is to launch a professional photo workshop business to bring more tourists to the northwest. Contact info:

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<http://taoofnews.com>

Twitter:

rowlandr

nwcstenergynews

Tue October 18/11 5:30am

DFO, [Coast Guard to "shed services" documents obtained by CBC say](#)

Documents obtained by CBC News say there are major cuts coming to DFO and the Canadian Coast Guard.

Employees of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans were told Wednesday their employer will soon be significantly smaller, and responsible for fewer things.

Mon October 17/11 5:30am

Rio Tinto Alcan has announced that it is "[streamlining](#)" its aluminum assets after a "strategic review."

The company says: "The move will allow Rio Tinto Alcan to concentrate on its strategy to grow the value of its high quality, tier one assets and improve the product group's financial performance."

Six assets in Australia and New Zealand will be spun off into a new company for sale, while a second group of seven assets in France, Germany, the United States and the United Kingdom will continue to be managed by RTA while the company considers divestment options.

Sun October 16/11 5:20am

[Kitimat LNG, Rod and Gun to consult on "legacy" fish and wildlife program at Bish Cove: NEB](#)

KM LNG (also known as Kitimat LNG) will consult with the Kitimat Rod and Gun club about creating a "legacy" fish and wildlife program at Bish Cove, according to the National Energy Board decision that granted an export licence for liquefied natural gas to the partnership

Fri October 14/11 5:20am

NEB approves KM LNG export licence

<http://nwcoastenergynews.com/2011/10/neb-approves-km-lng-export-licence.html>

Robin

Thu October 13/11 9:05am

EPA finds submerged oil, [orders Enbridge to file new Michigan clean up plan by Oct. 20](#)

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has ordered Enbridge to "to take additional steps to clean up the July 2010 oil spill that damaged over 35 miles of the Kalamazoo River system.'

The directive requires Enbridge to submit plans by Oct. 20, 2011 for cleanup and monitoring work expected to last through 2012".

The order comes after EPA cleanup work in the summer of 2011 identified pockets of submerged oil in the Kalamazoo River. Robin

Wed October 12/11 9:10am

[US, European companies looking at LNG powered ships](#)

European and American shipping companies are commissioning ships that have a dual fuel system that includes liquefied natural gas.

The same Finnish company that is developing the engines for large vessels, is also now working on a two-stroke engine that is also a dual fuel, LNG system.

Tue October 11/11 5:10am

Want to catch that fish? [Check its personality profile](#)

A study at Queen's University in Kingston seems to indicate that fish not only have individual personalities, but that personality could determine where the fish may be caught.

[Northern Gateway Pipeline will benefit all Canadians](#), Daniel says

Enbridge CEO Patrick Daniel, writing on the Troy Media site says Northern Gateway Pipeline will benefit all Canadians

Washington Post editorial argues that [Northern Gateway will go ahead](#)

An editorial in the Oct. 10, 2011 issue of the Washington Post argues that it is realistic that the Northern Gateway pipeline (without actually mentioning the name) will go ahead.

US Coast Guard [seizes "stateless" drift net boat off Alaska](#): AP

Associated Press reporter Becky Bohrer in Juneau reports on the Bangun Perkasa a rat-infested illegal fishing boat with a 10 mile long drift net seized off Alaska.

The recent seizure of a stateless ship in international waters 2,600 miles off Alaska's coast has spotlighted the challenge that the U.S. and other nations face in trying to crackdown on illegal fishing, an activity that accounts for up to \$23.5 billion a year in global economic losses.

Thu October 6/11 5:15pm

Enbridge [plans natural gas pipeline along Northern Gateway route](#)

Enbridge CEO Pat Daniels has told Reuters in New York that the company would prefer to supply natural gas through Kitimat to Asia "over any other export project" and that Enbridge plans to build a natural gas pipeline along the route of the proposed Northern Gateway bitumen pipeline.

[Not enough bitumen](#) production to support both Northern Gateway and Keystone XL consultant says

Bloomberg news reports that a Calgary based energy research company believes Enbridge's Oil Sands Project Is Years Early

Enbridge Inc., Canada's largest pipeline operator, wouldn't need to build the Northern Gateway project to export Alberta's oil-sands crude for almost a decade if TransCanada Corp.'s Keystone XL is approved this year, according to IHS CERA, an energy research company

Wed October 5/11 5:40am

[Seattle cod trawler wastes 114 tons of Alaska halibut](#)

The Alaska Dispatch reports the Seattle-based cod trawler Alaska Beauty took in a 43 per cent by catch of halibut, 228,800 pounds worth about \$1.6 million (US) that was thrown back in the ocean, mostly dead.

[As Joint Review deadline looms, more complaints about lack of information for the public](#)

Environmental groups are saying that the Northern Gateway Joint Review Panel and Enbridge haven't given the public enough notice that the Thursday is the deadline for registration to participate in the hearings, which begin in January

Tue October 4/11 5:00pm

Enbridge says it is joining LNG export rush

<http://nwcoastenergynews.com/2011/10/enbridge-joining-lng-export-rush-reuters.html>

Reuters and the energy media are reporting that Enbridge told an investor conference call this morning the company is into the liquified natural gas export rush. Enbridge Inc said on Tuesday it is in talks with potential producers to export overseas liquefied natural gas from Canada

[Egyptian LNG terminal is model for Kitimat project](#): Encana

China biggest customer for Kitimat LNG: Encana

<http://nwcoastenergynews.com/2011/10/china-biggest-customer-for-kitimat-lng-encana.html>

China is probably the largest long term customer for liquified natural gas that will be shipped through the port of Kitimat, executives from Encana, one of the three partners in the KM LNG project said in an investor conference call Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2011.

India could also be big customer for LNG shipped from the Horn River in northeastern BC through Kitimat, Encana said.

Conservation:

Sat October 29/11 5:20am

New From TheCanadian.org: Rafe: Why Pipelines and Tankers are Bad for BC / Well-Informed Futility Syndrome

[Oil Pipelines and Tankers: A Bad Proposition for BC's Economy and Environment](#) - by Rafe Mair

Rafe comments on two very different stories in the media this week on the perils and alleged benefits of oil pipelines... "This, then, is the bottom line: We will trade our wilderness for infinitesimal rental money with certain environmental catastrophes. Don't believe for a moment that pipeline companies will "minimize"

the risk. Even if that were true, which it isn't, the consequences are so terrible that this feeble statement is an insult to our intelligence. Moreover, the jobs will be short term and will mostly from out of province."

[Shades of Green: Well-Informed Futility Syndrome](#) - by Ray Grigg

Ever get the feeling that our environmental problems are just too big to solve? Ever cringe when hearing of another "unprecedented weather event", when reading of another species on the verge of extinction, or seeing headlines of another sobering report from climatologists, biologists or toxicologists? Ever suspect that the entire environmental mess could be a fictional concoction designed by conspirators to overthrow the economic system that has brought us prosperity? Welcome to a psychological condition called "well-informed futility syndrome".

<http://thecanadian.org/k2/item/1122-shades-of-green-well-informed-futility-syndrome>

Our independent voice for BC's environment depends entirely on your generosity - please contribute to our work: <http://thecanadian.org/donate>

Tue October 25/11 5:20am

From TheCanadian.org: Rafe's / What ISA Virus Did to Chile - Photo Essay / US Senators Demand Action on Salmon Virus

[What ISA Salmon Virus Did to Chile: Damien Gillis' 2009 Photo Essay](#)

In the wake of the discovery of catastrophic Infectious Salmon Anemia in wild Pacific sockeye this week, The Common Sense Canadian revisits Damien Gillis' 2009 photo essay documenting how the same deadly disease wiped out the Chilean salmon farming industry in a few short years. While Chile doesn't have wild salmon like BC, the ISA outbreak wrought significant cultural and socio-economic devastation on the country. Now it threatens to destroy BC's wild salmon stocks. Damien visited Chile's Region 10 in September 2009, at the height of the crisis - here's what he saw. (Note: We are working out some difficulties viewing the images in Internet Explorer)

[US Senators Demand Action on Salmon Virus While BC Counterparts Go Into Denial Mode](#) - by Damien Gillis

While US lawmakers are calling for an emergency plan to address the discovery of deadly ISAv in wild BC sockeye, the Campbell/Clark Government is preoccupied with attacking the reputation of the world's top ISAv testing lab and covering their own butts..."This is no longer a matter to leave to our backward, incompetent, self-interested BC Liberal Government. This is an international issue of grave import, as our neighbours to the south and north are reminding us. We have a duty to work with them to address this matter with the utmost sense of urgency."

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Mon October 24/11 5:10am

[wildsalmonpeople] European ISA virus in BC Update

Hello, Here is an update on where I feel things stand one week after European ISA virus was reported by the World Organization for Animal Health in 2 Rivers Inlet sockeye smolts.

<http://alexandramorton.typepad.com>

Thank you to Simon Fraser University for making this finding public,

Alexandra Morton

<http://alexandramorton.typepad.com>

Fri October 21/11 5:20am

Friends of Wild Salmon Newsletter

In this issue:

[Over 4,000 Citizens are now registered](#) for the NEB's hearing on the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline

[Enbridge misses Kalamazoo cleanup deadline](#). River still closed a year after spill

[Geomorphology report highlights pipeline concerns](#).

Thu October 20/11 5:20am

Rafe: [Catastrophic ISA Virus Found on BC Coast](#)

Infectious Salmon Anemia Virus (ISAV) is endemic to Atlantic salmon, and the only Atlantic Salmon on the west coast of the Americas reside in fish farms, whose owners have denied vigorously that any of their salmon, or the eggs they import, have any ISAV and, alternatively, if they did have this pernicious disease it could not spread to any species of Pacific salmon... Let's call this what it is: deceit on the part of the company and the three government departments involved - the provincial Ministry of Agriculture and Lands and the federal Departments of Fisheries and Oceans and The Environment.

Mon October 17/11 2:35pm

Dear Wild Salmon People:

European strain Infectious Salmon Anemia Virus has been found in two young sockeye salmon from Rivers Inlet.

We need to decide how much we want wild salmon, because will need to be extremely smart to outwit this virus and so far we are making all the same mistakes over and over.

see my bog: <http://alexandramorton.typepad.com>

Alexandra Morton

Wed October 12/11 5:10am

To the Wild Salmon People:

You can access my report "What has been happening to the Fraser Sockeye" to the Commission at the bottom of my blog: <http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/>

Read government's own words. Without the Cohen Inquiry we would not be aware of the scope of government's failure to respond to the threat of the exotic Atlantic salmon virus ISA and the presumably endemic Salmon Leukemia virus. The pattern of the Fraser sockeye collapse could not be more clear.

Now that we are aware we will need to figure out protect wild salmon. The federal government is responsible for diseases in salmon farms, the Province of BC remains the landlord of this industry and so they decide if salmon farms will remain on the Fraser sockeye migration routes. We need to decide how important wild salmon are to us.

If I don't answer all your emails, please be patient, I can't keep up with everything, this remains a volunteer effort and there is a lot going on!

Alexandra Morton <http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/>

Fri October 7/11 5:40am

Dear Wild Salmon People:

When I was on the stand at the Cohen Inquiry the lawyer for Canada prevented me from telling everyone what I learned from the 500,000 government documents I had access to as a participant. Justice Cohen still

has not made a decision as to whether to allow my report to become public or not. I am writing a booklet to release in early November and will tell you as much as I can, because this information is yours, it does not belong to me. I will let you know when it is done, any support you can offer to get it printed and continue the fieldwork would be great.

I went up the Fraser River two days ago because people reported thousands of Fraser sockeye have been floating dead down the river, still full of eggs since early August.

As a result of this trip I have written an open letter to the Director General of Science for DFO Pacific Region. [Click here to view it on my blog](#)

<http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/>

Donations can be made at: <http://www.salmonaresacred.org/> on the right-hand side of the site:

If we want the salmon that feed this land it is up to us. Please remember the Province of BC is the landlord to this industry and they are the reason it is sitting in the narrowest portions of the Fraser sockeye migration route.

Alexandra Morton

Sun October 2/11 5:40am

From [TheCanadian.org](#): Rafe: Warning for Christy, Oil Jobs Fallacy / New Gerry Hummel Enbridge Cartoon

[A Warning from the People to Christy Clark](#) - by Rafe Mair

All around BC, people are rising against their political masters and saying, "No damned way." The BC government has seemed anxious to piss off as many citizens as they can, as their policies destroyed our salmon and traumatized our rivers. They clearly didn't give a fiddler's fart for our wilderness or farmland - our precious "Supernatural BC", as Grace McCarthy aptly named it. In my travels around the province doing speeches, I noticed people there I would not have expected. The mail I get is short on the old chants of days of yore and long on impatience with both senior governments - and they're deadly serious about stopping them.

[New Cartoon: Enbridge Showdown in Kitimat](#) - by Gerry Hummel

Check out the latest from our cartoonist and Kitimat resident, Gerry Hummel. The town's council recently hosted a public forum on the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline, which would end its 1,100 km journey from the Alberta Tar Sands at the Port of Kitimat - where supertankers would be loaded with bitumen, en route to Asia and the United States. The elusive Enbridge VP for the project, John Carruthers, was there representing the company - which heard not one iota of positive feedback from the community all evening.

Rafe: Clark's Answer to Deepening Debt: [Pretend Shipping Tar Sands to China](#) Means "Jobs" for BC

The government is in deepening debt and Ms. Clark can't pretend that it's a mystery how that came about. While there are many causes the principal one is that the government didn't see the Recession coming and, when it came, went into denial. The budget of 2009 with which they proudly went to the polls was an utter and deliberate sham. Ditto the HST. How is Clark going to deal with this? Easy - Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! And where will those jobs come from? In part from exports to China.

Our independent voice for BC's environment depends entirely on your generosity - please contribute to our work: <http://thecanadian.org/donate>

Rob Brown - The Skeena Angler

I would like to welcome Rob back to my **Weekly Fishing Reports**. Rob contributes a weekly column to our local **Terrace Standard Newspaper**: http://www.bclocalnews.com/bc_north/terracestandard

Rob Brown blog: http://web.me.com/skeenaangler/Skeena_Angler/Blog/Blog.html

Rob Brown Welcome: http://web.me.com/skeenaangler/Skeena_Angler/Welcome.html

Sat October 29/11 5:10am

Catching versus fishing

It's a good lake, said Doug, a really good lake.

Doug never exaggerates. When Doug says the fishing is good, it's really good. When he says it's really good, you can bet with some confidence that it's really, really good. In fact, you can bet the farm that it's downright spectacular.

Let's go, I said.

We did.

When we got there the mosquitoes were legion: they were up our nostrils, in our ears, in our eyes, and in every crevice our bodies afforded them. It was agony. But, it was agony short-lived, because once we were on the lake, nestled among the many lake bred breezes all lakes afford, there were so few ravenous insects we dispatched them with a few swats.

After that we began to catch fish on halfbacks, a simple tie that bears a faint resemblance to the nymphal stage of a big mayfly. Then one of us – I can't recall if it was me or Doug, but I'm almost certain it was Doug because he's usually the first to start improvising when the hook-ups become frequent, switched to a leech pattern. It wasn't one of those gargantuan black wigglers that are all the rage with steelheaders these days, but a black wool bodied pattern with a wiggly tail dressed on a size 6 hook.

Suddenly, Doug had a fish on with every cast. Often he would be playing a fish, that fish would shake free, and before he could get his leech to the boat in order to make another cast, another rainbow would hammer his fly.

A leech? I inquired.

A leech, confirmed Doug.

In moments the two of us were fishing leeches, and catching rainbow trout at a rate neither of us could have imagined in our wildest imaginings.

By noon we'd released over a hundred fish between us. We'd lost all sense of reality and common sense. We'd caught more trout than most avid, skilled anglers could have hoped to have caught in a decade.

This, I said, is what fishing used to be. This is the kind of fishing men had a hundred, maybe two hundred years ago.

Doug thought that a reasonable proposition.

We ate our sandwiches and drank tea from thermoses. A man and a boy came by in a tin boat.

How's fishin'?, I called out.

Good, said the man. We caught 12 trout.

Right on, I called back.

I looked at Doug. They must be using the wrong stuff, I observed.

Lunch over, we got back to fishing, catching more fish than before. The next day we did the same thing.

After two days, we'd released 300 trout. As we prepared to pack the canoe in for day three, I sensed

Doug's heart wasn't in it.

I've had enough, I said.

Me too, said Doug.

We packed up and headed north. On the way we pulled into a rest stop where we met a fisherman headed in the opposite direction. He told us he'd fished a pair of sub alpine lakes high in the pass, just off the highway.

Hard fishing, he told us. Didn't get much, but saw some decent fish rising.

What do you think? I asked Doug when the guy had left.

Let's give those lakes a try, he said.

We did, and the fishing was past tough. It was fussy. We needed small stuff – little flies no bigger than 14, and they had to be laid down on the water with the smallest of disturbances, and even then, a take was not guaranteed.

Well into the morning (and we started early) Doug rose a fish, brought it alongside, netted it, and set it free. That act, small though it was, felt monumental.

Nicely done, I said.

We steeled ourselves to the task. We bore down. We fished hard and carefully. Doug hooked two more trout. The largest was this side of 14 inches.

I hooked a fish. It was a foot long. Dark and heavily spotted, and memorable. It took a midge, a Syl's midge, tied on a hook I would have trouble seeing, let alone dressing, these days.

We pulled the boats ashore late in the afternoon and headed for Mortua Lake where we set up camp in the dying light, then cooked hamburger and beans on the Coleman stove.

We talked about the fishing. Talled the trout, six in all.

That was good fishing, said Doug.

It was, I agreed.

We crawled into our bags and slept well.

Thu October 13/11 9:20am

Slide rules

Exactly two years before another cataclysmic 9/11 twisted the course of history, a cliff toppled into a glacier sitting high in the rugged Howson Range that presides over the headwaters of the Zymoetz and Telkwa rivers.

The rock slid over the ice field then poured into a gully, gaining momentum as it gathered more debris and soil before it smashed into the natural gas line. When it came to a halt almost three kilometres from where it began, the slide had entrained over a million and half cubic metres of rock, dirt and debris, enough to form a dam and create a lake after water backed up behind the newly formed dam.

On the seventh of June, 2002, a chunk of mountain broke off some 4 kilometres above Glenn Falls and almost two million cubic metres of rock rocketed down the narrow valley transforming itself into a massive torrent of debris that ultimately dammed the Copper with material that included chunks of rock up to 7 metres in diameter.

While the trees next to the slide that had caught fire during the slide smoldered, the river backed up more than 2 kilometres. Once again the much abused PNG gas line was a casualty as was the forest service road that provided access to the upper Zymoetz basin. It was a year before the Copper Main was opened again.

A primitive road was cut up the steep valley and bridge built across the stream a week after the slide. I wonder how long would it have taken the Enbridge response team – the one they tell us will be stationed in Burns Lake – to attend the spill that would have occurred had the same fate befallen their poison packing pipelines. Probably a long time, considering that the proposed Enbridge line wouldn't have road access, as the PNG line did, and that its route is to be located in even more rugged country. It took Enbridge a lot of time to respond to its spill in Kalamazoo, which can hardly be considered rugged inaccessible terrain. The Michigan spill was just a leak in a corroded pipe located in a section of its line that Enbridge had been told about yet hadn't repaired. That's right, a leak, not the complete KO a rockslide can deliver.

If you think these rocky disasters are rare, ponder the fact that there have been six large rock slides near the area of the proposed pipeline since 1978 and that five out of the six have happened since 1999. These large events and rock slides of the same scale on the Sutherland River, the Harold Price, and the Verney watersheds are the largest but by no means the only slides in this area over the last few decades.

Numerous smaller slides occur annually many of these are capable of rupturing a pipeline.

To make matters significantly worse, rock slides are not the only creatures ready to pounce on a pipeline. Shallow, lightning quick debris slides and avalanches are frequent in our part of the province and particularly common on the coast where shallow soils carpet steep rock slopes. And then there are flow slides.

These phenomena occur where there are slippery glaciomarine sediments, The Thunderbird logging site on the north side of the Lakelse River is one of those places. In 1995 a worker repairing the rail line was swept away and died in a landslide that carried him, his coworkers, and heavy equipment into Mink Creek. The largest slide of this kind took place in November of 2003 when almost 5 million cubic metres

of debris travelled a couple of kilometres, whacked the PNG pipe yet again, and dammed almost 2 kilometres of the river. On that occasion the natural gas service to Prince Rupert was disrupted for 10 days.

Salt left in these areas after the retreat of ancient seas is the glue holding the land together. Over time, rain leaches away the salt and the land slumps. This September we had more rain in three days than we normally do in the entire month. There is a simple explanation for this. Thanks to byproducts of our hydrocarbon economy and the greenhouse gases emitted by garbage dumps, human rumps, coal mines, and projects like the Tar Sands, the seas are warming up and the climate is a-changin'. As a result, the polar icecap is melting along with the Greenland ice sheet, glaciers, and permafrost.

This means that a lot of moisture is escaping into the environment. Climatologists reckon that we add 3% more wet stuff into the atmosphere for every degree of global warming. That means more rain and more snow. More rain and more snow mean more avalanches and more flow slides.

Now, given all these indisputable facts, I'm prepared to say that anyone who wants to build a petro line through this country is a lunatic.

Sat October 22/11 5:20am

Gypsy Fish

Elusive is an adjective that could have been invented to describe sea run cutthroat trout.

All fish that are bred and born in fresh water and spend their adolescence in the sea offer an evanescent opportunity to anglers, but there *is* a modicum of predictability in their comings and goings.

Coho will enter the Skeena's feeder streams in the latter part of September and be excavating gravel there by mid October. The likelihood of hooking a chinook will be good in June and better in July. Sockeye will be pushing upstream in the summer months. Pinks will appear in August. And, steelhead will be entering the rivers throughout the summer and fall, and will slip into their natal streams in December and March with uncanny regularity, but the spotted sea going trout are not nearly as predictable.

One year the salmon will be fighting for every bit of spawning real estate and an angler will expect to find egg sipping trout behind every one yet find few or none. A year later the salmon will be relatively scarce and the trout will be everywhere.

On the tributary streams, predicting cutthroat trout abundance is a crap shoot. On the Skeena it's lottoesque. I give, as an example, the day when Finlay Ferguson went out hoping to catch some Dolly Varden and caught a big cutthroat. Then he caught another and another. So it went until he'd twisted his hook from the jaws of a dozen fish. At that point, Finlay thought about calling it a fine day, which it was, but he was persuaded not to leave by the nagging question of how many trout he might catch before the fish stopped biting. He stayed. The answer was fifty.

When he got home, Finlay thought about the day and trout. How many trout would he catch if he returned the next day? He could return. He did return. He caught none. Not a single trout. The experience stayed with him, not so far in the background, until his last day on the river.

Years later, Doug and I were out cruising the highway one October day, when I spotted a rise in Esker Slough. Doug pulled over. We hastily assembled our rods and cast in the vicinity of the rise and were rewarded with sea trout after sea trout. Troubled by the same questions that motivated Finlay, I returned the next day. I hooked four fish.

Knowing all this, Doug and I were back on the river recently, hunting the elusive sea run trout, understanding the challenges of the task, but armed with the experience garnered over hundreds of troutings since that grand day at Esker Slough.

The sky was a nondescript grey, an indistinct wash, undulant and unpredictable. There were gusts, harbingers of the stiff, cold wind that would surely come later in the day. I hoped for a little sun, like I had for the past four months.

The river had cut new channels and renovated old ones, adding a level of complexity to our search, but our duller eyes were driven by brains that have a much better idea of what to look for.

Doug contacted a fish at the bottom of a riffle. It was a brief encounter, fleeting, evasive. He couldn't say what kind of fish it was. The kind of meeting it was suggested cutthroat. Our confidence increased.

A short time later, I landed a char. Doug missed fish he guessed were whitefish unable to get their small mouths around the larger hook he was using.

I spotted some dark, torpedo shapes. As I got closer I saw that they were dark crimson, coho. Were they spawning here? There was a tributary not far upstream. The fish were probably bound for creeks and beaver ponds at its head end.

Coho, I called back to Doug.

We fastened eggs to our tippets. If there are trout nearby, we reasoned, they won't refuse an egg pattern. There were and they didn't.

In moments, we were on to fish, first I was then Doug was, then both of us were simultaneously.

A foot long sea run is a decent fish, but we caught only a few that size, most of them were 14 and 16 inches, some were a foot and a half long, and a few were close to 20 inches. I kept count. It's my nature. I've a fondness for statistics. By the end of the day I'd released 35 trout. I've caught more than that a few times, but never so many large, fat sea runs. Doug, who doesn't keep track, had released as many or more. Catching that many trout is a sign that things are working as they should be. The sun makes an appearance. We return to the truck, shed our waders and drink a beer. We agree that we've had the sea run fishing of our lives. We won't return though. We know that tomorrow it will be over. Tomorrow it, and they, will be gone.

Fri October 7/11 5:30am

Pipe paths

Forget the legion of problems connected to the proposed Enbridge pipeline. Assume the gargantuan project is going ahead and consider what route it should take.

There are certain criteria to be considered before arriving at your final decision. If they're like every other corporation, the primary consideration for the good folks who constitute the creature we call Enbridge will be the bottom line, which means the cheapest route will be preferred.

But, you are not one of them. You have no vested interest in the corporation. You probably don't own any shares. You would probably like to see our rivers continue to flow free of oil. You would probably prefer not to be on the receiving end of a catastrophe like the one the people of Kalamazoo Michigan are still enduring. You'd probably feel that Job One should be to ensure that the route chosen will be the one that minimizes the chance of rupture. I'd certainly put shielding the line from calamity as my primary criterion.

It's obvious the final route for the poison filled pipes should be one that intersects the fewest environmentally sensitive areas. You will do well to choose a path that avoids lakes and wet lands and you will want to take special care to steer clear of rivers since they will quickly become uncontrollable agencies of dispersal in the event of oil and condensate spillage. Rivers also carry fish throughout the year and are plugged with them in summer and fall. Fish are the mainstay of the tourism industry in our neck of the woods. They are central to the culture of First Nations and pretty darn important to many of us Second Nations folk too.

Pipelines are subject to wear and tear. Like us, they become frail and subject to breakdown with age. Thus, you'll want to lay down your line in such a way as to maximize access to it. The advantages to doing so are obvious. It will guarantee that the response time in the event of calamitous breakdown. It will also greatly enhance surveillance, and this will facilitate the regular maintenance of the line, therefore dramatically reducing the chance of a disaster.

You will be wise to consider terrain stability too. Consider precipitation in all its forms – ice, snow, and rain. You should give at least as much consideration to rock, which, as we all know, tends to be highly unpredictable and surprisingly mobile around here.

In making your final recommendation, throw a sop to Enbridge, and consider cost. After all, making a profit for their shareholders is vital for Enbridge.

Now I may have missed some criteria in my list, add your own, if you want. Cover up the bottom of this column below this paragraph and mull. When you're done, lift your hand and see if your route matches mine.

OK. Time for the what the reality shows call The Reveal.

Did you choose Highway 16?

If you didn't, let me tell you why I think running the dual line along the Highway 16 comes closest to meeting our vital criteria.

Maintenance and surveillance are a piece of cake along the highway. In the event of a spill you have guaranteed road access. Moreover, very few trees would need to be knocked down. That's already been done. The right-of-way already exists. I concede that many rivers will be crossed, but no more than those Enbridge proposes to cross on their preferred route, and on Highway 16 those crossings already have bridges.

Yeah, I know, you're going to argue that the highway isn't safe. I know that there was a mud slide just west of Legate Creek that crossed the highway that almost killed two people, and that that slide was a harbinger of the massive rock slide that carried the top of a mountain to the valley floor two years later, wiping out the highway and killing a couple from Prince George who were unlucky enough to be in its path.

Those of you old enough to remember the Great Fall Flood of '78 will scoff at my claims of safety and remind me that that event took out every bridge from Terrace to Hazelton save for the one over the Zymoetz River and. But wait. I'm not saying that Highway 16 is safe. I'm saying that it is the safest route. Big difference.

The route proposed by Enbridge will cut through the most unstable land in Skeena. High elevations beneath sharp peaks high in the mountains where avalanches of rock and snow capable of smashing a pipeline to bits are commonplace, and where clouds, snow packs, and subzero temperatures in the winter make response to a rupture impossible. So, if madness prevails, and the pipe line goes ahead, choose Highway 16 say I.

Sun October 2 /11 5:40am

Britannia

I clicked on the Uniform Resource Indicator at the bottom of an e-message I recently received and there, thanks to the miracle that is cyberspace, was Mark Angelo, the noted conservationist who works for the British Columbia Institute of Technology's River Institute. Mark was upbeat, almost ecstatic, and with good reason. Pink salmon have returned to Britannia Creek.

Why is the return of a hundred humpies a cause for celebration and jubilation? Simply because Britannia Creek, its estuary, and a significant chunk of Howe Sound that is next to it, have been dead, as in, devoid of all life, for almost a hundred years.

Mining is earth abuse at its worst. The Britannia copper mine, an operation that once produced more copper ore than any other mine on earth, provides more proof that the long term economic benefits of mines are non-existent and their environmental impacts and clean up costs are on going and incredibly long lived.

The Britannia Smelting and Mining Company and the [Anaconda Mining Company](#) both realized handsome profits plundering the copper of the Britannia Mountains. Sadly the exertion of the miners produced more than copper ore, it also produced acid rock. When the mine closed in 1974 after over 80 years of operation, the flow of copper ceased, but the flow of poison into Howe Sound continued. Rainwater and runoff still flows through the tunnels at Britannia Mine where it combines with oxygen and sulphides in the waste rock to turn into a deadly brew of sulphuric acid, copper, cadmium, iron and zinc, collectively known as Acid Rock Drainage or ARD. In 2001 this ARD and 450 kilos of copper a day were entering Howe Sound via Jane and Britannia Creeks with the result that a two kilometre strip of coastal water along Britannia Beach was so seriously polluted that, at one point, it wiped out 4.5 million chum salmon juveniles that had strayed from the Squamish estuary.

At one point Fisheries and Oceans Canada tested the toxicity of the area by placing caged chinook salmon in the waters of Britannia Beach. The fish died in less than 48 hours. The water in front of the old mine gained the dubious distinction as one of the most contaminated sites in North America.

After all the damage caused by the mine, you might think that the land would revert to the Crown, who would then sue the successors of the former mine owners for the clean up costs. Unfortunately that's not how things work in the right wing, business friendly BC. In 2001, the Province reached a \$30 million settlement with the successors to the former mine owners. In the summer 2003, subsequent to an agreement with the Provincial Government, the 40 km square mine site, including the town was purchased by The Macdonald Development Corporation. The approximately 1.6 square kilometres remained with Macdonald and the remaining 39 square kilometres, including the primary contaminated areas, remained with the Province.

The Province proceeded to construct a \$20 million dollar water treatment centre to process the water pollution from the former mine, consisting of the acid mine drainage and the contaminated groundwater which formerly discharged to Howe Sound. The water treatment plant started operation on schedule in 2005. The acid mine drainage will continue for hundreds of years so the water treatment plant will remain in operation for the same span. The approximate cost for the first 20 years of the reclamation program, including all initial capital and operation costs is approximately \$100 million, which will be

primarily paid for by the Province. It's a familiar story. Miners profit by wrecking our land and the citizens are left with the bill for the cleanup.

The water treatment plant and some innovative engineering by Engineers from the Centre for Environmental Research in Minerals, Metals, and Materials at The University of British Columbia, have eliminated almost all the pollution.

Herring began returning to the waters of Britannia followed, naturally by a host of marine life, and then, to everyone's surprise and delight, the pink salmon began to repopulate the most polluted little stream on the continent.

During our celebration of Nature's resiliency, we should not forget the history of Britannia and the lessons that can be learned from it. Foremost among them, the lesson that the long term costs – including the destruction of invaluable habitat – must be calculated and be paramount prior to approval of all mining operations on our lands.

Fri September 2/11 9:30am

Noel Gyger has 96 fishing video clips on YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/profile?user=noelgyger>

Total Uploaded Views as of October 1, 2011 were: **564,689**

PLUS Noel has another 50 or so posted on his webpage:

<http://www.noelgyger.ca/video-clips-web.htm>

Kind of like: Fishing videos until you drop!

Advertise:

Want rates for sponsorship? Just click here **<http://www.noelgyger.ca/advertise.htm>**

Check the website stats for yourself: **<http://www.noelgyger.ca/stats>**

It is a "good" idea to **advertise online** because Canadians spend more time on their computers than watching television. They spend 18.1 hours per week online compared with 16.9 hours watching television.

[Click here to read the survey](#)

My GOAL is to increase TOURISM

You do not have to be a fishing guide to benefit from advertising on Noel Gyger's website. All tourism businesses, tackle businesses and others will benefit.

- over 25 years promoting tourism and fish guiding experience
- join your consumers on an angling journey of a lifetime
- communicate your unique brand awareness to new and existing consumers
- **noelgyger.ca** provides you with this opportunity with a limited time website advertising offer at reasonable prices
- gain an edge over your competitors in this ever-expanding market

Current Fishing Report webpage **<http://www.noelgyger.ca/current-fishing-reports.htm>**

\$50/week, \$150/month (4 or 5 Weekly Reports) or \$1500/year (52 Weekly Reports) for your Banner Ad to be displayed at the top of the report. **Only one top (front page) spot available.**

EXCLUSIVE TO ONE COMPANY

Left Column Bar:

Tower Ad \$150/month

Tall Button Ad \$100/month

Large Button Ad \$75/month

Small Button Ad \$50/month

Large Banner Ad \$100/month (within the body of the report 500x80 pixels)

Highway webcam: **<http://images.drivebc.ca/bchighwaycam/pub/html/www/111.html>** to view road conditions. This one is near Terrace BC and is located at the junction of Highway 16 and Highway 37, looking east on Highway 16. The image will update every 15 to 30 minutes

Fishing Regulations:

2011-2013 BC tidal waters and fresh-water (Federal) Salmon fishing information (including recent updates):

www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish

Effective April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2013 (Note: regs good for two years)

Shellfish Contamination Closures:

www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/PSP

On-line tidal waters fishing licenses:

www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish

2011-2013 Freshwater (Provincial) Fishing Regulations Synopsis:

www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/fish/regulations

Effective April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2013 (Note: regs good for two years)

Check for In-season Regulations Changes at:

www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/fish/regulations/#Inseason

Buy your fishing license online at:

www.fishing.gov.bc.ca

Safety and survival on water:

A good set of Oars and Oar Locks is NOT just for Drift-Boaters:

The smartest thing you can do is install a good set of oars and oar locks in your jet-boat and learn how to use them. If your engine quits just snap in your oars and turn your jet boat into a drift boat and either row to shore or float to the boat launch. I have had to do this a few times myself when I was guiding. I've seen too many jet boats and all they have is puny paddles. One person with one paddle is useless and even two persons with two paddles are difficult to control a large or even a small jet boat. Throw those paddles away and get yourself a good set of oars and oar locks. **Do it now! It may save your life.** Drifting out of control into a sweeper, log jam or boulders is no fun. [Contact me anytime](#) and I will be happy to give you tips how to row your jet boat.

Attention Anglers Cold Water Kills:

The waters of British Columbia are cold year-round.

If you fall in the water, remember the 1 – 10 – 1 Principle

YOU HAVE:

- 1 minute to get your breathing under control;
- 10 minutes before you are too numb to hold on or to tread water effectively; and
- 1 hour before you become unconscious due to hypothermia.

PREVENT COLD WATER SHOCK:

- Always wear your lifejacket on board. Make sure it fits properly and is in good working order.
- Check the weather before departing.
- Don't overload your boat.
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.

Over 90 percent of anglers who die while boating are not wearing a lifejacket. When you fall overboard, a lifejacket stored under your seat will do little to save your life.

Anglers are reminded to carry proof of competency such as a **Pleasure Craft Operator Card** on board at all times.

To prepare for a safe trip on the water, visit www.boatingsafety.gc.ca or call 604-666-2681 to speak with a Boating Safety Officer. Courtesy Transport Canada

Do this to your life jackets NOW:

Sew on an elongated pocket on the back and near the bottom edge of all your life jackets. Have either a zipper or Velcro closer. The pocket should be clearly labelled with large letters:

SURVIVAL ITEMS ONLY

You should put the following items into the pocket:

- Silver space blanket
- Fire starter
- Water-proof matches/lighter
- Candle
- food/candy
- Pocket knife, etc

These items can be vacuumed packed so your pocket does not have to be water proof. Actually some drain holes in the bottom may be a good idea.

Anything that will help a person survive at least one night and not die of hypothermia is a good idea, I think.

Thank you and please be safe...

Noel F. Gyger

PS I have friends who almost died of hypothermia in a boating accident. Wearing their lifejackets saved them from drowning but the cold and damp almost did them in. They would have been more comfortable during the night if they had some survival items in their life jackets.

Mon October 31/11 5:20am

Market Place:

The Riverfront

For Sale: Condos On the Bulkley River



Town Homes on the River from \$290,000

Life should be good. There are not many waterfront homes in the Bulkley Valley. Each of the eight condos are on the beautiful Bulkley River – one of North America's Premier Steelhead Fly Fishing Rivers. And that's just the beginning...

Your future home features energy-efficient, modern, affordable new homes with low maintenance. A riverfront strata development is a special way to live. The location, convenience and security allow you to enjoy all that life has to offer here.

Whether you are new to the area, first time buyers, downsizing, or looking for a holiday home with outdoor activities (fly fishing, lake fishing, skiing, hiking, birdwatching, etc.) this is a unique opportunity. The view from the balconies and the decks, with lawns down to the river, are stunning. These new properties, give you worry-free living right on the rivers.

Contact: Jane Matthews

PO Box 291, 1400 Yellowhead Highway 16

Telkwa, near Smithers, BC V0J 2X0

Tel: 250-846-6000

E-mail: info@theriverfront.ca

Website: <http://www.theriverfront.ca>

For Sale

Telkwa BC

Handcrafted log home on 1.41 acres Bulkley River frontage



Beautiful handcrafted log home on 1.41 acres Bulkley River frontage on the edge of Telkwa BC. 2/3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, chefs kitchen, custom carpentry throughout, landscaped. Too much to list.

Excellent fishing for salmon and steelhead out the back door. \$410,000.

Contact Noel Gyger for much more detail and even a slide show. **New!** May 16/11

For ALL the postings in Market Place cast here: <http://www.noelgyger.ca/market-place.htm>

Noel Gyger would like to thank ALL his sponsors. Without them the website and this fishing report would NOT be possible.

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It is NEVER too late to book a guided river or ocean fishing trip

RIVER FISHING Lots of lodge or day bookings still available on classified or non-classified waters. Guiding fly or spin fishermen with raft, drift-boat or jet-boat. [Contact Noel](#) to book NOW!

OCEAN FISHING Chinook Salmon, Bottom Fish and Crab in Prince Rupert or Kitimat Douglas Channel has started. To book warm, covered charter boat please contact Noel Gyger anytime. Phone: **250-635-2568**
E-mail: noel@noelgyger.ca

NOW BOOKING for 2011: Let me know if I can be of service to book you with the "best" fishing guide and/or fishing lodges for both river and ocean. **There are NO extra charges to book through me**, just a lot of free information and advice from a person with years and years of fishing and fish guiding experience. **It is like hiring two guides for the price of one.** I will promptly answer your questions and concerns. [Contact Noel Gyger](#) to book NOW

I hope this fishing report, *"meets with your entire satisfaction"*.

Your Feedback to noel@noelgyger.ca is always welcome

"You meet the nicest people on the river banks"