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Whitehall, Montana MTF2 Dillon, Montana MTF3

In August 2006 Brian and I had the opportunity to fly-fish with two of our outfitters in Montana, John and Sherry in Whitehall and Don in Dillon.

John is one of the top elk guides in Montana for sure and maybe even in the US, and they offer family adventures and a variety of fly-fishing excursions in the summer. And it turns out, John is an unbelievably patient and gifted fly-fishing instructor. After an hour 4-wheeling adventure up a mountain road that looked (and rode) more like a dry creek bed, we reached an amazing picturesque high mountain lake - the scene just took our breath away and was worth the ride.

As we got out our gear, we could see the hatch was on as trout were rising everywhere! It was the perfect place for me to practice my novice fly-fishing skills under the tutelage of a master, and for Brian to shake off the rust of over 20 years. We brought in a number of rainbows and browns. I even managed to bring in a cutthroat. It was an extraordinary day.

The next day we headed over to Dillon for 2 days of a completely different style of fly-fishing, tackling the trout of the Beaverhead and The Big Hole Rivers. Don introduced us to a new fly-fishing technique incorporating 2 flies and sinkers. He also warned us fishing would be tough as the water was uncharacteristically low. He might have noticed the tough fishing, we just had a great time. Don like John, was patient and supportive. Brian mastered the 2 fly rig but it was too much for me - back to dry flies for Doris! The scenery was spectacular and the fish were feisty! Brian almost had a monster brown in the boat, right in front of a bunch of other fishermen that weren't having *any* luck. Ah, but they didn't have Don! Brian capped off 2 great days by landing a nice brown within sight of the boat dock.

Thanks Montana! We'll be back!



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