

Want to catch a sturgeon this size? Check out their report on page 3!

Tracks™

September 2007

## Wild Alaska (Client Report - Dave and Pauline Mallory)

On July 20 we flew Alaskan Air and landed in Ketchikan. We called Brad Saalsaa, our host for the fishing and told him we were in town early and would spend the next three days touring Ketchikan. He said to call him on the 22nd when we were ready to go to the lodge. We really enjoyed Ketchikan and spent 4 hours on a Hummer tour. I recommend that tour.

We called Brad on Sunday morning and his wife picked us up at noon. We stayed in their house for the whole time we were with them. They have three bedrooms downstairs with a bath and it was very comfortable. We met Brad's partner Jim and his wife who also works there. They have a beautiful trophy room where they have a TV, drinks and snacks. On the morning of the 23rd we met for breakfast in the trophy room and made our lunch. The boat was only 2 minutes away by car and we were on the water before 7. It is about a 2 hour ride out to the fishing area, which can be a little hard on the back, but it goes by fast because of the view and we were seeing humpback whales all the time. We arrived at the fishing spot and trolled three or four rods for salmon. We fished with downriggers at about 35 feet using lures. We had another fisherman with us from Mexico, so the three of us took turns on the bites.

The time of year was good for coho or silver salmon, but there were a few king salmon around. Pauline and I caught 2 king salmon, 14 silvers and 1 sea bass. One of the king salmon was about 15 pounds. We moved to the halibut grounds and were fishing in 297 feet of water with 150 pound test line. We all caught halibut and we could keep one under 34 inches and one over 34 inches. We try to catch the one under 34 as close to the size as we can and hope to catch a big one also. Pauline and I caught 12 halibut, with the biggest being about 19 pounds. We fished until about 4 PM and headed back.

It takes about 2 hours again to get back. We had a drink when we got back and the two wives cooked a great dinner of halibut. We were in bed by 9 PM. Day two was the same story. On the water after breakfast and had the two hour ride

*(continued on page 2)*



## Inside

Page 2  
Alaska Reports

Page 3  
Sturgeon Mania

Page 4  
Lodge of  
the Month



(continued from page 1)

again. It was a little smoother so it went a little quicker. Just as we got to the salmon spot, 8 humpback whales popped out of the water about 50 yards from the boat. We were all so shook up seeing them that none of us took pictures until later. The salmon were a little selective that day and we caught 2 pinks and 5 coho. We went to the halibut fishing grounds and caught 5 halibut, 4 red snapper and 2 rock cod. The biggest red snapper was about 17 pounds and the biggest halibut was 67 pounds weighed.

We headed back to the lodge and had a wonderful steak dinner and went to bed. The third day looked bad for weather. It was calling for 6 foot seas and gale winds. Brad and Jim said they thought we could outrun it and beat the storm. It was rough going out and it took us longer, but we made it after bouncing around. We fished salmon again and caught

12 coho and 5 pinks. The whales were around again putting on a show. We went to the halibut area and caught 7 halibut, 6 rock cod, and a ling cod that weighed about 16 pounds. We tried jigging for the halibut with a couple of rods and used herring on a couple. The jigging seemed to work better. We headed back again and it was quite smooth going back. We had dinner and went to bed. Never had a lot of time for a drink because we were late and tired.

Brad's wife brought us to the airport at 4 PM the next day and we arrived in Tampa at 11 AM the next morning. We brought 197 pounds of frozen vacuum sealed fish with us. We also had 13 Salmon smoked and sent to us and it arrived about 6 days later. They process the fish right where the boat is docked, so it can't be any fresher.

It was a great trip and the four hosts were great. They did all they could to help us and we had a wonderful trip. If you would like more information on this trip contact your local Outdoor Connection agent. **AF19**



## Simply Unforgettable

Here are a few pics from a simply unforgettable trip to Alaska. The lodge was outstanding - great people, big, plentiful fish, marvelous food, incredible wildlife, amazing vistas... Thank you for your help in making this trip of a lifetime happen.

Regards, Claude

If you would like more information on the lodge this client visited please contact your local Outdoor Connection agent. **AF10**



## Drop Camp Hunt Travel Tips (3rd in a 3 part series)

You are responsible for the care of your meat and trophy. Your packer will be in to pack your meat for you from your hunting area.

Should you decide to mount your trophy, you will need to bring salt for your cape. All caping, skinning and caring for your hide are your responsibility. If you do not have a taxidermist, most outfitters will recommend one locally. Should you need help in transporting your cape and horns to a local taxidermist, this service can be provided for an additional fee.

Your meat can be taken home with you in your vehicle if you drive or on the airplane if you have flown. The outfitter can recommend a local processor and all fees are your responsibility. Once your game is processed, it will need to be picked up or shipped, and all shipping fees would be the hunters responsibility. You will also need to be sure and bring game bags for your meat. If you do not have them, most outfitters will provide them for an additional charge.

## Minnesota Canoe Trip (Client report by Jeff Harris)

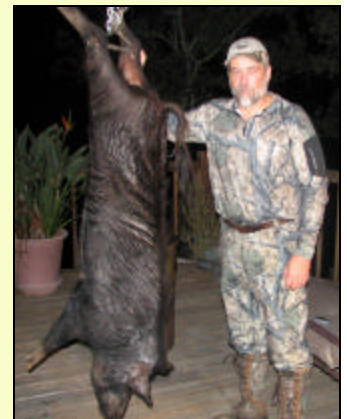
In summary, a very good trip! Martin and I arrived in Ely on Sunday evening. We were greeted and set up in our room. The bathrooms were clean as was our room. We received a discount coupon for the Ely Steakhouse and a breakfast voucher for the Vertins (I think). We got an early start on Monday. Matt drove us to point 14 and helped us get our stuff to the water. We were in our first camp by 2:00pm. All the equipment was clean and in good shape and all our food was stored in a bear proof container, thus eliminating the need to hang our food. For the most part we had great weather. The wind picked up in afternoon and settled down by about 6:00. On travel days we were setting up camp usually by 1:00, as recommended by Dan. One big note that should not go unmentioned: no bugs. One day we put some bug spray on during the day to keep black flies off our legs. The few mosquitoes we did encounter were taken care of with a slap. This may have been due to the "dry" conditions in the Boundary Waters. We did okay with our fishing. We fished hard on Tuesday in Shell Lake, Little Shell Lake and Ruby Lake, taking mostly bass. Thursday, we fished hard again hitting Oyster, Rocky and finally Green lake where we had fish. (northerns) Fishing hard means almost 12 straight hours. The quality and portion of food was excellent. The portages were all very manageable, not that we had all that many long ones. I will say this would be a difficult trip if you had little kids along. The fact that Martin could carry his share of the load made things much easier. If you would like more information on this canoe trip contact your local Outdoor Connection agent.



**MNF3**

## New Lodge Report Report from Chris Given (OC - FL)

Bill and I had a great time at our newest lodge in Florida. I harvested a good size boar around 175 lbs on Saturday evening. This is a really unique place to hunt with good accommodations, helpful and friendly staff. I really wasn't that optimistic we would be able to kill a hog with the heat and moon phase we were hunting, but the outfitter worked his tail off to get us an opportunity. The island has a tremendous amount of sign and we heard other hogs working the area. The hogs get very little pressure with only 2-3 weekend hunts per month. The outfitter is working on different scenarios for the hot summer months to improve the odds, but I think the cooler months from October to April will probably be 100% success rates for any hunter going here.



If you would like more information about this outfitter contact your local agent. **FLH1**

## Sturgeon Mania

Report from Freddy Marks (OC - BC)  
My guys from Germany left Wednesday and they were all happy.

They had a great time at one of our lodges in British Columbia and caught lots of sturgeon. The longest was 8 feet and the photos show that they had lots of fun.



All of them had only good things to say about the outfitter and their staff. They are thinking about booking it for salmon fishing again next year. **BCF3**

### Kansas Archery Whitetail Hunts

Dates: Oct 2- 7 or Dec 15-20  
Price: \$2,500

Includes: KS deer tag, lodging, meals, semi guided hunt, and stands. **KSH1**

## Lodge of the Month

This lodge has established itself as one the most exclusive fishing resorts on the beautiful southern pacific coast of Costa Rica. With over 60 world records set, this lodge offers the most intimate and thrilling fishing adventure for all levels of angling enthusiasts. Stretching for miles and miles, the private beach offers the perfect setting for a massage or pure, tranquil relaxation. Guests can also enjoy the picturesque scenery from their own beachfront pool and hot tub. The 20 rooms are air-conditioned and equipped with a mini-bar, international phone service, DirecTV satellite television, and modern ensuite bathroom. There is daily maid and laundry service. The complete fleet consists of 12 modern, 25 foot center consoles powered by twin Suzuki four stroke engines. Each boat, custom built for fishing, is equipped with the latest electronics, live bait wells and outriggers. Guests will fish with first class equipment, second to none. With the peak fishing time just around the corner, this lodge has many great dates still open for you to try and catch a world record.



Upon landing at San José airport, you will be greeted by an English speaking representative and escorted to a four star hotel for an overnight stay. Early the next morning, you will be transported to the regional airport for a 45 minute flight to Golfito. Upon arrival, their skipper representative will transport you on a short boat ride to the lodge. You will then begin your first full day of fishing. Upon your return in the late afternoon, you will be able to relax, swim or beach comb before joining the restaurant for dinner and socializing. Day 2 begins with breakfast served at 5:30am. Dock time is at 6:00am where you will begin another full day of fishing. The morning after your booked fishing days, breakfast will be served and you will be transported back to Golfito where you will catch your return flight to San José. **CRF2**

**4 Day/3 Night - \$2,995 per person (double occupancy)**

**5 Day/6 Night - \$3,995 per person (double occupancy)**

# Tracks™

Tracks is published monthly free of charge by Outdoor Connection, Inc. No portion of this publication may be reproduced without the written consent of Outdoor Connection. Readers may forward issues of Tracks freely, so long as the publication is not altered in any way. The information in this issue, including pricing and availability, is subject to change without notice.

Questions or feedback?  
Contact: [tracks@outdoor-connection.com](mailto:tracks@outdoor-connection.com)

Tracks is comprised by  
Outdoor Connection, Inc  
424 Neosho  
Burlington, KS 66839  
Marc Glades, President  
Tracey Splechter, Editorial Assistant  
<http://www.outdoor-connection.com>  
© 2004 Outdoor Connection, Inc. All rights reserved.



## Outdoor Connection®

The Worldwide Hunting and Fishing Authority™

This issue of Tracks is provided to you free of charge by your local Outdoor Connection agent. For more information on any of the adventures in this issue or other expeditions worldwide, contact the agent below: