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KING SALMON MAINA ON THE GOODNEWS RIVER!

Fishing Report July 21, 2010

For the third year in a row, in spite of the many river closures to King Salmon fishing throughout Alaska, the Goodnews River has produced another outstanding run of Kings. Our season started June 22, and when our first guests arrived at Camp, they found that the weather was the total opposite of what we experienced last year. It was cloudy, rainy and cold, absolutely the best weather for King fishing. The River was in great shape with the water temperature a cool 46F. Our guests spent the first part of the week with some outstanding Trout fishing as the Kings were still a little shy. But by the end of the week, the Kings showed up in force, and there were some pretty good catches on both Fly and Plug. Camp owner Capt. Mike Gorton guided 2 anglers to 13 on Fly, and many boats landed 10+ per day, with fish to 35lbs caught. But it was just the beginning.

The run continued to build and by the time the second week's (June 30-July 7) guests arrived, it was in full swing. Each day that week anglers boated numerous fish to 40 lbs. Flies worked equally as well as plugs, with Capt Gabe Nyblad's boat scoring 31 Kings one day, all on fly! Fishing remained incredible all week as the weather co-operated and remained cloudy and rainy. You didn't have to go far from the Lodge to catch fish as 2 of our diehard guests found out. They walked upriver about 200 yards from the Lodge each evening after dinner and landed Kings, Chums, Sockeyes and Rainbows. It was truly an epic week. And while it was very hard to tear yourself away from the outstanding King fishing, for those who did there was also epic fishing for Rainbows and BIG Grayling. One angler fished an afternoon for Trout and caught the migration upriver as the Trout were moving with the salmon, and managed to boat 30 Rainbows on the Mouse. Not too shabby!

Outstanding fishing continued into the third week, (July 7-14). We welcomed a group of 5 from St. Petersburg, Russia to camp, and promptly got them into their first Kings. Clients who had never fished with a Fly rod before were catching both Kings and Chums each day. By now some fish had started to move up the main branch, and plug fishing took a turn for the better. The weather finally moderated towards the end of the week (darn!), and the Kings went into their usual sulking mode and were a little more difficult to catch, but the bright sea lice covered Chums more than made up for them. One angler decided to fish for them with a popper ala Silvers, and in 2 hours was able to raise over 30 Chums. Anyone who wanted to catch bright Sockeyes had their hands (and their fish boxes) full, as they are feisty and oh so tasty for export. Rainbows and Grayling continued to provide great action as well, with the Mouse as the fly of choice in the sun.

By the fourth week (July 14-21) the River was just loaded with fish. The Kings continued their push although not in the numbers seen earlier. But there were still plenty to catch as boats were landing up to 20 per day. Our King fishing was so outstanding that one former client called in the middle of his trip on the Alagnak River to find out about the King fishing on the Goodnews because his party had not caught any there. When he heard how good the Kings were here, he promptly left the Alagnak and flew to the Goodnews for 3 days. Needless to say, they weren't disappointed. The Chums and Sockeyes continued to flood the River providing all the action anyone could want. And this week saw the start of the Dolly run as they followed the salmon upriver to begin the feast. The egg drop was just beginning, and that bodes well for more outstanding Rainbow and Dolly fishing as the summer progresses. It won't be long now before the Pinks and Silvers start their appearance as well, so stay tuned for additional updates.

By now it should be evident that the Goodnews River has a very healthy King Fishery. While numerous rivers in Alaska continue to be closed to King fishing, some for the 3rd year in a row, the Goodnews River run just continues to strengthen. We don't know of any other River in Alaska where can you catch as many chrome bright Kings as the Goodnews. If you've been thinking of fishing for Kings in Alaska, then you owe it to yourself to fish the Goodnews River Lodge in 2011. We are currently accepting reservations for King Season in 2011 now. With this kind of King fishing, space won't last long. To reserve your spot, contact us at 1-800-274-8371, or go to the [Contact Us](#) link on the web site.

Tight Lines!

Mike Gorton, aka The RiverKeeper