



### **Weekly Fishing Report for October 12-19, 2003**

**Weather:** Hi 12C / Lo -2C. Mixed bag of sun, and cloud, very little rain, snow squalls

**Guests:** John Salkeld, Hamish Watson, Hugh & Isabel Murray

The regulars have returned.....again. Team UK Steelhead is back for the third year in a row on their favourite week to pester the steelhead of the Bell Irving and for the first time the Nass River. It is always a treat to welcome back this group from England to Bell II Lodge. This week always give us a very good indication of just how good the run of fish is each year - a benchmark so to speak. We have been lucky enough to have the same rods for the same amount of time on the same week since we started our operation. The 2003 season proved to be one of the best so far.

After the difficult and high water conditions encountered during the previous week, there was bound to be a bunch of new fish in the river. On the first two days of fishing, we hooked over 20 fish on the Bell Irving River. Our prediction was right and the timing was perfect for this group.

Hugh kept with his tradition of only allowing fish over 15 lbs to take his fly. He has some kind of technique for landing BIG fish only (He fishes PINK religiously). He had two fish close to 20 lbs and a number of others tipping 15. His lovely wife, Isabel, was ahead in the numbers by weeks end and finished her holiday with her largest fish ever - an 18 lb, thick, bright steelhead buck just minutes before she had to leave. The Murray's once again proved to be a great team to spend another unforgettable week in the wilderness of BC.

John Salkeld once again proved that experience and consistency pays off when searching for steelies. Although he started the week slow (for his standards) he had a four fish day on the Nass to be the top rod for the week. The highlight of the day was a 15 lb fish that took a skated dry fly. John also landed a beautiful 38" buck earlier that morning - quite a day by any steelheaders standards. Hamish was new to steelhead fishing, but learned very quickly. He hooked and landed fish everyday. For someone new to steelheading this experience was as good as it gets.

Although these anglers had fished the Bell Irving before, the heli fishing on the Nass was a special adventure.

We did equally well on both rivers but the wilderness experience and natural surrounding of the upper Nass was truly exceptional. To find a big bull moose standing in your fishing spot upon arrival by helicopter starts the day off great even if you don't catch a fish. This group has confirmed "their" week again for next year.

Catch rates for this week were among the best of the season. Please call for more details (1-888-655-5566).

We have spaces available for our "Upper Nass Package" on this week in 2004.