



Patagonian Basecamp Report

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Without a doubt, this has to rank among the top early seasons for us, ever, as far as quality of dry fly fishing at Patagonian BaseCamp. The weather continues warm and dry, and as the streams shrink and the water warms a bit, the fish become more available and active on the surface. Some of the fishing this past week was almost embarrassingly good, with big numbers of browns and rainbows caught daily, and some real "horses" in the mix. Don't count out the lake fishing during your stay, either - Marcel has some dry fly

sight-fishing that has to be experienced to be believed! A couple of the program's smaller streams are beginning to be affected by this drought, as you'll read, but the beauty of PBC is that there are many streams, of all sizes, so that low water years aren't really much of a problem; there are always waters in perfect shape to fish.

- Mike Mercer



ANOTHER WEEK WITH clear blue skies! Air temperatures were a little lower, but daily averages still hover around the 80-degree mark. The rivers around the TempleCamp produced incredibly well again. The Rio Pico river system, however, is getting almost too low to float, as it is a much smaller watershed, to start with. Guide Craig had a hard time dragging the raft over the rocky river bed, but Jim had a great day tossing dry flies and caught dozens of fish. The Rio Rosselot reached its perfect flow and while the dry fly fishing had not been at its best there yet, it is now...this week it was fishing great with large foam patterns. Steve caught 5 rainbows over 20 inches on his first day here, a pretty epic start! As the winds were down this week, Lago Rosselot was like a mirror and the foam lines were full of fish. Sight fishing for sipping rainbows in the 17 to 21 inch range was spectacular. Amy and Keith had an unbelievable day here, picking out "their trout of choice". The next day Kari and

Dave had a similar experience. It is truly unbelievable sight fishing and 30 to 40 fish days are not exceptional.

Everybody caught fish over 20-inches, and Sue caught her biggest brown ever. Bob, our lodge record holder with a near 20-pound rainbow taken on a previous trip, caught the biggest brown of the week, a beautiful 24.5 incher on a dry fly on the second day of the Palena overnight float, while his wife Susan was riding a horse along the banks of the river.

Next week's report is going to be a little different, I suspect, as rain is expected. This is not really a bad thing, as a bit of rain will only make those Rio Pico streams more manageable, and not hurt the larger rivers.

Water conditions:

- ▲ Water color – all rivers are in great shape
- ▲ Water level – some rivers are getting low and rain would be welcome
- ▲ Water temperature – between 48° and 64°F

Weather conditions:

- ▲ Wind speed – winds were down this week, with an afternoon breeze on some of the rivers
- ▲ Air Temperature – 75° TO 80° F
- ▲ Clear blue skies every day. Waiting for rain but for the rest, blue skies

Fishing Conditions:

- ▲ Dry fly fishing was key, but dropper nymphs also produced well
- ▲ Fly lines – all fishing was with floating lines in the #5-#6 class
- ▲ Biggest fish landed for the week – a 24.5-inch brown, a 24-inch rainbow, and numerous 22 and 23-inch fish

Marcel Sijnesael

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There are still a few spots remaining at Patagonian BaseCamp, during some prime 2012 weeks. If you are interested in visiting, please let us know by giving us a call at: **(800) 669-3474** or shooting us an email and we will get right back to you.

Until the next report, tight lines and all the best fishing.

Log on to our website, or better yet call us today for information, reservations or rates.



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