

Casa Vieja Lodge - March 2010 report

Coming off a great February with light winds, the March anglers so far have done well:

- * Naines group (01-02) fishing aboard the "Intensity" raised 34 , had 31 bites and 20 releases; their second boat "Pelagian" raised 26, had 22 bites and 16 releases
 - * The Batesko group (02-03-04) fishing aboard the "Rum Line" raised 53, had 41 bites and 22 released + 3 marlin raised, had 2 bites and 1 released (est 350lbs)
 - * The Soliday group (05-06-07) fishing aboard the "Rum Line" (25-20-14) and "Finest Kind" (27-24-14) having a good time
 - * The Bradley group (05-06-07) fishing aboard the "Pelagian" (9-7-4) are having a tough time of it. They did raise one blue on Friday. Of note Dru Guillot in the Bradley party (5 thru 7th) caught an albino sailfish. You be the judge
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NS8s4bMW1kE>
 - * The Coleman group (05-06-07) fishing aboard the "Twenty" (19-18-10) and Circle Hook (37-29-22)
 - * The Schifferdecker group (05-06-07) fishing aboard the "Intensity" (36-28-20)
 - * The Pastro party fishing about the same time as the Murphy group (9-10 & 12th) from So. Fla encountered heavy seas. Heavy for us, but not for where they normally fish. The crew of the Spindrift kept them on the fish 26-21-14 and 1 blue raised. Our certified guide, Juan Carlos took them up to La Antigua on their off day for some local culture and shopping. Gotta bring the wives some jade!
 - * The first section of Murphy's group (9 thru 11th) didn't fare well. Finally on their last day on Intensity connected 19-14-8 on fly.
 - * The second section (12 thru 14th) fared better. On Release 26-23-14; Finest Kind 15-7-4 and raised 4 blues, releasing 2; and on Intensity 34-27-18
- It should be noted that the So. Fla anglers faced large swells – much higher than we normally see, but due mainly to the cold fronts pushing down from the USA.
- * The Waleryzak party (15th thru 17th) fishing Release 32-21-8 and 1 250 blue released on fly. Fishing on Intensity 46-18-9
 - * The DeCorral party from Argentina (15th thru 17th) had to switch boats – Capt. Nicho from Spindrift to Canaso took them to the moon and back 53-22-10 on fly.
 - * The Horsley group – (same time) Finest Kind 29-10-6; Rum Line 30-19-5; Pelagian 53-19-9 and 1 blue raised

- * Fervert party (15th thru 18th) on Rum Line with Capt. Chris Sheeder – 12-9-5
- * Second Horsley group (19th thru 21st) fishing on Release 30-12-6 on fly and raised 2 blues; Intensity 20-8-7 and 1 blue
- * Trefelner group (18th thru 20th) on Finest Kind 19-16-11 and 1 blue
- * Dr. Lee Sprinkle and partner fly fishing from the Twenty with Capt. Jason Brice (15th thru 19th) 23-12-8 on fly and 1 300 black also on fly. Good job!
- * Stagg party from Texas (18th thru 20th) on the Pelagian with Capt. Chico Alvarenga fishing conventional gear 26-21-16
- * Don Scovira and his wife from Colorado escaping the winter cold fished aboard the Intensity (22nd thru 24th) with Capt. Mike Sheeder 27-22-15 on fly and raised 2 blues, releasing 1 250# on conventional.
- * SWS Editor John and his lovely wife Poppy Brownlee joined by photog extraordinaire Richard Gibson fished the Finest Kind with Capt. Ron Hamlin for two days (22 & 23) 8-3-3 and Poppy got her first blue – 225# on conventional. The following day (24th) they were aboard the Rum Line with Capt. Chris Sheeder 12-10-7 Article to be out this winter on their adventure.
- * A group of Brazilians took over the lodge (25th thru 27th) on their annual pilgrimage fished four of our boats: Release with Capt. Nico Melendrez 40-34-20 and 1 blue raised; Intensity with Capt. Mike Sheeder 20-16-10; Rum Line with Capt. Chris Sheeder 48-38-21 and Pelagian with Capt. Chico Alvarenga 25-18-14 and 1 300# blue. Mini Tournament Totals: Sailfish = 133 raised, 106 bites, 65 released / Blue Marlin: 2 raised, 1 bite, 1 released
- * Squeezed in the lodge were Davis Mitchell & Robert Gates who went down to go over plans to build a hospital in Pto. San Jose and replace the aging clinic there. They got out one day (26th) on the Finest Kind with Capt. Ron Hamlin 11-10-7
- * Christiansen & Needler groups were next (28th thru 30th). Christiansen fishing the Release 33-29-22 on conventional plus raising 2 blues. Needler fishing on Intensity 52-42-28
- * Now have the Shimano Tackle group (29th thru 01st) on the Finest Kind with Capt. Ron Hamlin. First two day report is encouraging 19-17-11 and 1 blue raised.

The Shimano group finished its final day (01 April) with 19 raised, 16 bites and 14 releases. Total for the 4 day trip was 57-52-38 released a 1 blue

The team of Daniel and Jacob Percy (02 thru 04) were able to get down for a few days. Daniel is a regular customer of Capt. Hamlin. They did extremely well - raising 86, with

78 bites and 50 releases. *"Ron Hamlin is at the top of his game & the top of the sport. I've fished with a lot of great captains & Ron is among the 'best of the best'. The crew is also world class. Fishing was incredible! Lodge is the best of the many places we've stayed in Guatemala - A 1st class operation"*