

Silver Hilton Steelhead Lodge

June 2010

Inside this issue:

- Looking forward to the 2010 Season
- A Farewell, but not Goodbye, from Lani
- Steve Myers' Note
- Introducing Fly Water Travel
- Getting to Know our Guides
- Reservations
- License Purchase on-line
- Credits
- Contact us

Pre-season 2010

Looking forward to the 2010 Season

As we move into the summer the excitement of the Steelhead season is upon me. There is nothing to equal fall on the Babine and I look forward to it with great anticipation.

As much as I would like to tell you that it will be a stellar year for Steelhead returns, it is too early to tell. Our snow pack was low this past winter so it looks like we should have a low water year which is always good for finding fish.

Mark, Dave and Aaron are all back this year. We should have Kim back at Main Camp preparing fantastic meals for us and, of course, Brandy at Triple Header will be doing a stellar job as always. Our team is second to none and I am fortunate to have such great staff to make my life a little easier, and keep me looking good at the same time.

I wish Lani all the best in his new adventures of a big move and semi-retirement. Unfortunately, Lani will not be up at the Lodge this fall and we will miss him, but he'll be back for the 2011 season and many years thereafter.



I look forward to working with Ken and Brian from Fly Water Travel and I know this new relationship will be fantastic for all.

Lets all cross our fingers and wish for a Tsunami of Steelhead charging up the Babine and devouring our Leeches and Waking Bombers. See you all in the fall!

Brian Schneider
Lodge Manager



"Three-fourths of the Earth's surface is water, and one-fourth is land. It is quite clear that the good Lord intended us to spend triple the amount of time fishing than taking care of the lawn."

☞ Chuck Clark

A Farewell, but not Goodbye, Message from Lani



As most of you know, 2010 will be my last season as manager of the Silver Hilton reservations system. Starting September 1, 2010 the account will be managed by Fly Water Travel of Ashland, Oregon. I have known and worked closely with Ken Morrish and Brian Gies for years and they will do a great job.

My long relationship with Silver Hilton and the Babine River will go on. I will continue to promote and book the lodge, and seek new clients as space becomes available each year, and I am staying active in the fly fishing travel business through my

relationship with Ken and Brian. So you haven't seen the last of Lani Waller.

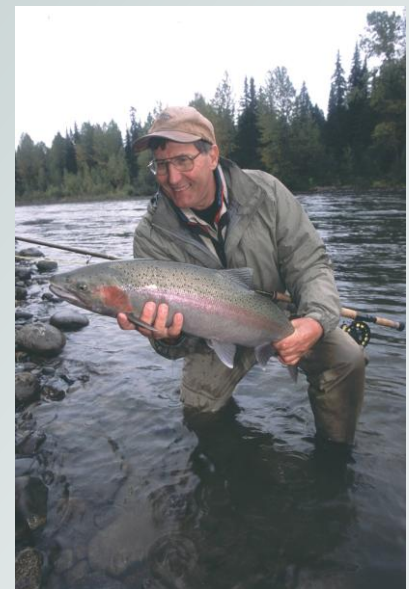
I will also continue as director of The Babine River Foundation, fighting for our position as a stakeholder in the world's best wild steelhead fishery. Thanks go to Stephen Myers and Brian Schneider for the opportunity for me to do so, and for their help and support over the last 11 years since Steve purchased the lodge back in 1998.

I also want to personally thank all of you for your commitment to Silver Hilton and to the river we all love. Your support has made all the difference to me professionally and personally, and I regard my relationship with you as one of my greatest accomplishments.

I look forward to many more years of contact with you and many more seasons of fishing with you, and I will be in contact soon with news and opportunities for angling adventures with me all over the world!

Sincerely,

Lani Waller



Lani Waller
On the Babine River

A Note from Steve Myers

I know you are all looking forward to the upcoming season with as much anticipation as I am. I can't wait to get back on the beautiful Babine!

This year marks the end of Silver Hilton's booking relationship with Lani Waller and Worldwide Anglers. Lani has been a large part of our success through his hard work and dedication to the lodge and our environmental efforts. I would like to take this opportunity to wish Lani "Good Luck" on the big move, and "Thank You" from all of us at Silver Hilton. Lani will remain part of our family and we will be seeing him on the Babine and at the Lodge for many years to come.



Steve Myers (third from left) with (left to right) Larry Bijou, Bob Wood and Giana Allen

Introducing Fly Water Travel

Fly Water Travel was founded 11 years ago by Ken Morrish and Brian Gies of Ashland, Oregon. Morrish brought with him a long history in the fly fishing industry as well as exceptional writing and photography skills. Gies came to the table with a degree in accounting and experience in sales and business management. Their business is dedicated exclusively to searching out the finest fly fishing destinations in the world and sharing that information with others in an honest, unbiased fashion. They are experienced anglers, passionate travelers,

and are unerringly committed to making sure their customers have the best angling experience possible.

Over the years they have gained the reputation for having the best fly fishing catalog in the business, and for being honest, service oriented individuals who greatly enjoy their daily work and the customers they work with.

Today, Fly Water Travel represents more than 120 fly fishing destinations worldwide, virtually all of which have been visited by a member of their staff.

Brian and Ken are assisted by Margaret Humphrey, Lindy Miller, and Charles Gehr. The entire crew at Fly Water is honored to be associated with Silver Hilton and look forward to getting to better know all of you who cherish wild steelhead and the Babine.

Please feel free to learn more about Fly Water Travel at www.flywatertravel.com



Ken Morrish



Brian Gies

Payment Policy – 2011

- 50% deposit is due by December 1, 2010 for the 2011 season. Final payment is due April 1, 2011. Invoices will be mailed out by Fly Water Travel.
- Late payments may result in cancellation of your permanent or temporary space.
- In the event of a cancellation your payment is non-refundable unless a suitable replacement is found. Unfortunately, as Committee to Preserve the Babine River Wilderness, known as Save the Babine, is a charitable organization, we cannot refund contributions once a “Thank You” letter has been mailed out to you.
- All deposits and final payments are to be made by check.
- All payments should be sent to:
Fly Water Travel
27 3rd Street
Ashland, OR 97520
- Checks for your Silver Hilton stay should be payable to: Fly Water Travel
Checks for foundation should be payable to: Save the Babine

Getting to Know Our Guides



Mark McAneeley

Mark McAneeley

Mark McAneeley is our Head Guide and has been with the Lodge since 1996. Mark formerly guided on the Bulkley River and currently guides for winter steelhead on the Gold River in early spring.

Being from Campbell River gives Mark the opportunity to fish and guide a number of coastal streams for winter Steelhead. He also guides at Langara Island Lodge which is a high-end saltwater destination located off the northern tip of Haida Gwaii, an archipelago in Northern BC.

Mark spends his winters at home in Campbell River and guides some local day trips on the Gold and surrounding rivers. Later in the spring he heads for Langara Lodge until late August when he returns to the Bulkley Valley, and the Babine, for his greatest passion of angling and guiding for giant wild trophy Steelhead.

With an extensive spey casting background dating back to the 70's, and his membership with G-Loomis pro staff, Mark's many years of dedication to the sport of Steelhead fly fishing undoubtedly makes him one of the Lodge's most valuable resources.

David Holland

Dave Holland is a local boy born and raised, and has been fishing the Skeena and its tributaries for most of his life. He has been with the Silver Hilton since 2003, and in that time has seen a lifetime of big double stripe bucks.

He started his guiding career on the Bulkley River before coming to the Babine, and has since become an expert on the water, and an extremely valuable member of the guiding staff, giving his guests the chance at that once-in-a-lifetime trophy Steelhead.

All of our guides have wide-ranging casting knowledge and Dave is no exception. Making sure our guests are proficient casters is part of our mission and each of our guides can undoubtedly make you a better caster.



David Holland

Getting to Know our Guides



Aaron Henderson

Aaron Henderson

Having a passion for Steelhead fly fishing is the number one prerequisite of being a guide at the Silver Hilton, and Aaron Henderson is definitely qualified in that respect. Aaron grew up in the Kispiox Valley and has been fishing and guiding the local waters for many years. The Skeena system is his home and Aaron has explored much of it.

Aaron is the newest addition to our guiding staff and is going on his 4th year. We feel ourselves very fortunate to have such a dedicated and skilled guide.

Aaron has been rafting, kayaking and guiding the Skeena system for many years. He has also spent five years guiding on the Dean River and occasionally goes back prior to his season on the Babine.

Aaron, and his wife Brandy, run our Triple Header location for the season, and make a great team.

“All the romance of trout fishing exists in the minds of the angler and is in no way shared by the fish.”

—Harold F. Blaisdell

Reservations

Silver Hilton Steelhead Lodge operates on a seniority system based on the number of consecutive years fished with us. Once you have a permanent spot, the lodge will honor your space as long as you continue the reservation and follow the lodge payment policy.

Once you are a permanent guest for four years, you will be entitled to a one year leave of absence for medical or family emergencies, with a maximum of two missed years for every 10 years fished with us.

All permanent guests will have the option of requesting date changes.

Requests for leave of absence or date change should be made in writing to the Silver Hilton Lodge or Fly Water Travel.

The management of the Silver Hilton Lodge reserves the right to terminate any reservation and relationship with any guest.

“...my biggest worry is that my wife (when I am dead) will sell my fishing gear for what I said I paid for it.”

Koos Brandt

Silver Hilton Steelhead Lodge

Purchasing your License On-Line

Your 2010 fishing licenses for your week at Silver Hilton must be purchased on-line from the BC government's website: www.fishing.gov.bc.ca The Website has a tutorial on how to purchase a license.

You will need to purchase the following:

- A basic non-resident license (either 8 day or annual)
- A Classified Waters License for each day you fish the Babine, and
- A Conservation Surcharge receipt.

All of these are purchased on the site, and your receipt is printed immediately. The name to use for your guide is Brian Schneider. For those who purchased last year – you would have been given an Angler Number. If you still have this number available, it will save time when issuing your new license. If not, the site can find you by name and date of birth. Don't forget to bring the printout of your license with you.

Contact Us

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Credits

We'd like to give recognition and thanks to those whose photographs were used in this edition of our newsletter. So thanks go to:

Ken Morrish of Fly Water Travel

Our Lodge Manager, Brian Schneider, the guides: Mark McAneeley, David Holland and Aaron Henderson, and all the guests who took pictures for our files.

Check out our Website www.silverhilton.com for photographs from previous years.



Triple Header's new

Fire Pit

Grand Opening - September 2010