

NEWS

WORLD RECORDS

FRESHWATER FISHING

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Edition 2nd Half-Year 2010

The independent news from WWW.FISHING-WORLDRECORDS.COM

CATCH OF THE YEAR 2010



Date: 12 December 2010

English name: Barramundi

Scientific name: *Lates calcarifer*

Method: rod & reel

Weight: 44,64 kg (98 lb 7 oz)

Length: 135 cm (53 inches)

Water: Monduran Dam

Country: Australia

Angler: Denis Harrold

For the first time in our history we voted for a perch-like fish. It's the second largest freshwater fish ever caught with rod & reel on the continent of Australia & Oceania. It had a girth of astounding 107 cm (42 inches).

Harrold fought 15 minutes from his kayak with this Barramundi, who attacked a soft plastic lure. Mr. Harrold, who specialises in targeting Barramundis in reservoirs from a kayak, and his fishing partner Mick Self had landed about 15 specimens during the four nights they had been at the dam. Their haul had included five fish from 123-127cm long - maybe the best Barramundi session of all times.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friend of fishing and ichthyology,

welcome to the issue 2010 of your "WRRF News".

In addition to our ongoing updates of weight, length and age records we started a massive investigation to obtain the failing photos. That is why we could add photos of 72 new species since July 2010 - 73% of the profiles (57% one year before) include a photo now. Of course more catches with "other methods", more estimated weight/length data but definitely record-size specimens...

The new structure with a scientific directory and species profiles has improved the usability. But the presentation is still in need of improvement. We are not sure which arrangement within the order (e.g. carps) will be the best: weight classes, families or continents. Therefore your feedback is necessary.

We want to show less known, large species of remote waters. Then angling tourists, mainly practicing catch & release and angling travel businesses will check out these destinations and enlarge their offer. Native commercial fishermen have a new source of income through guiding. This is a chance to reduce commercial fishery and therefore protect threatened species.

We are always grateful for your information of possible record catches. In addition we need your help to review our estimates because of the length-weight-ratio! Simply send us an E-Mail at editor@fishing-worldrecords.com.

And now enjoy this issue and expect the unexpected...

Heinz Machacek
research editor & fish historian
AUSTRIA

P.S. Thanks for all your donations which help us a little bit to run this time- and cost intensive website due to the high quality content (sponsoring and advertising opportunities see page 6).

FACTS & FIGURES

visitors per month: + 400.000

Newsletter: 2.200 subscribers, audience at least 20.000

Species +5 kg in the database: 481 (475 by June 2010)
plus european species between 1-5 kg: 31 (30)
profiles with record catch photo: 345 (273)

Sportfishing records: 68% (61%) of the species

Record age known: 42% (42%) of the species

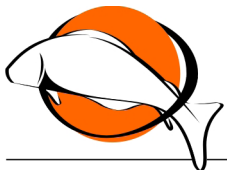
Updates July 2010 – June 2011:

record weights 52

record ages 3

record lengths 39

record photos 127



+++TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++

Do you remember the highlights of the first half year 2010 – the new best marks for Burbot (March), Common Carp (January, May) and Speckled Peacock (February, March)? Now we present the most remarkable catches of the second half 2010:



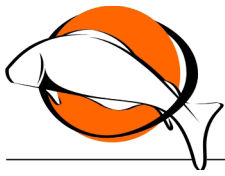
Date: 28 June 2010
English name: Black Pacu
Scientific name: *Colossoma macropomum*
Method: rod & reel
Weight: 35,00 kg (77 lb 3 oz)
Length: over 100 cm (over 39 inches)
Water: fishing lake Corrego das Antas
Country: Brazil
Angler: Marcio David

This is the new rod & reel record for purebred Black Pacu as we canceled the old rod & reel record of 40 kg, because it was a hybrid. "Tambacu" (hybrid between *Piaractus brachypomus* and *Colossoma macropomum*) and "Tambaqui" (*Colossoma macropomum*) are different species. The largest specimens in Brazilian fishing lakes are hybrids. Very interesting, because normally hybrids never reach the size of their parents. According to the Florida FWCC, both species and the cross between the two are reported from Florida without evidence of reproduction. We are convinced that also the new IGFA record from Florida with 24,95 kg (55 lb 0 oz) and the dead found specimen from January with 38 inches were only hybrids and therefore not in our database.



Date: 16 July 2010
English name: Lake Trout / Brown Trout
Scientific name: *Salmo trutta*
Method: rod & reel
Weight: 18,82 kg (41 lb 8 oz)
Length: 103 cm (41 inches)
Water: Lake Michigan
Country: USA
Angler: Roger Hellen

Hellen was fishing off the Wisconsin coastline when he caught this Lake Trout/Brown Trout. The fight lasted 30 minutes. Though Hellen's fish is one ounce heavier than the current IGFA record set in the Manistee River on 8 Sept. 2009, the IGFA considered the fish a tie. To be exact, the fish from Manistee River was a stream-resident form (*Salmo trutta morpha fario*), the fish from Lake Michigan a lake form (*Salmo trutta morpha lacustris*) and in Europe's alpine lakes lake forms up to 31 kg were caught with rod & reel!



+++TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++



Date: 7 August 2010

English name: Giant Mottled Eel

Scientific name: *Anguilla marmorata*

Method: rod & reel

Weight: over 15,00 kg (over 33 lb)

Length: approx. 170 cm
(approx. 67 inches)

Water: district of Papara, Tahiti

Country: French Polynesia

Angler: doesn't want to be named

This is the largest freshwater eel ever caught on a fly rod and one of the largest eels caught with rod & reel. After two bites where the 45 lbs. leader was broken, the third giant eel was landed and released. The fight lasted 31 minutes. The streamer is visible in the mouth of the eel. Exact measurements couldn't be taken, as the fish was still very powerful and it was impossible to handle without injuring it. On Tahiti island *A. megastoma* grow larger than *A. marmorata*, but this specimen was definitely an *A. marmorata*. Both species are found mixed in the same sections of the clear creeks.



Date: 20 July 2010

English name: Blue Catfish

Scientific name: *Ictalurus furcatus*

Method: rod & reel

Weight: 58,97 kg (130 lb 0 oz)

Length: 145 cm (57 inches)

Water: Missouri River

Country: USA

Angler: Greg Bernal

The new record was caught near the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. Fifteen minutes pass before Bernal could pull the monster fish alongside the boat. Fisheries biologists estimate the fish's age at 20 to 30 years.

Since 1992, when the MDC banned commercial catfishing on the Missouri, the river and its tributaries have produced several blue cats exceeding 100 pounds. The best mark rises from year to year.



Date: 4 October 2010

English name: Giant Pangasius

Scientific name: *Pangasius sanitwongsei*

Method: rod & reel

Weight: 56,00 kg (123 lb 7 oz)

Length: 137 cm (54 inches)

Water: Palm Tree Lagoon

Country: Thailand

Angler: Tim Webb

Special thanks to Tim Webb, an angler from Australia and an expert for fishing in Thailand, who sent us a lot of accurate data and high quality photos in 2010.

He caught three really extraordinary specimens of Giant Pangasius, Catla and Rohu within one week! With the catfish he holds the new rod & reel record. Meanwhile he circumvented a far larger Giant Pangasius (not to be confused with *Pangasianodon gigas*) in 2011, which we are verifying at the moment.



Date: 6 October 2010

English name: Catla

Scientific name: *Gibelion catla*

Method: rod & reel

Weight: 32,00 kg (70 lb 9 oz)

Length: 98 cm (39 inches)

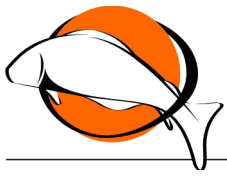
Water: Palm Tree Lagoon

Country: Thailand

Angler: Tim Webb

The second catch was a Catla, less known than the Giant Siamese Carp, but a carp species which reaches also a maximum weight of over 100 kg. The rod & reel record from Powai Lake in India stands at 38,56 kg (85 lb 0 oz).

The Catla is in the same situation as a lot of other giant freshwater fishes in Asia. The species is threatened in its natural habitat, but more and more catch & release fishing lakes are stocked with large specimens. Hopefully a gene pool for the future.



+++TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2010 +++



Date: 11 October 2010
English name: Rohu
Scientific name: *Labeo rohita*
Method: rod & reel
Weight: 15,45 kg (34 lb 1 oz)
Length: 92 cm (36 inches)
Water: Khao Laem Reservoir
Country: Thailand
Angler: Tim Webb

And last but not least he was also successful in a natural water body, one of the large Thai reservoirs. Curiously enough this is the largest Rohu from which a photo was published, although giants up to 200 cm length were caught by commercial fishermen (rod & reel record 25 kg, Srinakarin Reservoir, Thailand). The reason is that documentation of accurate weights and lengths together with professional photos is limited to *Pangasianodon gigas*, *Catlocarpio siamensis* and *Arapaima gigas*. These three species, stocked in the popular fishing lakes in Thailand, are most attractive to anglers because of their high average weights.



Date: 3 November 2010
English name: Speckled Peacock
Scientific name: *Cichla temensis*
Method: rod & reel
Weight: 13,19 kg (29 lb 1 oz)
Length: approx. 100 cm
(approx. 39 inches)
Water: Rio Negro
Country: Brazil
Angler: Andrea Zaccherini

Zaccherini was fishing alone near Santa Isabel and needed only 3,5 minutes to land this giant. With this fish the record was broken for the third time within the last months, the old record stood for 16 years, although Peacock fishing is booming since the early 1990s.

This development is due to the extensive "catch and release" management program encouraged by the State of Amazonas along with commercial netting limits over the last 10 years. The largest Peacock Bass are found in the waters of the huge Rio Negro itself or near the mouths of its numerous tributaries, areas which are available to all anglers.



Date: 5 November 2010
English name: Giant Gourami
Scientific name: *Osphronemus goramy*
Method: rod & reel
Weight: 8,90 kg (19 lb 10 oz)
Length: approx. 70 cm
(approx. 28 inches)
Water: Benny's Farm Ponds
Country: Thailand
Angler: Mrs. Benchawan Thiansungnoen

The wife of Tim Webb improved the record for Giant Gourami one month after his run. This species of the perch family is introduced in numerous Asian countries mainly for aquaculture purposes.



Date: 1 December 2010
English name: Mekong Pangasius
Scientific name: *Pangasius mekongensis*
Method: rod & reel
Weight: 8,94 kg (19 lb 11 oz)
Length: approx. 75 cm
(approx. 30 inches)
Water: Mekong River system
Country: Laos
Angler: Dale C. Fischer

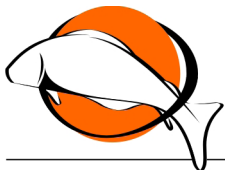
We proudly present the first rod & reel record from Laos. Mr. Fischer was fishing near Luang Prabang and guided by Jean-Francois Helias, the most esteemed fishing tour operator in South East Asia.

The catfish swallowed a bread and rice flour mixture, a typical bait for *Pangasius* catfishes. The fish was released alive after being photographed, weighed and measured. According to our database at least 13 (!) *Pangasius* spp. species over 10 kg maximum weight live in Asia.



Date: January 2010
English name: Deccan Mahseer
Scientific name: *Tor khudree*
Method: rod & reel
Weight: 22,68 kg (50 lb 0 oz)
Length: approx. 120 cm
(approx. 47 inches)
Water: Cauvery River
Country: India
Angler: Bopanna Pattada

Addendum to the first half year: We want to mention a very rare catch from India, a Deccan Mahseer – not to be confused with the wellknown Mussullah/Humpback Mahseer. Please note the lack of the hump behind the head and the blue fins, the distinctive features. It's the first photo document of a specimen in record size.



+++TELEGRAM +++ new entries in species profiles +++ TELEGRAM +++ new entries in species profiles +++ TELEGRAM

Here are the highlights of our updates in the last months, beside the record catches of 2010. Catches of the last years, which we are able to verify only now. As you know it's our aim to show the whole sport fishing and scientific world the largest catch of every species from which a photo was published.



Lenok
Brachymystax lenok, 6,70 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com



Yellowcheek
Elopichthys bambusa, 54,00 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com



Marbled Lungfish
Protopterus aethiopicus, over 20 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com



Boganida Char (new species)
Salvelinus boganidae, 9,10 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com



Mormyrids
Mormyrus rume, approx. 10 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com



Giant Snakehead
Channa micropeltes, over 17 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com



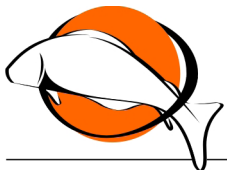
Murray Cod
Maccullochella peelii, 47,63 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com



African Carp
Labeo coubie, approx. 7 kg,
more info on www.fishing-worldrecords.com

FURTHER NEW PHOTOS IN THE SPECIES PROFILES (HIGHLIGHTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER):

- Sturgeons:** Amur Sturgeon, Sakhalin Sturgeon, Atlantic Sturgeon, Chinese Sturgeon
- Eels:** African Mottled Eel, Japanese Eel, Shortfin Eel
- Herrings:** Twaite Shad, Allis Shad
- Salmon-like:** Mongolian Grayling, *Salmo trutta caspius*, Sevan Trout, Ohrid Trout, Lake Whitefish, Sichuan Taimen (new species), Tooth Trout, Dryanin's Char
- Carps:** Mirgal, Roach, Ide, Mussullah Mahseer, Predatory Carp, *Labeo macrostomus*, Soldier River Barb, Redfin Mahseer
- Characins:** *Hoplias lacerdae*, *Leporinus obtusidens*
- Catfishes:** Spot Pangasius, Shark Catfish, Forktail Catfish, *Pangasius djambal*, Soldatov's Catfish, Chinese Longsnout Catfish, Electric Catfish, Kukumai, *Pangasius mahakamensis*, *Pangasius polyuranodon*, Long-whiskered Catfish, *Silurus meridionalis*, Giant River-Catfish, Vundu
- Perch-like:** Marble Goby, Great Snakehead, Yellow-belly Bream, Guapote
- Bony Tongues:** Pirarucu, Indochina Featherback, Clown Featherback, Eastern Bottlenose Mormyrid, Aba
- Lungfishes:** Australian Lungfish
- Rays:** Smooth Back River Stingray, White-blotched River Stingray



+++TELEGRAM +++ possible records +++ TELEGRAM +++ possible records +++ TELEGRAM +++ possible records +++

As every year we got and found information and photos of possible records, which we don't list in the database. Either the information was incomplete, doubtful or the photo quality was too bad to verify the catch.



Date: November 2010
English name: Hybrid Bighead/Silver Carp?
Scientific name: *Hypophthalmichthys nobilis x molitrix?*
Method: rod & reel (foul hooked)
Weight: 52,00 kg (114 lb 10 oz)
Length: 136 cm (54 inches)
Water: gravel pit near Bunčani
Country: Slovenia
Angler: Damjan Marinič

For the second time (after the 56 kg catch from Croatia in 2006) we had to make a decision whether this fish was a pure Bighead Carp, Silver Carp or a hybrid. Studying the photos we came to the conclusion that it was a hybrid. In addition, Ernst Hofinger, the most important taxidermist in Europe confirmed, that nearly all specimens he got for preparation were hybrids. We are still convinced, that Silver Carp can't surpass the 50 kg mark.



During the shootings for his TV productions, the wellknown globetrotter and specimen hunter Jakub Vágner caught two extraordinary giants in the Amazon River system in 2010. Both fishes are – maybe – new rod & reel world records. But we got no verification till now.

Piraiba:
length 264 cm (104 inches), estimated weight 215 kg (475 lb)

Pirarucu:
published length 302-307 cm (119-121 inches), published weight 147-154 kg (325-339 lb), landed from a canoe (!)

The catches are shown in the television series "Fish Warrior" on National Geographic Channel in 2011.

www.fishing-worldrecords.com

These were only some highlights from our database, so take a look at www.fishing-worldrecords.com and find a lot of interesting information about the maximum size of freshwater fishes!

SHORT OF TIME TO BROWSE THROUGH THE WEBSITE?

Just click on office@fishing-worldrecords.com and we are sending you the whole database as 44 pages PDF-file (contribution towards costs € 5,-).

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Advertorials are possible on every page including the profiles, price € 100,- per year. Banner (including Skyscraper, Pop-up...) are not accepted.

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Every destination (water or country) e.g. could be linked to a suitable offer of a fishing tour or camp operator, price € 100,- to € 1.000,- per year (depending on the frequency in the profiles).

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