



NEWS

WORLD RECORDS

FRESHWATER FISHING

EDITION YEAR 2007

The independent news from www.fishing-worldrecords.com

CATCH OF THE YEAR 2007



Date: 30th March 2007
English name: Short-tailed River Stingray
Scientific name: *Potamotrygon brachyura*
Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight: 208 kg (458 lb 9 oz)
Length: approx. 150 cm (59 inches) diameter
Water: Rio Parana
Country: Argentina
Angler: Mr. Humberto Minatta

This is the largest freshwater fish caught by Sportfishing with rod & reel ever - beside the anadromous sturgeon species. Larger than the Sportfishing records for catfishes, carp-like fishes, Alligator Gar and Pirarucu.

The Giant was caught near Bella Vista, two hours south of Corrientes. The fight lasts one hour during night. Four anglers and the local guide assisted Mr. Minatta with boat hooks to land it. In fact they looked for Surubi and after three specimens they hooked the ray. The record catch was accurately weighed at the old Wharf.

These rays approach at the bank of the river in shallow water during the night to eat. Especially at the mouth of brooks, because the water is cloudy there.

Potamotrygon brachyura is the second largest real freshwater ray after the Asian *Himantura chaophraya*. It's very unlikely, that this record will be broken from another species than a ray in the future.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friend of fishing and ichthyology,

welcome to the issue 2007 of your "WRFF News".

In 2007 we collected some really extraordinary catches around the world. In addition we could further improve the database and gallery. Thank's to our worldwide network, to all the scientists and angler who are interested in creating a correct and complete database about the maximum size (weight, length, age) of freshwater fish. It's not difficult to find information about record catches, but it's really time-consuming to verify the data.

We still have a lot of challenges on our way to create a "perfect" database: More information from Africa, Arabic countries and in general from countries with other writing systems.

We want to show new, large species of unexplored waters. Then angling tourists practicing catch & release and travel business will check out these destinations and native commercial fishermen have a new source of income through guiding. This is a chance to reduce commercial fishery and therefore protect threatened species.

Our second intention is to exchange information and therefore uplift the knowledge about fish in general, not to promote the hunt for world records.

We are always grateful for your information and photos of outstanding catches. Simply send us an E-Mail at editor@fishing-worldrecords.com.

If you are interested in sponsoring this project, please don't hesitate to contact us.

So enjoy this issue and expect the unexpected...

Heinz Machacek, research editor & fish historian

FACTS & FIGURES

www.fishing-worldrecords.com

Average visitors per month: 332.136
Newsletter subscribers: 1.588

Species +5 kg (11 lb) in the database: 468
plus european species between 1-5 kg: 31
Sportfishing records: 58% of the species
Record age known: 39% of the species

Species +10 kg (22 lb) in the gallery: 112

corrections in the database 2007:
record weights 40
record lengths 26
record ages 3



+++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2007 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2007 +++ TELEGRAM +++ new records 2007 +++



Date: 22nd May 2007
English name: Common Carp
Scientific name: *Cyprinus carpio*
Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight: 40,09 kg (88 lb 6 oz)
Length: over 100 cm (39 inches)
Water: Rainbow Lake
Country: France
Angler: Mr. Graham Slaughter

It's the first carp over 40 kg caught by Sportfishing. This wellknown specimen from a lake near Bordeaux broke it's own world records for the last time. Some days after the catch the fish was found dead.



Date: 6th June 2007
English name: Rainbow Trout
Scientific name: *Oncorhynchus mykiss*
Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight: 19,67 kg (43 lb 6 oz)
Length: 98 cm (39 inches)
Water: Diefenbaker Reservoir
Country: Canada
Angler: Mr. Adam Konrad

This fat trout had a girth of 86 cm (34 inches)! The reservoir, constructed on the South Saskatchewan River in 1967, was stocked with fast growing triploid trouts. Adam and his brother Sean have caught some of the biggest non-migratory rainbow trouts in the world.



Date: 2nd July 2007
English name: Giant Siamese Carp
Scientific name: *Catlocarpio siamensis*
Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight: over 120 kg (265 lb)
Length: over 150 cm (59 inches)
Water: Bung Sam Lan Lake
Country: Thailand
Angler: Mr. Kik Panphrapat

This giant carp is the second specimen ever taken at Bung Sam Lan Lake from the five "super biggies" stocked at the lake 23 years ago. These five carp came from the Chaophraya River, where they were netted. They all weighed over 90 kg (198 lb), when sold to the lake owners.



Date: 8th September 2007
English name: Giant Pangasius
Scientific name: *Pangasius sanitwongsei*
Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight: 29,50 kg (65 lb 1 oz)
Length: approx. 130 cm (51 inches)
Water: Bung Sam Lan Lake
Country: Thailand
Angler: Mr. John Merritt

The british angler released the fish, that took him 20 minutes to catch. *Pangasius sanitwongsei*, which reaches such enormous sizes comparable to *Pangasianodon gigas*, is not threatened in the wild.



Date: 12th January 2007
 English name: -
 Scientific name: *Brachyplatystoma capapretum*
 Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
 Weight: 32,66 kg (72 lb 0 oz)
 Length: approx. 140 cm (55 inches)
 Water: Rio Pasimoni
 Country: Venezuela
 Angler: Mr. Antonio Camp G.

It's a new record for a new large catfish species in the Amazon River system. *Brachyplatystoma capapretum* was "discovered" in 2005! This means the scientists Lundberg and Akama described it as a new species. Before this, it was only considered as a colour variation of *Brachyplatystoma filamentosum*.

+++ TELEGRAM +++ new entries in the photo gallery +++ TELEGRAM +++ new entries in the photo gallery +++ TELEGRAM

Here are the highlights of changes in the photo gallery, beside the record catches of 2007. Catches of the last years, which we verified in 2007. 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.



Date: 200_
 English name: Black Pacu
 Scientific name: *Colossoma macropomum*
 Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
 Weight: 40 kg (88 lb 3 oz)
 Length: over 100 cm (39 inches)
 Water: fishing lake Tio Oscar
 Country: Brazil
 Angler: Mr. Gilberto Chudi Jr.



Date: 200_
 English name: Black Pacu
 Scientific name: *Colossoma macropomum*
 Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel (tie)
 Weight: 40 kg (88 lb 3 oz)
 Length: over 100 cm (39 inches)
 Water: fishing lake Tio Oscar
 Country: Brazil
 Angler: Mr. Fabricio Jorge

"Tio Oscar" is a popular, large fishing lake with touristic infrastructure 75 km outside Castelo Branco. Of course not comparable with the wild waters of the Amazon. The lake is well stocked with numerous species and Pacus from 30-40 kg are regularly caught there. Maybe the best water for Black Pacus (Tambaquis) worldwide.



Date: May 2006
 English name: Huchen
 Scientific name: *Hucho hucho*
 Method: dead found
 Weight: 39,40 kg (86 lb 14 oz)
 Length: over 137 cm (54 inches)
 Water: fish hatchery
 Country: Austria
 Breeder: Mr. Christian Buchacher

In 2004 the fish was caught with rod & reel in the Drau River (weight 35,10 kg) and transported alive to a fish hatchery. The specimen was 15 years old. The mounted trophy was made by taxidermist Hofinger.



Date: 200_
 English name: Barred Sorubim
 Scientific name: *Pseudoplatystoma fasciatum*
 Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
 Weight: 30,00 kg (66 lb 2 oz)
 Length: approx. 130 cm (51 inches)
 Water: fishing lake near Itajai
 Country: Brazil
 Angler: Mrs. Ericlea Rigigo Schmidt

Contrary to numerous published photos of Spotted Sorubims (*Pseudoplatystoma corruscans*) in record size, photos of large *P. fasciatum* are rare. This fish is not from the wild, but from a fishing lake. A photo of a larger specimen is unknown – till now.



Date: 1991
 English name: Alligator Gar
 Scientific name: *Atractosteus spatula*
 Method: handline
 Weight: 165,56 kg (365 lb 0 oz)
 Length: 289 cm (114 inches)
 Water: Lake Livingston
 Country: USA
 Fisherman: Mr. Kirk Kirkland

This is the new non-sportfishing record, which beats the old record (161,48 kg) from Horseshoe Lake in 1931. Today Kirk Kirkland is working as a fishing guide. His U.S. and foreign guests are catching Alligator Gars over 200 lb with rod & reel every year.



Date: fall 1995
 English name: Dorado
 Scientific name: *Salminus brasiliensis*
 Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
 Weight: 30,70 kg (67 lb 11 oz)
 Length: 130 cm (51 inches)
 Water: Rio Parana
 Country: Argentina
 Angler: Mr. unknown

This is the second heaviest Dorado ever caught with rod & reel and the longest Dorado by any catching method. The mounted trophy is exhibited in a restaurant in Corrientes. We also got a photo of the 31,40 kg (69 lb 4 oz) unofficial Sportfishing record, but the quality of the newspaper photo is too bad to publish.

Special thanks to Globetrotter Mark Jones, who contributes some of the photos and information in the edition 2007 of our newsletter.

2007 shows the same picture as 2006. We had to update only few record data, because of three reasons:

- 1) The records in the database are more accurate and reliable from year to year, so fewer corrections are necessary.
- 2) Most of the commercial fishing records and also the majority of the Sportfishing records are at the highest stage regarding the growth potential of the species. So it's very difficult today, to find new record data for species, which are in the focus of anglers around the world.
- 3) In more than 20 years we have researched Sportfishing records in 59 countries, out of 193. The rest of the world is not explored by foreign anglers from developed countries and/or the native population don't practice recreational fishing.

Following are new entries on www.fishing-worldrecords.com, marked in red in the database:

- You will find **new record weights** for Siberian Sturgeon, Yellowfin River Pellona, Cutthroat Trout, Brook Trout, Muskellunge, Amur Pike, Mangar, Giant Siamese Carp, Catla, Common Carp, Black Pacu, Dorado, *Brycon orbignyanus*, Curimbata, Giant Pangasius, Striped Wallago, Bagrid Catfish, *Brachyplatystoma capapretum*, Spot Pangasius, Trout Cod, Orinoco Peacock, Butterfly Peacock, Alligator Gar, Arawana and Short-tailed River Stingray.
- You will find **new record lengths** for the above mentioned species plus Stellate Sturgeon, American Shad and Northern Pike.
- You will find **new record ages** for Giant Siamese Carp, Dorado and Australian Lungfish.



Date: 21st October 2006
 English name: Brook Trout
 Scientific name: *Salvelinus fontinalis*
 Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
 Weight: approx. 7,50 kg (16 lb)
 Length: 74 cm (29 inches) x 53 cm (21 inches) girth
 Water: Barbe Lake
 Country: Canada
 Angler: Mr. Tim Matheson

It's the largest Brook Trout ever landed on rod & reel. The weight was estimated by the IGFA. This fish is definitely larger than the old record from 1916 and a second specimen from 1994, both where caught in the Nipigon River, Canada at a weight of 6,58 kg (14 lb 8 oz). The lake is situated in Manitoba and the catching method was trolling.



Date: spring 2006
 English name: Trout Cod
 Scientific name: *Maccullochella macquariensis*
 Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
 Weight: 7,71 kg (17 lb 0 oz)
 Length: approx. 65 cm (26 inches)
 Water: Talbingo Reservoir
 Country: Australia
 Angler: Mr. Ryan Payne

The Trout Cod looks similar to the Murray Cod, has the same distribution and hybridizes with it's close relative. Protected by law, therefore the specimen was released immediately. Talbingo Reservoir is situated in the Snowy Mountains.

+++ TELEGRAM +++ treasures in museums +++ TELEGRAM +++ treasures in museums +++ TELEGRAM+++treasures

We are sure, that some surprises are still waiting in natural history museums or other exhibitions around the world. For example this Beluga is the largest one with photo proof we found till now.



Date: 1999
English name: Beluga Sturgeon
Scientific name: *Huso huso*
Method: net
Weight: over 1.000 kg (2.205 lb)
Length: 550 cm (217 inches)
Water: Volga Delta
Country: Russia
Fisherman: Mr. unknown

This Beluga is in the process of being mounted for display at the Astrakhan Museum. But they have run out of funds to finish the job!! It's one of the rare specimen over 1.000 kg in the last 20 years.

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

Also in 2007 we got information and photos of possible records, which we don't list in the database and photo gallery. Either the information was incomplete, doubtful or the photo quality was too bad to estimate the size of the catch.



Date: 19th February 2007
English name: Piraiba
Scientific name: *Brachyplatystoma filamentosum*
Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight: 136-170 kg (300-375 lb)
Length: 213-224 cm (84-88 inches)
Water: Corentyne River
Country: Suriname
Angler: Mr. Larry Dahlberg

This catch made a lot of furore at the beginning of last year. The video is shown on www.youtube.com and stated as the largest catfish ever caught with rod & reel with a weight of 400 lb and a length of 259 cm. But the weight was only estimated. Maybe it exceeded the actual record of 142 kg (313 lb 1 oz) from the Xingu River.

+++ TELEGRAM +++ pirarucu records +++ TELEGRAM +++ pirarucu records +++ TELEGRAM +++ pirarucu records +++

We found out that the well known pirarucu Sportfishing record from Bung Sam Lan Lake in Thailand had "only" 185 lb and not 185 kg. The owner of the lake found the specimen some times after the catch dead, weighed it and mixed lbs and kilograms. Between the years 2000 and 2005 three other specimen where caught in Bung Sam Lan Lake with estimated weights from 110-140 kg. So we are searching a new Sportfishing record accurately measured and weighed with scales. In addition the length-weight relationship of record specimen is unclear. The 185 lb (83,91 kg) fish from Bung Sam Lan Lake was 263 cm long, on the other side we found two netted fishes from Brazil with 185 kg/255 cm and 190 kg/267 cm.



Date: 2nd February 2007
English name: Pirarucu
Scientific name: *Arapaima gigas*
Method: Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight: 106 kg (233 lb 11 oz)
Length: 280 cm (110 inches)
Water: Amazon River system
Country: Ecuador
Angler: Mr. Jakub Vagner

Maybe the largest catch with rod & reel from a natural water at the moment. Mr.Vagner is a well known czech fishing expert and publisher. In the last years more and more catches from Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia were published, as the pressure from commercial fishing is not so high in the upper part of the Amazon River system compared to Brazil.



And at last we want to present you a really beautiful freshwater catch in record size...

Date:	July 2002
English name:	Arctic Char
Scientific name:	<i>Salvelinus alpinus</i>
Method:	Sportfishing with rod & reel
Weight:	15,42 kg (34 lb 0 oz)
Length:	85 cm (33,5 inches)
Water:	Victoria Island, Northwest Territories
Country:	Canada
Angler:	Mrs. Margaret Harrison

Inofficial Sportfishing record is a 18 kg specimen from the Tree River. These were only some highlights from our database and photo gallery, so take a look at www.fishing-worldrecords.com !



Search for state record lists! In all the years we found or got a lot of record lists from different countries around the world. Whether from fishing associations, Sportfishing magazines or private persons. But there is still a large number of developed countries, where we can't find an official or inofficial record list.

Europe: we are still searching record lists for Iceland, Portugal, Spain, Belgium, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Macedonia, Albania, Greece, Estonia, Lithuania, Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova Republic, Ukraine, Belorussia and Russia. From most of these countries we have single records for some species, but no listings.

Asia & Australia: we found only record lists for Thailand, China, South Korea, Japan, Philippines, Malaysia and Australia.

Africa: only record lists for South Africa and Zimbabwe

North- and South America: only record lists for USA, Canada, Brazil

It would be great if you can send us contact addresses or links to further improve the database!



Contributor of

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