

# SOUTH FORK OF THE SNAKE

Report Submitted by: Al Bourisaw

Date of Trip: August 2 -8, 2009

City and State: Swan Valley, Idaho

River Fished: Sections 2, 3, and 4 of the South Fork of the Snake

Species Taken: West Slope Cutthroat, Snake River Cutthroat, Browns. Most fish measured 14-20 inches. Very nice pretty fish.

Best Flies: #16 Pink Parachute PMD, #12 & 10 Stimulators (bottom hackles trimmed and body colored purple with a permanent marker), Tan over black foam Chernobyl Ant, and tan over tan foam with red chenille body Chernobyl Ant. Represented hoppers.

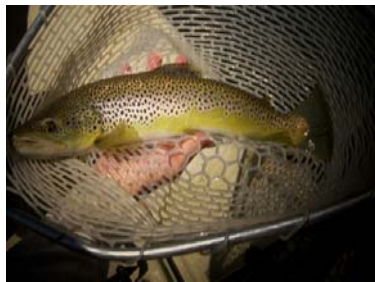


River Conditions: Normal

Weather Conditions: Temperatures in the 50's to 80's. Partly sunny days with some showers and wind the last two days.

Fished from a drift boat.

The trip was guided out of the South Fork Fly Shop. Chris Conat and two of his friends worked as guides. The three young men were excellent guides, in that they knew the river and what it took to catch fish. If possible, provide your own flies as the cost for flies was very, very pricey (\$135.00 for four days of fishing for one of the members in our party). The cost for a guide per day was about \$500.00. The fee was part of a package so the exact amount is not known.



Lodging at the South Fork Fly Shop Lodge was extremely expensive - \$1,000.00 /night. I stayed at the South Fork Bar and Grill Lodge. It is relatively new, has large rooms and was very comfortable. Again, the cost was part of the package, but was considerable less than the SFFSL.

Dining: Swan Valley has two places to eat. One is a small hole in the wall diner while the other is a bar and grill. Food was nothing special, but reasonable.

Comments: The trip was organized by Craig at T. Hargrove Fly Shop. Craig did a great job of putting the trip together from renting a vehicle in Jackson Hole, making the motel arrangements and arranging guides. I made my own flight reservation working with Craig. I would definitely go with Craig again on another fishing trip.

All my fishing was done on dry flies with many 16-18 cutthroats and two 20" browns bought to net. Fishing was banging the banks (2 inches from the bank was perfect) and working the line for a drag free drift. The guides did a good job of putting me within my casting range. The second and third day involved a float through the canyon and staying at a stream side camp at night. Enjoyable two days and evening.