



SMOKE AND MIRRORS.

NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2020



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## CHICKS DIG IT!!!!



With a lot of noise made on social media lately about operators playing “smoke and mirrors”, at first it almost put me in a super reactive state.

Luckily I caught myself before joining the mudslinging, and considered these wise words of Confucius: “I hear, I know, I see, I remember, I do, I understand”

When we started these trips, we decided to rather measure fish, as to minimize handling. But in handling quite a few of these monsters over the last few months and confirmed by the variation in answers on measurement to weigh ratio of Large Mouth Yellows on conversion apps, we realised we have to make a plan to help our clients claim their trophy legitimately, and still handle the fish with utmost respect. I am proud to say that the results are now that every guide boat is equipped with a state-of-the-art weigh sling and scale.

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We were privileged to host some clients from the UK in January. Two of the quests on the trip was of the fairer sex (chicks).

Oops before I get accused of "smoke & mirror" sin, the one lady was Jacques wife! I will though take this opportunity to thank her for all her support and pitching in over the last few months. Although it was difficult to keep her out of the kitchen, this trip was to show our thanks, and eventually she did allow us to treat her as a guest. Thanks again Hilda, you are a Superstar!!

The pressure was on! We smoothed out some of the rough edges and brought our A game. Both ladies finished the drift with smiles on their faces, and trophy pics with true weight attached (The fish, not the girls)

Both agreed – Chic's dig it!!

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As these guys from the UK were well traveled lure fisherman, we had the opportunity to do some conversion, and at the end of the 6 days we managed to land a total of 44 Largies between 4 anglers, of which roughly 50% was actually on fly!! New fly fishing gear is being ordered, and we welcome another 3 people into the realm of fly fishing.

Being fly fisherman, the opportunity to guide and learn from lure fisherman was a blessing. Some days the fly out fished the lures, and on the days that the lures took front seat, me and Jacques used this new information to translate to fly fishing, using the clients then to the new theories the next day. Over the course of the week, this apparent team work between lure fisherman and fly fisherman translated to 11 Dragons between 13lb and 18lb.

As our March/April tour is coming closer by the day, here are some open rod space. If you haven't booked yet, don't just sit there and drool - phone us now!!

15 March - 20 March: **6 Rods**

22 March - 28 March: **2 Rods**

28 March - 4 April: **2 Rods**

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## INSIDE THE BOX.

A new feature to our monthly Newsletter is the "In the Box" section, here Jacques Marais will share advice on tackle, flies and the "how to", **experience** gleaned from years on the water.



## Seychelles 2020

We are doing our first commercial trip to the Seychelles from 10 May – 22 May and have space for 4 clients. With Seychelles fishing prices sky rocketing, we decided to get creative and are now ready to offer another alternative for under R55 000-00 for a 6-night 5 fishing day trip.

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We will be hosted on a 54ft yacht with 2 skiffs transporting us to the fishing grounds. Guided 1 on 2 you will be fishing the outer Islands of the emirates and African banks. Get your blues on and give us a shout for more info. You might even get a further 10% discount!! More dates available for December and January for those who need time to convince Mommy that this is an opportunity not to be missed!!

Oh - We have a new logo!!

Cheers

Etienne and Jacques

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