

Cape York fishing trip report for Carpentaria Seafaris trip 1015. 21 to 28 July 2010



While we were doing the last of the loading and preparations Team Knight Frank Bamaga tour 2010 were getting on to Skytrans Dash 8 for the eight am flight to Cape York while 600 miles north Tom I guess his name is demonstrates his quick hand spearing a sea mullet off the wharf.

All aboard, last calls to the office, and we aren't leaving we're gone. Loosely associated in past lives connected through fishing and coming together, new and old friends assembled aboard the good ship Tropic Paradise for a week of companion ship laughs and line and arm stretching.



As the week got started these guys were into it, relaxing, fishing laughs and their humor combined with that of the guides had almost everyone nicknamed by the first dinner as we arrived in the mouth of the Doughboy river for a quick hour fishing session from the south bank of the river. TV shows and movies were drawn from for the names or anywhere where else the endorphin and alcohol addled brains mustered names from that suited the character and exploits of the members of the team.

The Professor, Little buddy, The Homos, The Godfather, Dr Death "I have fished with both of them and I've hooked 'em both" Dr. Evil, Skip "Behave Baby". The Paster "today's reading is from the book of Heffner"

Bo as in Derek, a perfect 10

Crew. Mad Mick, Johnny Bgood, Smoken Joe, and Big Al gave almost as much to the mix as the after fishing activities if the week wore on. Naomi's cooking was again absolutely outstanding and I can almost guarantee everyone got off the boat at least 2 kilos heavier.

Nightly readings were given by *The Paster* from a popular gentleman's art magazine readers forum, cracked everyone up when the fiction characters described there in were substituted with angler and guide nicknames. Little Buddy and Big Al (far right) were copping it large in the reading episode of this picture.



Jason or Skip as his buddies call him cops all the shit they dish him out (and gives plenty back). He is the glue that holds the group together. Chairman of organizations for daily teams and guide distribution, comedian, movie critic, fishing nut and consultant. Like a kid with ADD if he could fish with a rod in each hand he would. A very efficient fisherman by the way with lots of stories (fishing and otherwise) and scars to support the stories (fishing and otherwise). This trip, or tour as they call these annual excursions was no



(fishing and otherwise). This trip, or tour as they call these annual excursions was no exception. Fishing from the river mouth bank he stepped on an overhanging snag branch to get a better cast, snag broke and the small 50cm drop to the sand below opened up a 10cm gash in his left calf right along side another massive scar from a rock fishing mishap.

We are all trained in first aid and deckhand Johnny Bgood is a qualified emergency ward nurse but happily allowed the two doctors aboard, Doctors Evil (left) and Dr. Death to administer first aid. Local anesthetic, saline flushing injected directly into the wound and a course of antibiotics did the trick and 6 days later at trips end as I type I am very glad to report that Skips wound is looking as good as it possibly could be with no sign of infection. Thanks Docs.



As always Tunas were schooling off Virlya point what seems like a long long time ago now as I type steaming back so much has happened this week. Everyone got in on the act and pandemonium ensued as exuberance and reduced motor skills from previous night Cairns activities took over. Fish were caught, lines were tangled, lures were lost and everyone got an adrenalin charged sample of the days ahead. Watching this fishing mayhem from the wheelhouse safe from exuberant back casts behind the six 12mm armored glass windows it looks like a newspaper comic strip. Something I should try and



The guides often see loggerhead turtles off the coast and they are a prized find not only because they always have attendant fish like one of the 2 Cobia caught of one this week. The turtles are a really cool thing to see that very very people in fact get to see. They refer to it as "the" loggerhead thinking it could be the same animal each time over successive weeks. It could be, but I am not so sure, I tend to think a different one each time. Very little is known of these, the largest of the sea turtles and when we mention sightings of these to the scientific community we are associated with they get very excited and want to come and study them on our trips.

Enough text...fish photos.







Thanks for coming guys and thanks especially Jason (the glue of it all). Hope you had a great tour. We enjoyed your company immensely. Low maintaince, high fun bunch of guys.

