



# NEWS

## WORLD RECORDS

### FRESHWATER FISHING

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Edition YEAR 2008

The independent news from [WWW.FISHING-WORLDRECORDS.COM](http://WWW.FISHING-WORLDRECORDS.COM)

## CATCH OF THE YEAR 2008



Date: 24 March 2008

English name: Yellowcheek

Scientific name: *Elopichthys bambusa*

Method: other methods (net)

Weight: 31,00 kg (68 lb 5 oz)

Length: 151 cm (59 inch)

Water: mouth of Yangtze River

Country: China

Fisherman: unknown

This year we vote for a commercial catch. This carp-like species is unknown to most anglers outside China. But in China the benthopelagic freshwater fish is a food fish.

Some fishers show the huge Yellowcheek, that was caught near Chongming Island off the coast of Shanghai. The fish is believed to be the largest one caught in the Chongming Island area in the last 25 years. These are low-lying alluvial islands in the mouth of the Yangtze River .

The Yellowcheek lives in China, Russia and Vietnam and was introduced in Uzbekistan. The official chinese sportfishing record stands at 42,50 kg (93 lb 11 oz) and was caught in the Jiangxi Province in 2001. There are also reports of specimen over 200 cm (79 inch), but the real maximum weight is unknown till now...

### FACTS & FIGURES

Visitors per month: 330 to 460.000  
Newsletter: 1.800 subscribers,  
audience at least 9.000

Species +5 kg (11 lb) in the database: 470  
plus european species between 1-5 kg: 31  
profiles with record catch photo: 246

Sportfishing records: 60% of the species  
Sportfishing records:  
from 61 countries out of 193  
Record age known: 41% of the species

corrections in the database 2008:  
record weights 84  
record lengths 51  
record ages 13

### TELEGRAM + + + new records 2008

One of our most important contributors, Mark Jones perpetuates himself with a new rod & reel record for this species. We are sure that the Parana River system still holds some surprises, because international angling travel businesses concentrate on the Amazon and Orinoco River system.

Date: March 2008

English name: Ocellate River Stingray

Scientific name: *Potamotrygon motoro*

Method: rod & reel

Weight: 15,40 kg (33 lb 15 oz)

Length: approx. 95 cm (37 inch)

Water: Rio Parana

Country: Argentina

Angler/Fisherman: Mark Jones



### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friend of fishing and ichthyology,

welcome to the issue **2008** of your "WRF- News".

First of all, we have to apologize for the delay of our newsletter. In the last months we worked on a complete relaunch of the website. We changed from tables and photo gallery to a scientific directory with profiles of every species. Additionally 246 profiles of large freshwater species include a record catch photo now. You can easily use [www.google.com/language\\_tools](http://www.google.com/language_tools) for an automatic translation of the whole website in every relevant language.

We are always grateful for your information and photos of outstanding catches. Simply send us an E-Mail at: [editor@fishing-worldrecords.com](mailto:editor@fishing-worldrecords.com) Your sponsorship or donation helps us to run this time- and cost intensive website due to it's high quality content (see page 6).

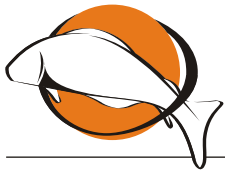
2008 we registered essentially more record catches than in the last years. Thank's to our worldwide network, to all the scientists and angler who are interested in creating a correct and complete database about the maximum size (weight, length, age) of freshwater fish. It's not difficult to find information about record catches, but it's really time-consuming to verify the data.

We want to show new, large species of unexplored 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.

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

So enjoy this issue and expect the unexpected...

Heinz Machacek,  
research editor & fish historian  
AUSTRIA



**++ TELEGRAM ++ new records 2008 ++ TELEGRAM ++ new records 2008 ++ TELEGRAM ++ new records**



The angler from Fairbanks, Alaska, caught what's likely the largest Sea Trout ever taken on a fly and at once the longest specimen ever caught. The giant sea-run fish had a girth of 25 inch. There was no scale available to accurately weigh the fish, which was released. Biologists working with this river's trout estimated the weight. The rod & reel record stands at unbelievable 22,23 kg (49 lb) from the same river.

**Date:** March 2008  
**English name:** Sea Trout  
**Scientific name:** *Salmo trutta trutta*  
**Method:** rod & reel  
**Weight:** approx. 19 kg (41,5 lb)  
**Length:** 117 cm (46 inch)  
**Water:** Rio Grande  
**Country:** Argentina  
**Angler/Fisherman:** Brian Yamamoto



Brazilian angler Johnny Hoffmann, who holds some other records doubled the rod & reel record for this species. Now the first fish in the maximum weight region. Also in this case further research is necessary, as another source indicates, that the specimen was captured in November 2007 and came out of the Araca River.

**Date:** 6 September 2008  
**English name:** Arawana  
**Scientific name:** *Osteoglossum bicirrhosum*  
**Method:** rod & reel  
**Weight:** 11,50 kg (25 lb 6 oz)  
**Length:** approx. 120 cm (47 inch)  
**Water:** Rio Camaui  
**Country:** Brazil  
**Angler/Fisherman:** Johnny Hoffmann

This is one of 128 large catfish species. For 53 of them we have a documented rod & reel record, 19 were also reported to the IGFA. Russell Jensen holds also the record for the Jau (*Zungaro zungaro*).

**Date:** 23 January 2008  
**English name:** -  
**Scientific name:** *Leiarius marmoratus*  
**Method:** rod & reel  
**Weight:** 11,68 kg (25 lb 12 oz)  
**Length:** approx. 100 cm (39 inch)  
**Water:** water near Travessoa  
**Country:** Brazil  
**Angler/Fisherman:** Russell Jensen



Jakub Vagner reported again (see also edition 2007) an exceptional Pirarucu catch. This year he made an expedition in the Amazon River system in Peru. The name of the river is unknown, but the catch was also notified to the IGFA. After the false report from last year we hesitate to mention his catch. But this time the length-weight relationship is o.k. and the photo shows a fish of that size. Doubts remain as there are different reports of the fight duration (between 30 minutes and 1 ½ hours) and Jakub supposedly used a canoe (?).

His wife lost a specimen with an estimated weight of over 200 kg (440 lb). There are also ongoing dispatches of fishes between 100 and 160 kg from fisheries in Thailand, where the species was introduced. But till now, no specimen in record size was accurately weighed.

**Date:** 17 August 2008  
**English name:** Pirarucu  
**Scientific name:** *Arapaima gigas*  
**Method:** rod & reel  
**Weight:** 130,00 kg (286 lb 10 oz)  
**Length:** 249 cm (98 inch)  
**Water:** Amazon River system  
**Country:** Peru  
**Angler/Fisherman:** Jakub Vagner



The creature has been investigated by biologist Jeremy Wade for a TV documentary. He said: "The locals have told me of a theory that this monster has grown extra large on a diet of partially burnt corpses." He caught one far bigger than any landed with rod & reel before. Who will be the next lucky one? In the Krishna River specimen of up to 135 kg (297 lb 10 oz) were caught and there are also unverified reports of catches up to 200 kg from India in the past.

**Date:** 9 October 2008  
**English name:** Goonch  
**Scientific name:** *Bagarius yarrelli*  
**Method:** rod & reel  
**Weight:** 73,03 kg (161 lb 0 oz)  
**Length:** approx. 180 cm (71 inch)  
**Water:** Kali River  
**Country:** India  
**Angler/Fisherman:** Jeremy Wade



**++ TELEGRAM ++ new records 2008 ++ TELEGRAM ++ new records 2008 ++ TELEGRAM ++ new records**

It's always the same specimen, called "Scarred Mirror", but a different lucky angler from United Kingdom and the fish put on further weight. It took just 10 (!) minutes to land the fish. Interesting, the carp is estimated to be only 18 years old. Attention: British angler call *Cyprinus carpio* "King Carp", the rest of the world "Common Carp". The British say "Common Carp" to the fully scaled ones and "Mirror Carp" to specimen like this one.

*Date:* 16 October 2008  
*English name:* Common Carp  
*Scientific name:* *Cyprinus carpio*  
*Method:* rod & reel  
*Weight:* 41,28 kg (91 lb 0 oz)  
*Length:* approx. 110 cm (43 inch)  
*Water:* Les Graviers Lake  
*Country:* France  
*Angler/Fisherman:* Andre Komornicki



Thailand fisheries show again their record potential for introduced south american species. Lofthouse needs eight minutes to land the fish and beats the rod & reel records of the wild waters by far. The commercial record stands at 25 kg.

*Date:* 17 September 2008  
*English name:* Ripsaw Catfish  
*Scientific name:* *Oxydoras niger*  
*Method:* rod & reel  
*Weight:* 18,03 kg (39 lb 12 oz)  
*Length:* over 100 cm (39 inch)  
*Water:* Topcats Fishery  
*Country:* Thailand  
*Angler/Fisherman:* Nigel Lofthouse

The fish had a 33-inch girth. Therefore the fish is regarded by some as an all-tackle world record that got away when he released it moments later in the 1,000 Islands region of the St. Lawrence River. Based on numerical formulas used by muskie experts, the fish is believed to match or even greatly surpass the current world record. "No doubt in my mind it is likely the largest muskie ever released", said Larry Ramsell the great muskie expert.

*Date:* 28 November 2008  
*English name:* Muskellunge  
*Scientific name:* *Esox masquinongy*  
*Method:* rod & reel  
*Weight:* over 31 kg (68 lb)  
*Length:* 145 cm (57 inch)  
*Water:* St. Lawrence River  
*Country:* Canada  
*Angler/Fisherman:* Dale MacNair



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

Here are the highlights of our updates in the last months, beside the record catches of 2008.

Catches of the last years, which we verified in 2008.

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.



Freshwater Snapper  
*Lutjanus fuscescens*  
over 10 kg



Japanese Huchen  
*Hucho perryi*  
30 kg



Pirapitinga  
*Piaractus brachypomus*  
12 kg

[more infos on www.fishing-worldrecords.com](http://www.fishing-worldrecords.com)



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



Cornish Jack  
*Mormyrops anguilloides*  
over 9 kg



The most exiting entry in the last year. Unbelievable, we have forgotten a 30 kg plus species in our database. The whole scientific literature indicates a maximum size of only 60 cm! The rare fish with a chest measurement of 60 cm was caught and released in Langzhong, Southwest China's Sichuan Province. It is believed to be the largest specimen from the Jialing River ever caught.

After we heard of that catch we intensify our search and we found further reports of specimen over 20 kg. For example a fish of 26,5 kg with a length of 130 cm caught in the Yangtze River on 14 April 2007.

The real maximum size in China is unknown. The *Myxocyprinus asiaticus* is one of two protected aquatic species in this country.

Date: 8 May 2007
English name: Chinese Sucker
Scientific name: <i>Myxocyprinus asiaticus</i>
Method: other methods (net)
Weight: 35,00 kg (77 lb 3 oz)
Length: 135 cm (53 inch)
Water: Jialing River
Country: China
Angler/Fisherman: Li Yongxiang



Spotted Sorubim  
*Pseudoplatystoma corruscans*  
86 kg



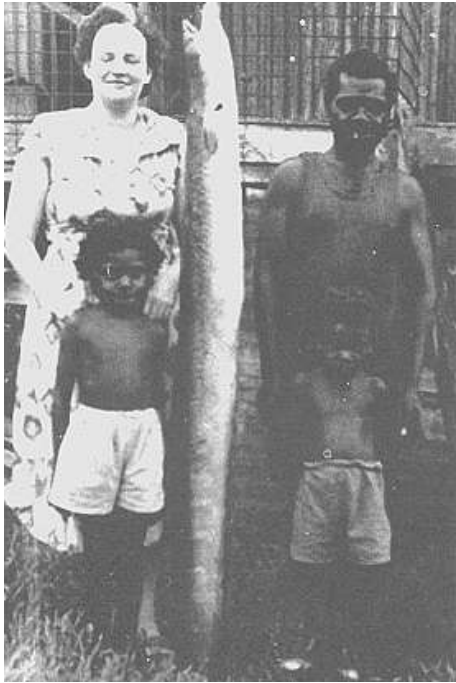
Striped Wallago  
*Wallago leerii*  
70 kg

**more infos on [www.fishing-worldrecords.com](http://www.fishing-worldrecords.com)**

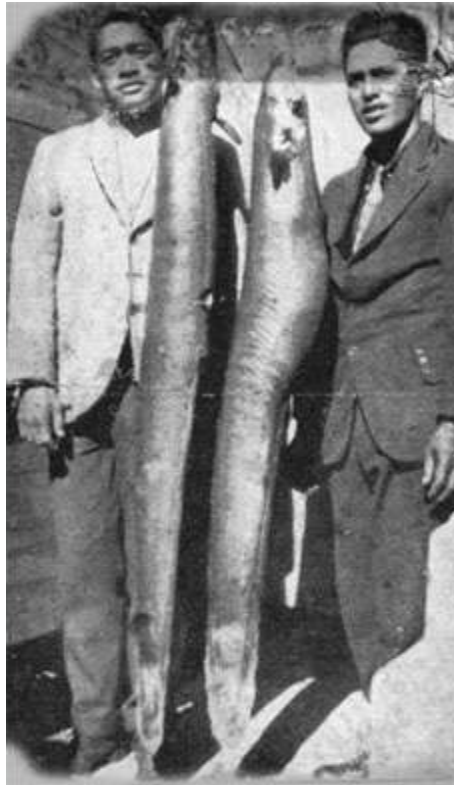


**++ TELEGRAM ++ eel records ++ TELEGRAM ++ eel records ++ TELEGRAM ++ eel records ++ TELEGRAM ++**

**2008 was the first year of our long-term research where we found photo documents of freshwater eels in real record size:**



Speckled Longfin Eel  
*Anguilla reinhardtii*  
over 20 kg



New Zealand Longfin Eel  
*Anguilla dieffenbachii*  
25,63 kg



Giant Mottled Eel  
*Anguilla marmorata*  
over 20 kg

**more infos on**  
[www.fishing-worldrecords.com](http://www.fishing-worldrecords.com)

**++ TELEGRAM ++ salmon record ++ TELEGRAM ++ salmon record ++ TELEGRAM ++ salmon record ++**

**At last we want to inform you about an extraordinary salmon catch which is very interesting, but not large enough for an admittance in our database. This is the proof of the high level of the records.**



As we know it's the new rod & reel record for South America.

The salmon had a girth of 96 cm (38 inch). The picture shows the lucky angler and his guide Luis Antunez, the owner of the Salmo Patagonia Lodge in Coyhaique, Chile.

*Date:* 17 February 2006

*English name:* Chinook Salmon

*Scientific name:* *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*

*Method:* rod & reel

*Weight:* 42,00 kg (92 lb 10 oz)

*Length:* 140 cm (55 inch)

*Water:* Rio Mañihuales

*Country:* Chile

*Angler/Fisherman:* Ramon Sainz de Vicuña



These were only some highlights from our database, so take a look at [www.fishing-worldrecords.com](http://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?

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**++ sponsorship ++ sponsorship ++ sponsorship ++ sponsorship ++ sponsorship ++ sponsorship ++**

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