

# Fishing



By

## "The Crappie Catcher" BELIZE FISH FINDER

Belize City, British Honduras  
December 29, 1967

The Bone Fish is, pound for pound, the fightingest of all sports fish. It is also one of the most elusive of all fish. It is not a large fish. It travels in large schools, but seldom goes more than 10 or 12 pounds. Sport fishermen the world over will travel from one end of the earth to the other to catch just one of these fighting demons of the sea.

The waters around the Great Barrier Reef of the Caribbean, 10 to 20 miles off the coast of Belize are loaded with these gamesters, but they are not easy to come by unless you have the Belize fish finder aboard. You can not purchase this amazing fish finder, but you can rent it for \$45 per day.

The Belize Fish Finder is specifically 'tuned in' for Bone Fish, and it is infallible. It never tells a lie. When it says 'Bone Fish' you can bet the mortgage payment, or Junior's tuition that Boneys are there.

The Fish Finder is 5 feet 8 inches, weighs 145 pounds and calls himself Arden Foreman. He is 41 years old, and has been a fishing guide for 27 of those years. He has a hound dog nose for Bone Fish and can spot a school of these fighting phantoms of the sea at a hundred yards. When Arden says 'boneys' and points toward a spot, you just crank up and cast as far as you can in the pointed direction, and let your lure settle. Almost the instant that you start your retrieve a Bone Fish will strike. When he strikes, you have got the darndest, fightingest, fastest fish that you ever set a hook in.

Arden Foreman uses a 5/8 ounce yellow bucktail jig, baited with a small piece of hermit crab. The jig is about 3 to 4 inches long, is weighted at the head, and has a 3-0 hook. The bucktail is actually yellow nylon fiber.

LIGHT TO medium spinning tackle is the gear of choice, 10 to 12 pound test line is maximum. Heavier line will not permit you to cast the light lure far enough to reach the school. A seven foot casting rod is ideal. Cheap gear will not cut the mustard for Bone Fish. The first fish hooked would tear the guts out of a cheap reel, and would put either a kink or a crack in a cheap rod. The Bone Fish is 'all man', and 'super man' would be a more adequate description.

When the hook is set in a Boney, he takes off and strips at least 25 yards of line off the reel before you can turn him. The reel screams with a note pitched high enough to shatter a champagne glass. If the reel is not clean and well greased, it will actually get hot enough to smoke. The drag must be set very light. A 5 pound Bone could break a 20 pound test line on his first run if the drag was not light. When he turns to you and then decides to suddenly make a run in another direction, he could probably snap a much heavier line if the drag were set hard and fast. A 5 pounder pulls just as hard as a 25 pound Albacore which is prized for its fighting spirit.

No one can tell you how fantastic it is to experience the power of a Bone Fish hooked onto the end of a fishing line. It takes a minimum of five minutes for the experienced angler to land one of these game fish weighing no more than 3 pounds. A 5 pounder takes about ten minutes to bring to gaff. A tackle-busting 10 pounder would put a tender muscled angler to bed with an acute case of sore muscles, and total exhaustion.

Arden Foreman can be contacted through the Fort George Hotel, which is the best hotel in the country of Belize. If you plan to try your luck at this fishing paradise, write the hotel manager, Alberto Escalante. Be sure to tell him that you want the Belize Fish Finder as your guide. The Fort George is a class 'A'

## CRAPPIE CATCHER AND CARIBBEAN CHUMS



ARDEN FOREMAN, The Belize Fish Finder, whose prowess is regaled by the Crappie Catcher.



NEW FISHING TECHNIQUE when both hands are busy paddling...One of the Belize River guides holding fishing rod between toes.



CRAPPIE CATCHER bringing in a 3 lb. Bone Fish.



GOT HIM - Crappie Catcher proudly displays the 3 lb. Bone Fish that felt like a 20 pounder coming in.

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