

EL SALTAMONTES

CHILE PATAGONIA, SOUTH AMERICA



The Fly Shop

TACKLE & OUTFITTING GUIDE

GPS Coordinates: 45° 9'58.61"S / 71°53'3.61"W
Elevation: 1,312 feet above sea level

WWW.THEFLYSHOP.COM



This tackle and equipment planner is a guideline to help anglers assemble a reasonable collection of flies and necessary equipment. You are by no means required to purchase all of this equipment, but do make sure you have a good cross-section. It is generally true that properly outfitted and prepared anglers have the best chance of having a trip of a lifetime.

Although selling fly fishing tackle and flies is part of what The Fly Shop® does, it is not our main concern. Our biggest priority is that people have a great trip. That being said, we feel there is no-one better suited to outfit you for your trip. It is a trip we've taken dozens of times. We know what works, but more importantly, we know what works best. We'd love to have your business if you need to purchase new equipment.

One thing we've all learned from years of fishing in Patagonia, and the word that we as anglers must always keep in the back of our minds, is "ADAPT." It is almost impossible to tell what kind of lines and flies are going to be most successful on the river at a given time. Conditions can change without warning and we must be able to adapt to the conditions at hand. Thus you'll want to bring a wide selection of fly tackle and enough different types of flies to meet conditions.

Guides will often have a fly on hand in case you don't have the right one in your box for the situation, but we cannot guarantee this, as equipment is not included in your trip, nor is it available for purchase at the lodge. Therefore you'll want to come prepared with everything you'll need.

If you have any questions concerning tackle and equipment recommendations, please feel free to call us, toll-free, at 800-669-3474, or send us an email at travel@theflyshop.com.

TACKLE & EQUIPMENT

FLY RODS

Multi-piece, 5 or 6 weight fly rods will cover all of the fishing situations you'll encounter in this part of Chile. We strongly recommend a multi-piece travel rod (3, 4 or 5 piece). Top-quality rods you might consider are: Winston Pure Series 4-piece rods, Sage's X Series or Method 4-piece series, or Scott Radian or Meridian series of travel rods. For great value options, consider Scott's Flex, or The Fly Shop's Signature H2O series.

FLY REELS

Good quality, lightweight fly reels, with simple disk drags or pawl drags, are the best choice. Reels should be filled with fresh 20-pound backing. Reel models to consider might include: The Ross Evolution; The Fly Shop L2A reel; Galvan Torque, Hatch Finatic, or Nautilus Featherweight Plus series of reels. 75 - 125 yards of backing is more than adequate.

FLY LINES

Most experienced El Saltamontes anglers feel the only line necessary is a floating line for all the river situations, although a sinking tip line may be useful when throwing streamers. Color of the line doesn't seem to be important. However, a weight-forward configuration will help transfer the power necessary to turn over bushy grasshoppers and other surface creatures we use. A (10' -15' depending on line size) sink tip fly line, Type III sink rate, can come in handy when fishing streamers.

LEADERS & TIPPET

For a week's fishing, you will need no less than three tapered leaders – 9 ft. (3X) for your floating line. For tippet, bring fresh spools of (4X), (3X) and (2X). We highly recommend mono leader, as it floats a bit, and almost all your fishing is with dries. Rio makes some of the best mono tippet and leader material available.

FLIES FOR EL SALTAMONTES

Remember, the name of this lodge is El Saltamontes (The Grasshopper). When you walk the banks and meadows near the Nireguao, you'll often raise a literal cloud of hoppers. The fish are keyed to the hoppers or anything that floats and looks buggy. They are like a magnet, keeping the many resident fish there and attracting more and more fish from the lower river habitat as the season progresses. Each angler should have about 3 dozen terrestrial patterns, a half dozen assorted streamers, some assorted dry flies, and maybe a couple each of dragonfly and mouse patterns. 48 flies should be just about right for the week. Guides normally have a very limited selection on hand in case you don't have the right fly for the situation. But flies are NOT available for sale at the lodges. We sell a hand-picked selection designed just for the time of year you'll be there – ask us for details.

MUST Have Fly Patterns (seasonal)	Quantity	Size	Useful Fly Patterns	Quantity	Size
Double Dutch Bug	4	10	Stimulators Rubber Legs (Yellow)	2	10
Regal Beetle	2	8	Madam X (Yellow)	2	10
Fat Albert, tan	4	10	Bead Head Copper John (Red)	2	12
Fat Albert, black	6	6	Chernobyl Ant (Orange Bottom)	6	10
Rainy's Hopper Grande (Tan)	8	12	Bead Head Prince Nymph	2	14
Rainy's Hopper Grande (Tan)	8	10	Copper Bead Birds Nest (Tan)	2	12
Carl's Cicada	2	10	GB Chilean Rubber Bugger	2	4
Pool Toy	2	8	Chernobyl Ant (Tan)	4	10
Mercer's Missing Link	4	16	Beaded Crystal Buggers	2	6
Chubby Chernobyl, peacock	4	8	The Fly Shop Beetle	2	16
Hi Vis Beetle	2	14	Parachute Adams	2	14

OPTIONAL Fly Patterns OPTIONAL	Quantity	Size
Red Butt Ant	3	12
Deer Hair Adult Damsel	2	14
Arouser Dragon (Blue)	2	10
Royal Wulff	2	12
Humpy (Yellow)	2	14
Elk Hair Caddis	2	14
TB PT Prince Nymph	2	14
Rubberlegs Stone (Pat's Rubberlegs)	4	8

RECOMMENDED CLOTHING

The weather in Patagonia is constantly changing. One afternoon it may be 70°+ and sunny, downright hot; then only a few hours later it may be rainy, damp, windy and in the low 50°s or cooler. It is not uncommon to have morning temperatures in the mid to low thirties, especially when clear weather prevails, warming to a balmy 50° or 60° degrees by the end of the day. Clothing strategies should be based on the "layering system." By using the "layering system," anglers can adapt to whatever Mother Nature dishes out. The whole idea behind layering is to trap heated air (generated by your body and stored between the different layers of insulation), thus keeping you warm.

Here is the formula preferred by the staff at The Fly Shop®:

BASE LAYER

Start off with a synthetic fabric next to your skin. This often is a pair of thermal underwear (tops and bottoms) and they usually come in three weights: light, mid and expedition or heavy. According to your individual metabolism, pick what is best for you. Synthetic (non-cotton) materials retain little moisture and "wick" moisture away from your skin. This is very important when you are walking in waders or when outside temperatures heat up. 1 set of midweight Simms "WaderWick" Wading Underwear, or Patagonia "Capilene" (tops and bottoms)

THERMAL LAYER

Your second layer of insulation should match the weather and conditions you are going to be fishing in. Lightweight insulation for cool weather, mid-weight for colder conditions and heavy weight for really frigid days. Fleece is an outstanding choice here in either tops and bottoms or overalls. Merino Wool is also a good choice as it stays warm when damp, though dries very slowly. 1 set fleece pants-- Simms Power Stretch Guide Bibs or Pants, or Patagonia BaseLayer. 1 Fleece jacket-- Simms Wind Stopper, or Patagonia Synchilla.

WATERPROOF SHELL

The final layer on your upper body should be a rain jacket. High quality Gore-Tex type products are the best. Your rain jacket should be 100% waterproof and breathable, multi-layered, with sealed seams. Buy the best rain jacket you can afford, as it is one of the most important pieces of equipment you can own. The Simms guide Jacket, and Patagonia's Guidewater are high quality jackets designed specifically for fly fishermen. Various models by North Face, Arcteryx, Columbia, and Marmot are all good crossover choices.

WADERS

Stocking foot, breathable chest waders are the only way to go. You will experience little or no moisture build-up inside the waders, even after a long hike; they wear like iron, pack down very well, and are comfortable to be in all day. For safety we strongly recommend wearing a wading belt at all times. The Simms line of waders are the time-tested gold-standard and The Fly Shop's breathable waders are also high-quality, affordable waders.

SOCKS

For a week's fishing trip, three pairs of heavy socks will be adequate. Wool, polypro or a combination of both are the best choices in sock material. Try on your socks



with your waders and wading boots before you go to insure you have plenty of room to move your toes. Being unable to move your toes and cramping your feet in your wading boots are the biggest reasons for numb toes and cold feet. Simms and Patagonia synthetic and Smartwool are the way to go.

WADING BOOTS

Wading at El Saltamontes is very easy and rubber soled boots are highly recommended to prevent spreading invasive species. Patagonia, Simms and Korkers - there are lots of good brands. Metal studs are fine to put into the shoe soles, though are seldom needed.

WADING STAFF

If you use a staff at home, bring it along. They can be handy, particularly the collapsible models. While Patagonian rivers are considered easy to moderate wading, there will always be a fish that likes to hang out in swifter, deeper water, tempting you into position.

GLOVES

Fingerless insulating gloves are rarely needed, but great for the occasional cold days. We have had the best success with synthetic or wool gloves, rather than neoprene which retain water. Simms WindStopper Half-finger Gloves are perfect. The Fly Shop's fingerless fleece gloves are great and won't break the bank. Sungloves can also be wonderful to wear on hot sunny days, to protect your hands from the intense UV in Patagonia.

FISHING VEST/ TACKLE PACK

For vests we like a high quality product, in a shorty model. Choose one that has room for a rain jacket or camera in the back. Patagonia's Hybrid Pack Vest and Simms Freestone Vest are great choices. If you prefer a tackle pack, take a good look at the Patagonia Stealth Hip Pack, or The Fly Shop Waist Pack, or Umpqua Ledge's 650 ZS Waist Pack.

DAY PACK/ BOAT BAGS

These hold extra gear, clothes, flies, camera, snacks, etc., and keep them safe and dry during floats and boat rides. The Fly Shop recommends Stormfront Great Divider, or the simple and inexpensive Umpqua Tongass Dry Bags.

HATS

Bring a hat with a good brim for sun protection, and a warmer stocking hat for cold days (which can occur anytime during the season.)

Tools

Nippers, flat jaw hemostats, a hook file, fly floatant, and a measuring tape are essential to carry on any fishing trip.

POLARIZED SUNGLASSES

Good quality polarized sunglasses are a must, both for seeing fish and for safety. Brown, amber and copper are the best lens colors. Action Optics, Oakley and Costa Del Mar make excellent fly fishing sunglasses, and even offer prescription options. Bring a spare pair!



CAMERA & CAMERA PROTECTION

Waterproof or splash-proof 35mm pocket cameras are handy. Canon or Nikon digital SLR cameras with a good zoom lens (28 - 80) are the best. Almost all camera battery chargers these days can accommodate a 100 – 240 volt range.

The best hard plastic cases to protect expensive camera equipment are made by Pelican Products, www.pelican.com

HEADLAMP

Headlamps are great for late night gear fiddling and trips to the loo. The Petzl “Tikka” is our favorite model.

SUN PROTECTION

The summer weather in Chile Patagonia is generally pleasant. Average temperatures range between the low 50’s and mid 80's. Though usually not hot, the ultra-violet rays of the sun in this part of the world are very intense and will burn even the most sun-seasoned anglers. Wide-brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts, and frequent use of a strong sun block (SPF 30 UVA/UVB+) are highly recommended. Sun gloves will save the backs of your hands.

NON ANGLERS

Non-angling guests should be prepared for a variety of outdoor activities. Hiking, horseback riding, visits to neighboring working farms, local artisans, carriage rides, birding and photography are some of the activities available. Non-angling guests should bring good raingear (jacket and pants) hiking boots, a warm fleece, camera, binoculars, daypack, and a good sun hat.

EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM GUESTS

Saddles and tack are provided but we suggest all riders bring their own:

- Helmet
- Boots
- Chaps
- Gloves
- Wet weather gear

CATCH & RELEASE

By releasing a fish unharmed, survival rates are very high. But to reduce fish mortality, anglers must handle fish carefully and quickly with appropriate techniques. Always be sure to fish using a barbless fly. This not only makes it easier to release the fish but is a safety precaution for both you and the guide. Whenever possible, we like to have the guides assist you in releasing fish. They are extremely efficient at it and thus will ensure the healthiest of releases. If a guide is not available to help you release a fish, please follow these guidelines:

- 1.) Land the fish as quickly as possible; the longer the playing-time, the greater the stress on the fish.
- 2.) If you can, it is best to remove the hook without handling the fish. However, it is often necessary to hold a fish during the hook removal process. Hemostats, or a specialized release tool should be used to remove the hook.
- 3.) When holding a fish, cradle it gently and horizontally in two hands. Turning the fish upside down will often disorient the fish and keep them calm long enough to remove a hook.
- 4.) Keep hands and fingers away from the gills and do not put fingers over the eyes. Do not squeeze the fish in the throat or stomach regions as vital organs can easily be easily injured.
- 5.) When photographing the fish, **KEEP THE FISH IN THE WATER** until the photographer is ready. Then take the photo quickly and put the fish back in the water. To help personalize this experience from the fish's perspective, try holding you own breath whenever the fish is out of the water: try to imagine that you have just run a marathon and that your head is being forced underwater whenever the fish's is above it.
- 6.) Never throw or kick a fish. Grasp it gently and return it carefully into quiet water deep enough to support it. Face the fish into the current and hold it in place so water can flow through its gills. **DO NOT MOVE THE FISH BACK AND FORTH**, as the backward movement forces water into its gills from behind – akin to having the wind knocked out of you. Revive the fish until it recovers enough to swim out of your hands on its own. (Seeing a fish swim out of your hands might be the moment of C & R's maximum enjoyment!) Be patient, this may take more than a few minutes.

PLEASE HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF DIDYMO, WHIRLING DISEASE & NEW ZEALAND MUD SNAILS!

Didymo, or “Rock Snot”

(Excerpted from the Center for Invasive Species Research)

The Situation: Didymo or rock snot, is a highly invasive species of freshwater diatom that can form large and extensive mats in rivers, streams, and lakes. Didymo is native to cool temperate areas of the northern Hemisphere including Europe, North America, and Asia. In 2004, didymo was discovered infesting freshwater rivers in the South Island of New Zealand, the first record of this diatom in the Southern Hemisphere. In 2010, it was confirmed in the Esquel Region of Argentina and Chile, marking the first documented infestation in South America. Even in parts of what is presumed to be the native range of didymo, this pest is starting to expand its range aggressively. The reasons for this change in behavior are not known.

The Problem: The microscopic algae can be spread in a single drop of water. Because of the extensive smothering of rocks and other underwater structures, habitat and food sources can be changed or eliminated to the detriment of other organisms living in infested waterways, such as trout. Excessive biomass accumulations associated with didymo result from asexual reproduction. When the diatom divides, the stalk that was attaching the diatom to a rock or some other hard surface divides also. As this process repeats itself, a mass of branched interconnected stalks results. It is the aggregation of these stalks, which are highly resistant to degradation that causes the formation of large mats of didymo, or rock snot. Outbreaks of didymo are thought to have contributed to the declines of freshwater invertebrate and vertebrate populations, especially fish that have important recreational value (e.g., trout fisheries). This relationship between didymo and fish declines is an area of active research.

Didymo is almost certainly moved into new areas via contaminated fishing equipment (e.g., boots, waders, and line) and boats. Sanitation measures should be employed to reduce the spread of moving didymo from infested to uninfested areas. Such practices include removal of all obvious clumps of didymo from boats and fishing equipment. Soaking fishing gear in bleach or saltwater solutions, heating for prolonged periods, or freezing for several consecutive days can kill sterilize fishing gear by killing didymo.

Regions:

South America: The United States Geological Survey [USGS] confirmed the identification of the diatom *Didymosphenia geminata* ("Didymo") as forming extensive blooms in Chilean rivers near Esquel, in the Chubut Province of Argentina. The bloom was reported ^[3] on Espolon River and Futaleufú River, for a total of more than 56 river kilometers affected. These two rivers are located in the Los Lagos Region, Region X of Chile. The result was confirmed by a Chilean laboratory, Centro de Investigacion en Ecosistemas de la Patagonia (CIEP) on 28 May 2010.

New Zealand: In 2004 *D. geminata* was discovered in New Zealand, the first time it was found in the southern hemisphere. To restrict its spread, the whole of the South Island of New Zealand was declared a controlled area in December 2005. Extensive publicity was carried out to limit the spread but it was found in an increasing number of rivers.

North America: British Columbia: *Didymosphenia geminata* was first reported as a nuisance species in the late 1980s on Vancouver Island. Since that time, outbreaks of Didymo have been reported on the island and on the mainland.

Alberta: Earliest anecdotal reports of *Didymosphenia geminata* blooms in Alberta rivers occurred as early as the mid-1990s (e.g. the upper Bow River in Banff National Park). Reports of *Didymo* presence and bloom formation have been documented for most rivers in the South Saskatchewan River Basin in recent years (2005 to current).

South Dakota: It has been present in Rapid Creek in South Dakota since at least 2005, and is blamed for a significant decline in the brown trout population. It is also present to lesser extents in other nearby locations.^[7]

Tennessee: *Didymo* was found in the tailwaters of the Norris, Cherokee, Wilbur and South Holston hydroelectric dams in 2005. It is the first U.S. finding east of the Mississippi River.^[8]

Virginia: *Didymo* was identified in western Virginia in the summer of 2006 in the Smith River, the Jackson River, and the Pound River.^[9]

Vermont: In June 2007, *didymo* was discovered in the Connecticut River, near Bloomfield, Vermont, its first recorded discovery in the northeastern United States. The sighting was reported by a fishing guide and confirmed by Dr. Sarah Spaulding, a *didymo* expert from Denver, Colorado.^[10]

New Hampshire: Also during the summer of 2007, *didymo* was discovered for the first time in New Hampshire in the Connecticut River near Pittsburg.^[11]

Connecticut: Found in the Farmington River in March 2011.

Kentucky: Found in the Cumberland River below Wolf Creek Dam in the Crocus Creek area 2008. State of Kentucky has banned Felt Sole waders in the river to prevent spread of the organism.^[12]

New York: In August 2007, *didymo* was first discovered in New York State in a section of the Batten Kill in Washington County.^[13] It has also been found in Esopus Creek in the Catskills.

Maryland: In May 2008, *didymo* was found in the Gunpowder River in Baltimore County.

New Zealand and the U.S. states of Alaska and Vermont have banned anglers from wearing felt-soled boots. Maryland is considering doing so as well. Orvis, a leading U.S. manufacturer of fly-fishing equipment, has started selling more rubber-soled boots than felt-soled.^[15]

Preventing the spread

Check: Before leaving the river, remove all obvious clumps of algae and look for hidden clumps. Leave them at the site. If you find clumps later don't wash them down the drain, treat them with the approved methods below, dry them and soak them in bleach for at least 4 hours.

Clean: Soak and scrub all items for at least one minute in either hot (60°C) water, a 2% solution of household bleach, antiseptic hand cleaner or dishwashing detergent.

Dry: If cleaning is not practical (e.g. livestock, pets), after the item is completely dry wait an additional 48 hours before contact or use in any other waterway.

Please use rubber-soled, new or bleached boots, and clean your waders regularly according to the procedure below in order to prevent the spread of invasive species.

Whirling Disease

What is Whirling Disease? *Myxobolus cerebralis* (Mc) is a parasite that infiltrates the head and spinal cartilage of fingerling trout where it multiplies rapidly, causing the fish to swim erratically and, in severe cases, die. When an infected fish dies, millions of tiny indestructible Mc spores (each about the size of a red blood cell) are released to the water where they can survive in this “dormant” form for up to 30 years. When Mc spores are ingested by Tubifex worms, the spore changes inside the worm and is released from the worm in a highly infective form, the Triactinomyxon (Tam). Tams are free-floating in the water until they infect trout, causing spinal deformities and decreased abilities for feed. Whirling disease is most infective to rainbow and cutthroat trout, but can infect all salmonid species.

Whirling Disease Prevention: Rinse all mud and debris from equipment and wading gear

- Rinse, then thoroughly dry your boots, waders and other fishing equipment. This is generally sufficient to kill the TAM stage of the parasite.
- Chlorine (regular household bleach) is a very effective disinfectant, and one of the few that can kill all stages of the parasite if used at the proper concentration. However, chlorine is a very strong chemical and can harm your equipment with prolonged exposure, so make sure you rinse the chlorine off your waders and other equipment after you disinfect, and dry in the shade.
- To kill the TAM stage, use 1 part chlorine to 32 parts water. It must stay in contact for about 10 minutes to assure disinfection.
- To kill the mature myxospore that may be found in the mud from an infected stream is much more difficult and hard on equipment.
- 50% solution (1 part chlorine to 1 part water) - dip waders into a solution of the bleach or wipe or spray it on.
- 10% solution (1 part chlorine to 9 parts water) and soak your equipment for 10 minutes.
- Quaternary ammonium compounds are also effective in killing both parasite stages. These disinfectants are commercially available for disinfecting fishing equipment (Bright Water™) or for the pet/veterinary trade (Roccal-D™, Parvosol™).
- Equally effective is water heated to nearly boiling (200°F) poured over your gear and allowed to cool.

Please use rubber-soled, new or bleached boots, and clean your waders regularly according to the procedure below in order to prevent the spread of invasive species. If bringing felt-soled boots, make sure they have been thoroughly cleaned and dried before using them in Chile. Bleaching them (see above) is a great idea, as well.



EL SALTAMONTES TRAVEL CHECKLIST

Airline Tickets and Itinerary
 Valid Passport
 Copy of Passport (packed separately)
 Wallet
 Cash US\$
 credit cards
 Fly Rods
 Fly Reels
 Spare Spools, Spare Lines
 Leaders
 Tippet
 Fly boxes
 Dry Flies
 Streamers
 Terrestrials
 Nymphs
 Floatant
 Clippers, Pliers, Scissors
 Fishing Vest/Tackle Pack
 Day Pack, Tackle Bag
 Reel Lubricant
 Hook file or Stone
 Knot Tool
 Hemostats
 Split shot
 Polarized Sunglasses
 Extra pair of Sunglasses
 Reading Glasses
 Waders
 Wading Belt
 Wading Boots (no studs)
 Insect Repellent
 Toilet Articles
 Prescription Medications
 Aspirin
 Notebook
 Playing Cards
 Tape measure
 Waterproof Bag for Wading Gear
 AquaSeal Wader Repair
 Bag for Laundry

Rain Jacket
 Light Socks
 Heavy Socks
 Zip-Lock bags
 Travel Flashlight or Headlamp
 Emergency Telephone Numbers
 Destination address
 Maps
 Sungloves
 Bandannas/Bufs
 Slacks and Pants
 Belt
 Shirts
 Undershirts, Under shorts
 Under-wader wear
 Light fleece pants
 Fishing Hat or stocking cap
 Fleece or pile jacket/pullover
 Long-sleeved Shirts
 Short-sleeved Shirts
 Fishing Gloves
 Pen and Pencil
 Reading Book
 Addresses & phone numbers
 Camera, Lens cleaner, Battery Charger
 Sun Screen SPF 30+
 Lip Balm & hand lotion
 English/Spanish Dictionary
 Travel Alarm
 Bathing Suit for Hot Tub

Hair Dryers provided by the lodge

Equestrian Program Guests:

Saddles and tack are provided but we suggest all riders bring their own:

Helmet
 Boots
 Chaps
 Gloves
 Wet weather gear

If you have any questions concerning tackle and equipment recommendations, please feel free to call us toll-free at 800-669-3474. Thank you.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

THE FLY SHOP (Open 7 days a week, 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
PH: 800-669-3474 • BUS. 530-222-3555 • FAX: 530-222-3572
E-mail: travel@theflyshop.com

El Saltamontes (lodge direct dialed from the U.S.)
PH: 011-56-67-21-1111

- There is limited internet service (provided by satellite connection) at the owner's adjacent home, where people are welcome to check their e-mail.
- Jose Gorrone's personal cell phone (dialed from the U.S.) 011-56-998-953-666 or within Chile – to reach Jose at the ranch or wherever he may be, if needed.
- Jose Gorrone E-mail: josegorrono@gmail.com

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