

## **The Week of Legends at Trophy Lodge 2007!**

It was a week legends are made of when it comes to big lake trout fishing on Great Bear Lake. Many people coming up to the Bear dreaming about catching a big lake trout and getting the chance to hug and release a monster hog. Some people are lucky and the first day out catch something over 20 lbs which we consider a trophy Lake Trout on the Bear. Others have to put in the time and experience the hours of quiet with moments of sheer terror. If you remember to experience the whole package and in the lull, when the fish are not biting, remember to relax and enjoy the beauty of mother nature around you, your time put in searching for a trophy will pay off.

For Marlin Coulombe from Sacramento California the week that legends are made of has been many years in the making. He started coming to the "Bear" fishing out of Branson's Lodge in 1972,73 and then switched to Trophy Lodge in 1974. He later fished at Arctic Circle Lodge and Plummer's main lodge. He returned to Trophy Lodge this year for his best trip ever. This year Marlin was lucky enough to be reunited with his longtime friend and guide, Robin Stewart, who through many years of experience has worked his way up to head guide at Trophy Lodge.

With Marlin's technique honed after 35 years of experience, it really paid off this trip. Several fish were caught in the 20, 30, 40 and even the 50-pound range but the one that topped it all was caught on August 2. This monster ate Marlin's custom made A C Plug and after a fun battle, ended up in the net. It was too large for our scale but measured 51 inches long with a huge 33-inch girth. According to the formula for figuring out the weight, that worked out to 69.4 pounds! One of the largest, if not the largest, lake trout caught in the world for 2007. That huge fish was also released back into the waters of the "Bear". Then he followed that up the next day with a 55 pounder.

The third place fish for Marlin's boat for the week was a monster pushing 50 pounds not to mention a double header of 41 lbs and 35 lbs. Guide Robin Stewart was quoted as saying, "I have never seen that many big fish in one week in all of my 14 season, that was truly a week legends are made of".

In addition, Marlin also loves to fish for the nasty Northern Pike. He had his best experience ever at the "Bear" with several pike in the high teens and low twenties. He caught his largest Great Bear pike ever weighing in at 24 pounds and measuring 44 inches long. What a trip!

Co-written by guest Marlin Coulombe and guide Robin Stewart