



**HOT  
SPOTS  
GUIDE  
2011**

## 29 | Wolf River, Yukon

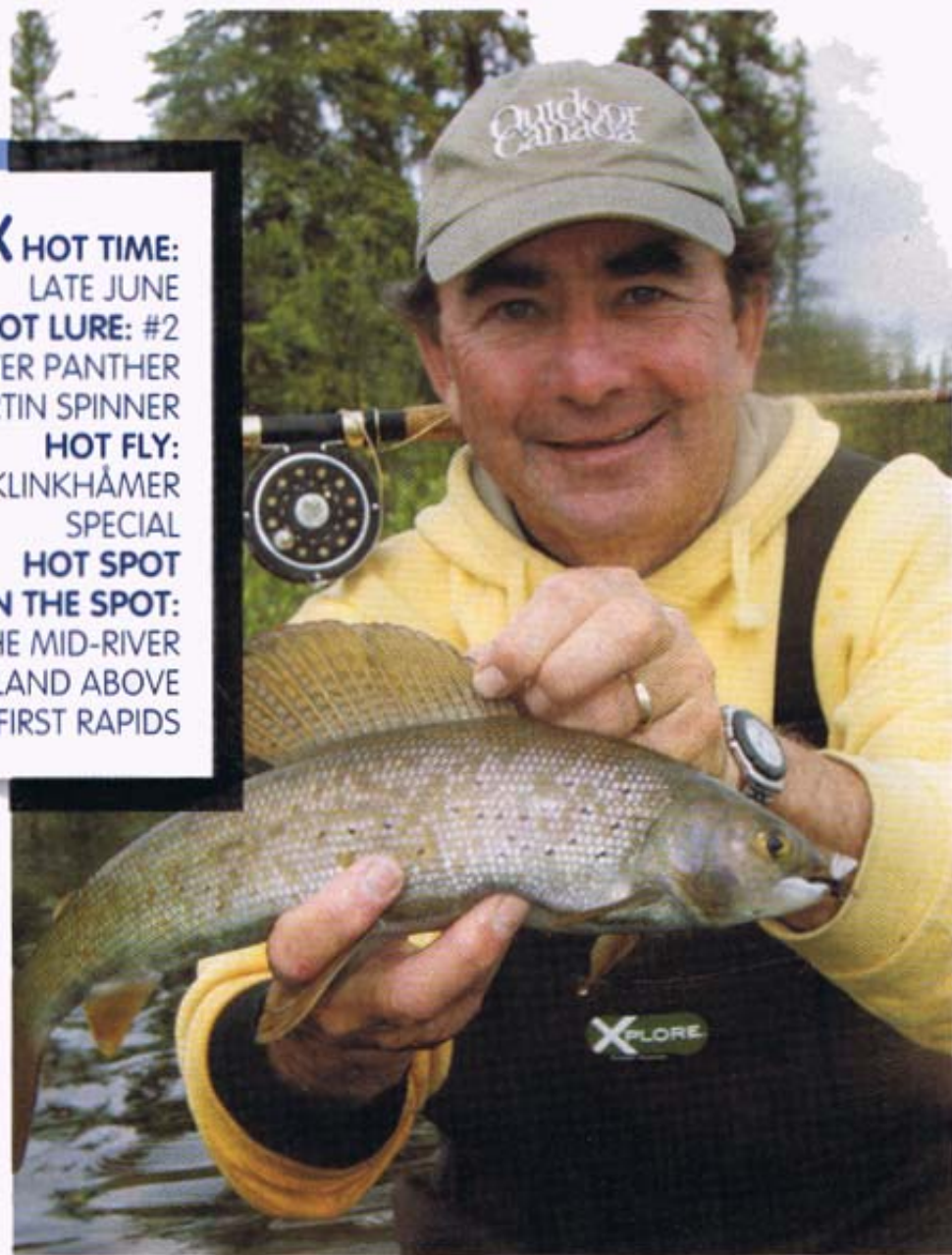
**CLAIM TO FAME: BEST FOR NUMBERS OF ARCTIC GRAYLING**

No word of a lie: In the span of less than a half-hour, I watched fly fisherman John Horsey pull 50 Arctic grayling from one small pool on the Yukon's Wolf River. Of course, Horsey had a bit of an angling advantage, being the captain of England's 2009 World Fly Fishing Championship team. That said, you certainly don't need to be a pro to fish like a pro on the Wolf. Just ask me.

During my visit in June 2009, I caught so many grayling on dries and nymphs that I honestly lost track of the exact tally, but it was definitely in the hundreds—all catch-and-release, of course, except for the few I kept for shorelunch. How crazy was the catching? Picture aggressive grayling nipping at my dangling fly as I try to work out a wind knot: three times I caught fish doing just that. In other words, the fishing is so good, you can catch fish without even trying. Just amazing. But not surprising, really.

These are wilderness fish, after all, unaccustomed to angler pressure and, as a result, completely willing to take almost any offering. And the volume of aggressive fish is simply incredible, complete with the chance to land four-pound lunkers. So explains the high praise from visitors such as John Wilson, British TV's Mr. Angling. His effusive description of the Wolf? "Grayling heaven." —Patrick Walsh

« **HOT TIME:**  
LATE JUNE  
**HOT LURE:** #2  
SILVER PANTHER  
MARTIN SPINNER  
**HOT FLY:**  
KLINKHÄMER  
SPECIAL  
**HOT SPOT**  
**ON THE SPOT:**  
THE MID-RIVER  
ISLAND ABOVE  
THE FIRST RAPIDS



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