

Paraná River Golden Dorado

With Fabi Anastasio

D. Roger Maves: [00:00:00] Welcome to Ask About Fly Fishing Internet Radio, your source for learning more about fly fishing in cold water, warm water and salt water. Hello, I'm Roger Maves, your host for tonight's show. On this broadcast, we'll be featuring Fabi Anastasio. This show will be 90 minutes in length, then we're broadcasting live over the internet.

If you'd like to ask Fabi a question. Just go to our homepage at askaboutflyfishing.com and we will receive your question immediately. We'll try to answer as many of 'em as possible on the show tonight. And while you're there, make sure you sign up to receive our announcements so you don't miss out on any of our future broadcasts.

Just fill out the form on the right side of our homepage and we'll let you know when the next live show will be. This broadcast is being recorded and will be available for playback on our website about 48 hours after the show ends. You can also find it on any of the podcast sites like Apple Podcast, Google Podcast, Stitcher, or wherever you listen to your podcast.

So if you have to leave early, you can return to our website or [00:01:00] any other podcast platforms at your convenience. And listen to the recording at any time. If you're out and about on Facebook, Instagram, or X, we'd sure appreciate it if you share our podcast. And when you do use hashtag, ask about fly fishing and hashtag fly fishing.

In fact, if you have a moment while you're listening to the show, please do it right now and help us out. The content of this broadcast is copyrighted in the property of The Knowledge Group, Inc. doing business as ask about fly fishing. When we return, we'll be talking with Fabi about The Paraná River A Golden Dorado.

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Before we introduce Fabi, we'd like to let you know about the great prizes we have to give away tonight, for our drawing tonight we'll give away a one year membership to Fly Fishers International and a one year membership to Trout Unlimited. Now if you haven't registered yet for the drawing, you do so now, just go to our homepage at askaboutflyfishing.com and look for the link under tonight's show's section that says, register for our free drawing.

Click on that link, fill out the form, and we'll announce the winners at the end of the show. We'll also be giving away a book courtesy of Stackpole Books.

Here's how you can win. You must be the first person to answer the question I ask at the end of the show. The question will be about something that Fabi and I talked about during the show.

You must submit your answer along with your name and location using the text box on our homepage. So listen closely and use your best typing skills and maybe you'll be, uh, the [00:03:00] proud winner of Stackpole Book.

Our guest tonight is Fabi Anastasio, born and raised in Argentina. Fabi has been immersed in the world of fly fishing for over two decades.

His journey began in 1997, crafting handcrafted wooden landing nets for trout anglers, an artisanal pursuit that eventually led him to the guiding profession. In 2008, Fabi's extensive guiding experience span some of Argentina's most iconic and challenging fisheries from 2009 to 2013, and guided anglers in pursuit of sea run brown trout on the legendary waters of the Rio Grande and Irigoyen River in Tierra del Fuego.

Fabi Anastasio: Yes.

D. Roger Maves: He also spent a decade guiding spring seasons at the renowned Peter Lodge in the Lush Iberia, the marshlands targeting Golden Dorado in a unique wetland environment since 2014, Fabi has focused his expertise, on the powerful Dorado [00:04:00] of the Paraná River, and he guides anglers around expansive sandbars, clear side channels and dynamic currents.

His deep knowledge of Dorado behavior, technical casting approaches and seasonal movements make him one of the most respected guides in the region. Passionate, patient, deeply connected to the See Fishes, Fabi offers, not just a fishing trip, but a masterclass in reading water, understanding species, and connecting with the natural rhythm of Argentina's wildest rivers.

Fabi, welcome to ask about five fishing internet, radio.

Fabi Anastasio: Thank you very much, Roger. I'm really happy to be on your show.

D. Roger Maves: Well, it's great to have you. Sorry for all my bad pronunciation.

Fabi Anastasio: No worries. I'm gonna do the same in English.

D. Roger Maves: Okay. Uh, folks, Fabi and I were just talking before the show 'cause he's. He's learning English. I'm trying to learn Spanish, and, uh, he's way better at English than I am at Spanish. But, uh, anyway, I struggle. Every sentence. [00:05:00] Every word, but we'll get through it.

So Fabi, let's talk first about the Paraná River, and as I understand it, the second largest river in South America.

Fabi Anastasio: Yes.

D. Roger Maves: And that's what we're talking about, but we're just talking about a specific segment of that river, correct?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes.

D. Roger Maves: And could you describe that, where that's at?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes, sure. The sections where I work, the places where I know better are the, the upper Paraná and the middle Paraná. Then there is another section that we call the Lower Paraná the upper Paraná is from a dam that is very close to a town called Ituzaingó. To another town called Paso de la Patria, where there is a confluence with the Paraguay River.

And from there, [00:06:00] downstream to the middle of the province of Entre Ríos, where is, there is a city called Diamante is what we call the middle Paraná. And I work in a place in the upper Paraná during our springtime and summertime. That would be from September to mid April or the beginning of April. And the middle Paraná is another place where I work the season there goes in our, from our winter that mid June, July to November, December.

So it's like, uh. We cover almost the whole year round fishing for Dorado in the Paraná River.

D. Roger Maves: Now this is all in Argentina though?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes, this is Argentina. The river comes from Brazil, but this is [00:07:00] at the Argentinian Park.

D. Roger Maves: And as I'm looking on the map, it borders Uruguay too, correct?

Fabi Anastasio: Eh, not Uruguay. The border in the upper Paraná is exactly where I work. In the close to the city of Itatí the border is um, Paraguay, Paraguay and Argentina. And then the border is the Paraná river. Then in the middle Paraná from, exactly from the Paraguay River downstream, there are two Argentinian provinces.

The Uruguay, if you see in the map, Uruguay is on the east side. That's the Uruguay River.

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: That's the border between Argentina and Uruguay country.

D. Roger Maves: Okay. Now you've told us about the different seasons and you move on the river.

Fabi Anastasio: Mm-hmm.

D. Roger Maves: What makes you move? Is it, are the Dorado uh, [00:08:00] migrating? Are they looking for food? What changes for them?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. It's exactly that. They start from winter time. Um, now the most of the fish are in the middle and the lower section.

Then they start following the bait that goes upstream, feeding on them during the whole, you know, winter and spring time, and about September, depending on, of course, on the level of the water and amount of fish moving, amount of bait. Fish moving.

The upper Paraná started getting much more. Um, you know, the population of fishes gets bigger and bigger so we can fish for them from September, October. Usually the, the spawning season is between November and December. If the condition are are good, [00:09:00] that means the level of the water is high enough and then they stay feeding in the upper part of the river, the upper Paraná, all the summertime, then start going downstream again from May to June, you know, all the way down again.

And apart from that, another big difference is that the upper Paraná is always clear because of this dam that is upstream of this section of the river. But the middle Paraná. Because of this, you know, Paraguay River, this confluence where middle Paraná start from there downstream during our summertime, that would be from January, is very, very murky. Uh, gets the Paraná River very, very murky too. [00:10:00] So it's not very efficient. Of course there are fish, but it's not very fishy for the kind of fishing we do.

But,

D. Roger Maves: Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: From June and July that Paraguay River gets lower and lower and usually the Paraná gets higher so the water gets clear and much more efficient. That's the big difference about the two sections.

D. Roger Maves: So you mentioned the clarity of the water. What about the hydrology seasonal flow? Does that vary a lot or is it fairly consistent?

Fabi Anastasio: You know, it is, nowadays it is tough to say because you know, the weather is changing and it's not very predictable. But in a regular year now, the river is in regular conditions. I mean, regular level of water, normal, it should get higher [00:11:00] little by little until November, December, where, when should be with, it should get the highest level.

So it's when the fish spawn is what they need, very high water. And then the river start getting normal again. Like, you know, regular level of water from January very. To July, August. Again, that would be the perfect thing, sometime it doesn't happen, you know, because the rain is changing and things like that. But, but I'll always find a way to, to spawn even if the condition not perfect.

D. Roger Maves: Do they spawn in the main river or did they use side tributaries to spawn in?

Fabi Anastasio: Mainly they spawn in the main river in very high water or in some other tributaries too.[00:12:00]

But what happen is what they do, they need a high water because they, they leave a lot of eggs and those eggs goes downstream all the way to the middle and the lower section because by the Banana River there, there are a lot of delta places. Lagoons, small creeks, you know, marshy places. It's a very good place for all the, not just for Dorado, for any kind of fish to, you know, to feed and get

ready to for the life, you know. It is a, it is a good place for them to, to feed. Exactly. It's just to grow, grow up.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Right, right. Does, um, what makes, now I read that the Paraná River is one of the best rivers for Golden Dorado. What makes it so unique and [00:13:00] productive as a fishery?

Fabi Anastasio: I think that what I should said is one of the main reasons.

Um, it's a very big system. Imagine this, that the Rio De La Plata Basin. Rio De Plata is the one shot in front of Buenos Aires city, okay?

D. Roger Maves: Okay,

Fabi Anastasio: So all that water from the Paraná that come from Brazil, part of Bolivia, Paraguay, other rivers in Argentina, the Iberá marsh in the middle of the province in Corrientes province.

And on the other side, the east side, the Uruguay river also meets the paradigm in the delta. There're just above Bueno Aires is such a, a huge system. Huge system. That's why it's, it is a good place for this kind of any kind of fish actually. Not just for Dorado. All the native fish [00:14:00] we have there, it's huge. It's huge. And there are many places for the fish to, you know, stay

D. Roger Maves: Yeah, I, I've seen, um, I've seen videos of people fishing for Dorado in, well, it looked like very small streams, like almost mountain streams.

Fabi Anastasio: There are some small streams in Argentina, like, you know, trout streams, like

D. Roger Maves: Right

Fabi Anastasio: Some river. There are a few in Argentina, but you might also see probably some place in Bolivia, which is another basin. That's the Amazon basin. And there are a few rivers there in the close to the, the mountains close to the Andes.

Those rivers are very small, like trout stream and, but those belongs to the Amazon basin, not to the Rio de la plata. I mean, they, now there are [00:15:00] no connection with these two basins.

D. Roger Maves: Right, right. Yeah. Two separate basins. Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah. I used to work there many, many years ago at the very beginning of that operation.

D. Roger Maves: Oh, okay. We had talked about the bait fish migrations, you know, playing an active role in, in where the Dorado are now, do they, are the bait fish migrating too? And the dorado follow them? Or is there bait fish all through the river system and you know, the Dorado are just kind of opportunistically feeding upon them?

Fabi Anastasio: Uh, actually I think both.

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: Of course there are bait and Dorado and other fish migrating, especially Dorado, Dorado follow the savalo we call savalo the bait fish. Nothing to do with, you know, tarpon, uh, nothing to do with that fish. It's a [00:16:00] totally different kind of fish. Um, they follow that fish. Usually they might hold, you know, very big schools to feed on them. And even when they saw, the spawn, the Dorado spawn just after, so they started feeding from there from the very beginning, from when they are juvenile, that for sure is happening. I mean the migration of bait, Dorado Catfish or other fish. But also we are sure that there are resident fish all along the system.

Probably some of those fish also migrate for some reason, but sometime we know they stay for several months in the same area.

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: Actually, there are not many studies about the Paraná River, [00:17:00] but there are some, you know, fish that were packed and caught in a place and probably two months later, but again, in the same place. Or 500 kilometers away is amazing.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: 20, 20 days later. Just that.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Yeah. Moving, moving a long distance.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah. Yeah. It is difficult to, it is very difficult to understand the behavior because there are no studies. Now there is one that is just started. I think they are doing it with satellites. That would be great to know the details, but it's more about what we see and what we, you know, we ask to older people. The, the guys that knows very well the place and our experiences

D. Roger Maves: Are they, um. I mean, I look at the [00:18:00] photographs and the river looks so big, so big. It almost looks like the ocean out there.

Fabi Anastasio: Actually, you know, the, the native name is related to that. It's the Paraná is, uh, come from the native language and means related to the sea.

D. Roger Maves: Oh, related to the sea. Interesting.

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Interesting. We had a question from Carrie in Virginia, and he's asking about other wildlife. He says, have you seen a Jaguar? What wildlife is most common for fishermen to encounter? I don't even know if you have Jaguars down there, but, uh,

Fabi Anastasio: No, no,

D. Roger Maves: No.

Fabi Anastasio: Carrie is an, she's an old friend.

D. Roger Maves: Oh,

Fabi Anastasio: Really, really, really good to hear from, from her. We met in there in the Bolivian Jungle when I worked there. Uh, no Carry. I couldn't see any jaguar in the Bolivian jungle. And there [00:19:00] were those cat long time ago by the Paraná river, actually, very, very long time ago. Close to Buenos Aires too, but no anymore.

And the wildlife there that we can see it, apart from a lot of, uh, bear, uh, caymans, you know, capybara, some different kind of deer, native ones, and also the axis that was introduced. But no, I couldn't see the big cat yet.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah, well people always fishing is about, you know, being in nature and seeing wildlife, so

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: You know, we, we get that question a lot. People wondering, well, what else would I see out there? You know? So, um,

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Well let's take a, uh, quick break here, Fabi, and we'll come right back and when we do, we'll talk more about fly fishing for Golden Dorado.

Fabi Anastasio: Okay.

D. Roger Maves: The Ugly Bug Fly Shop in Casper, Wyoming has been serving fly fishers in Wyoming and around [00:20:00] the world since 1983.

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You're listening and Ask About Fly Fishing Internet Radio, and we're talking about the Paraná River and Golden Dorado. If you'd like to ask Fabi a question, just go to our homepage at askaboutflyfishing.com and use the Q and A text box to send us your question. We'll receive your question immediately and we'll try to answer as many of them on the show tonight.

Fabi, tell us a bit about your business and where you guide out of, and so if people are [00:21:00] interested in and potentially coming down to fishing with you, tell us about your business.

Fabi Anastasio: Okay. Yes. I work for this company called Nervous Water. Um, in where I work right now is in the Upper Paraná in Suindá Lodge, which is very close to Itatí town. And the other one, the one located in the middle Paraná is called Karandá Lodge. By the town of Bella Vista. Those are the two places I am working for right now.

D. Roger Maves: Okay. And you guide strictly for Golden Dorado out of there?

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, it's, it is Golden Dorado mainly. But there are also, Pacu is, you know, the, is a omnivorous fish that is very good to, to fish with. I mean a lot of fun to fish for them with the kind of fruit flies. [00:22:00]

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: Uh, could be floating or sinking fruits and also, especially in the upper Paraná, Pirapitas, which is another fish, a lot of fun to catch, especially on dry flies. It's an omniverse too in the middle paraná is mainly about Dorado and there are also some very good places for paguchu.

D. Roger Maves: Okay folks, I will link to those two lodges for you in the description after the show's done. 'cause I, I know it's probably hard to get there.

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. Yeah. Native language language.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. So we'll link to those. I know which two they are. Now, are those kind of all inclusive lodges? Fabi,

Fabi Anastasio: Yes.

D. Roger Maves: In other words,

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. Yes. They are all inclusive lodges. Yes. Just, uh, fishing lodges. Yes. Everything.

D. Roger Maves: And when you, when you to get to those lodges, where do you fly into? [00:23:00]

Fabi Anastasio: You need to go, once you are in Buenos Aires, from Buenos Aires, you need to fly from there to Corrientes City.

Corrientes City, the capital of the Corrientes province. That's the easiest way to do it. And from there you can have Corrientes City is just in the corner, in the upper. West corner of the Corrientes province, you are gonna see, if you are looking at the map, you can see a, a bridge that cross the river there and put on there to Suinda, you have probably one hour and from there to to Karandá. Two hours. Yeah. Two hour call depending on the traffic.

D. Roger Maves: It takes a while to get there.

Fabi Anastasio: To the Iberá marsh.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Yeah. And do most people come there for a week or is that the normal stay or longer or

Fabi Anastasio: [00:24:00] In some people, yeah, some, we have some guests that they go for a week, but others, depending on the, season they share, you know, they make a combo.

They might see these two places in between September and December. Or even fish. Also, the Iberá marsh were Bariloche in the middle of the produce. The fish in there is from September to April. So some people also do that combo. You know, they could do the marsh and the Paraná river in the same trip. So three days and three days, yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Okay. Okay, good, good.

Fabi Anastasio: There are many possibilities. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Actually winter time, there are people that do, uh, June and July. Always they do, uh, some hunting. That hunting or, or other kind of shooting. And they also go to [00:25:00] the middle Paraná to fish.

D. Roger Maves: Ah, so is there fishing for Dorado all year long?

Fabi Anastasio: Actually it is, but there are a couple of months that are not very good. Usually that those are May. From mid April to mid June could be tough.

D. Roger Maves: Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: The transition between the season, you know, from the upper to the middle Paraná where usually the fish are moving and the river in the middle Paraná might be too dirty because of the, you know, the Paraguay river.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Okay. Okay. Let's talk about the Golden Dorado more specifically. What makes it such a prize target for fly fishers, you know, over other predatory fish?

Fabi Anastasio: Hmm. I think maybe the first impression I, I would say is it's very beautiful. [00:26:00] It, uh, looks very strong. It is very strong and you see, you know, pictures or whatever on YouTube and looks like massive predator or very aggressive fish.

But I guess after you fish for them for a couple of times, you can see that it's much more than that. I mean, it's a very complex fish. It's not, it's not aggressive every day can be very moody, spooky, sneaky, um, sometimes much more difficult than we would like them to be.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Uh, yes. It's not just an aggressive fish. It's very sensitive to any change. The level of the water, for example, to any noise, especially if the water is clear. [00:27:00] Clear is the water is more difficult unless the population of fish is good enough, big enough with a small, sizes, you know, because they need to fill it out. So they are not so difficult.

But when we are talking about a good fish from 10 to 15 pounds up, they might get difficult. I mean, you can fish for them of course, but they are not probably like many people think they are, you know, that you can throw whatever to them and they will take it. Now you have have to do it right.

D. Roger Maves: You have to work at it just like any other fish. Right?

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly. Yeah. Yes. Exactly.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. What is a, you know, in the Paraná River, what is a trophy Golden Dorado, what size?

Fabi Anastasio: I think from 15 pounds up is a very good fish.

D. Roger Maves: [00:28:00] Okay. The one that

Fabi Anastasio: Much more bigger than those,

D. Roger Maves: The one you're holding in the picture that, uh, we have on our website.

How big is that fish?

Fabi Anastasio: That one was probably 12 pounds.

D. Roger Maves: Only 12 pounds?

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: It looks bigger.

Fabi Anastasio: May. Maybe it looks bigger, but I think it was 12, maybe 14. I don't think so. I, but I don't remember. It was bigger than that. That was on a sandbar in the upper Paraná.

D. Roger Maves: That's a beautiful fish, very beautiful.

Fabi Anastasio: Very beautiful. And the situation was, was amazing.

Those situations that we're looking for when you are fishing.

D. Roger Maves: Oh, okay. Yeah. All the stars were in alignment, huh? Yeah. Yeah. Oh, that's, maybe don't get that.

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. It looks like you're in very shallow water there. Now is this when you're fishing flats of some sort?

Fabi Anastasio: [00:29:00] Yes. When we fish the flats, we call the sandbar, we need to go to very skinny water to be able to, to see them, you know.

Because even that fish that is big enough might be very difficult to spot because on a flat, they, when we approach a flat, we go very, very slowly with a boat to the shallower part with a, we use trolling motors, okay?

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: Electric trolling motors in the big boat. Sometimes we can use a smaller ski with a push pull too.

So we need to go to the very skinny water when we, if we see some action that could be, you know, feeding frenzy or big waves or, you know, bait getting spook because of the pull of rope that would be the easy [00:30:00] part, you know, because you know where they are. You know, they are active. You know that you might find them active.

You okay? Sometimes. You go to a flat there and you go to the shallows first you need to find, if you don't see any action, you need to find bait. Then you need to see what the bait is doing. The bait are there feeding. Okay. They see on the al sheet that is on the bottom. And if you see the, the bay very quiet.

Not worry. That's not a good sign. Yeah, that's because they are happy. You know, we call them happy.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah, too happy

Fabi Anastasio: Because, yeah, too happy, too, too quiet. But if you see them like, uh, probably small schools, a little bit nervous, you know, like, oh, that might be okay. That might be good. So what we do [00:31:00] most of the time is to go to the shallow and try to spook the bait slowly.

So they go to the deepest part of the sandbar. That action attracts the Dorado, and they come to the flat, to the shallow part of the sandbar, to chase the bait. It's like a many times we provoke the situation. If it's not happening, we might make it happen.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: don't know if I,

D. Roger Maves: I get it.

Fabi Anastasio: If you, if you not

D. Roger Maves: Yes.

Fabi Anastasio: You get it. Okay. Yeah. We provoke them. We, we spook the silo, we spook them. So that vibration of the bait running away from us and going to the deepest part of the flat maya tri the dora. So we have to be ready to, to make a very quick cast just in front of the Dorado [00:32:00] before they are gone, because that situation might last, two seconds, three seconds, 10 seconds. 20 seconds. If we are lucky.

D. Roger Maves: That's not very much time.

Fabi Anastasio: No, no. That, yeah. I mean, it's not easy, but it's amazing. It's very exciting and imagine that it's a kind of situation that you can have in fresh water. I don't know how many places you can have that situation in fresh water looking for a fish that might be from 10 to 25 pounds, even bigger, looking for bait that is probably 1, 2, 3 pounds. Big is crazy. I mean,

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Yeah. It's

Fabi Anastasio: Not common.

D. Roger Maves: One time I was experienced something similar was in Northern Canada and we were fishing for northern pike. [00:33:00] And um, kind of a little squall came in and pushed the water into this cove and it pushed the bait fish into the clove. And then the pike came in, you know, it's kinda like what you were talking about.

The bait fish were concentrated and then all of a sudden you'd start seeing the bait fish popping out of the water like popcorn, and you knew the pike were underneath chasing them, you know? Um, but that was a very aggressive behavior, chasing those, you know, in fresh water. At least I think you see it more often in salt water, but, um, not so much in fresh water.

Yeah. But it was, yeah. Now one of the things. I've heard that their strike and their fight are really explosive. So is it just that they get keyed up with the excitement of the bait fish or are they a very aggressive fish in general?

Fabi Anastasio: They might be very aggressive. They usually, they hit the fly [00:34:00] explosible, you know, as soon as the fly touch the water, they, most of the time the fly is taken as soon as touch the water.

They, because they are predator, they go for the fly or the freight and they turn quickly. So that's why they, I think take is so strong. And then they, most of the time they shum immediately most of the time and more than once. Many times that happens, sometimes it might happen that, they could be a little bit, you know, much more dedicated and take it more slowly.

Or even, for example, in this river, this very clear water river in the mountain, you might fish for them there dead [00:35:00] drifting mouse.

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: And they take the mouse like a, you know, like a trout.

D. Roger Maves: Right.

Fabi Anastasio: And even they might refuse it too. They might take a look or touch the mouse. We the nose and not taking the flies.

Those moments is where when they are very dedicated and, you know, picky.

D. Roger Maves: Do they have, um, do you think they use their vision or do they use the movement of, the bait fish to find them. In other words, do they have good vision?

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, they have good vision and they have an excellent lateral scale sense.

D. Roger Maves: Lateral line.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, yeah, sorry. Lateral line. They are very good at it. And also they have, uh, they feel, I'm not sure, [00:36:00] but I think, I'm sure they do it, but I'm not sure what it is. But I probably inside them out or in the shore in some place they have a kind of, you know, sensor or whatever that they feel the vibration in front of them. So when the Dorado is lying behind a log in fast water, they can feel when a bait past in front of them even if the water. I mean they can feel it, even if the word is not clear.

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: So they can do both.

D. Roger Maves: I can do both. Yeah. Yeah. Okay. Time to take another break and then we'll come back. We'll talk more about the Golden Dorado and gear and rigging that you use. So hang tight. We'll be back in just a few moments.

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You're listening, Ask About Fly Fishing Internet Radio. We're talking with Fabi about, uh, Paraná River [00:38:00] and Golden Dorado. If you'd like to ask Fabi a question, just go to our homepage and fill out that form. We'll try to get your question answered tonight on the show.

Let me just take a quick peek and see if we've got any questions coming up. Oh, um, we had a question on the internet here, Fabi from Phil in Kentucky. He's asking, are golden dorado the top predator fish in that Paraná river?

Fabi Anastasio: Probably is not. There are very big catfish there.

D. Roger Maves: Cat catfish, okay.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, very big catfish. Yes, that might be the top one, but they are difficult to see.

D. Roger Maves: Do they eat dorado?

Fabi Anastasio: For sure when they are small. Not when they're big.

D. Roger Maves: When they're smaller. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. But there are more than 100 pounds. The catfish.

D. Roger Maves: Oh my gosh. Okay. Okay. Let me just see what else is here. [00:39:00] Carrie, your friend in Virginia, uh, is most of the fishing done from wading or from boats?

Fabi Anastasio: Mostly from boats. We wait shows when the sun bars are very, very active.

D. Roger Maves: Okay. Okay. Another question, and this is totally out of the blue Treg in Moscow, Idaho, ask have you met Alessandra Lobo Pariedo? She works in conservation in that area. She's from Bolivia?

Fabi Anastasio: No, no, no, no, no. Maybe she's working now on, uh, last time I was there too many years ago.

D. Roger Maves: Too many years ago. Okay. Okay. Good. All right, well we got a couple of questions in there out of the way. Um. How often are you hooking into juvenile fish rather than mature adults? And are there noticeable difference in their behavior?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes, yes. The small ones, they need to feed quickly. [00:40:00] They are not so picky. So when you find, uh, school of small dorado, you probably catch many of them. But yes, there is a big difference sometimes between the small ones and the medium size, Dorado. I mean, bigger gets more difficult.

D. Roger Maves: What do you think on average, what is the size of the Dorado that you catch down there?

Fabi Anastasio: In the Paraná River? A middle size Dorado is what we consider middle size Dorado is from seven, eight pounds to 10 pounds, 11 pounds. A bigger from 15, a very good one from 20, and a monster from 27, 30 or

D. Roger Maves: Oh, wow.

Fabi Anastasio: Even more than 30. Even more than 30. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Really? Wow. That is a monster.

Fabi Anastasio: Our records in [00:41:00] every place there, the biggest at twin size is 37 pounds, and in the middle Paraná, it was 40 pounds. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Is that on the fly? On the fly too?

Fabi Anastasio: On the fly, yeah. On a fly. On a fly. Both of them.

D. Roger Maves: Wow. Wow. Yeah. Impressive. Is it true that they hunt together to ambush bait fish?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. Yes. Sometimes they do. Sometimes you might see most of the, the, the time that you, you can see the way they behave. It's on the flats because it's visual. You know, sometimes, I mean, I'm sure many things happen underwater, in underwater rocks or by the banks or whatever, but it's difficult to see because it's a big river. The shores where we fish the log structure, it's quite deep. So it, we, you don't know what exactly [00:42:00] is happening down there, but in the flats you can see then that it could be a, a long lone fish, just one fish, a school of 2, 3, 4 fish, and sometimes bigger schools.

Most of the time it's a, you know, there are small schools, 2, 3, 4 5 fish

D. Roger Maves: Are they larger fish?

Fabi Anastasio: Sorry, but yes, excuse me. But there are some situations where, you know, there are much more efficient than that, but it's difficult to see in the Paraná because, you know, it's just in the flat. You can see that. And then we see bigger schools.

But if you pay attention to those videos on YouTube, in those small rivers where you can see almost everything, sometimes there are much more bigger schools.

D. Roger Maves: Do [00:43:00] the, um, are the schools usually the medium or smaller size fish? And are the larger trophy fish more isolated, solo kind of?

Fabi Anastasio: No. No. Could be. No. No. And it could be a, a school of five masters. Yeah. Usually when you see a school, they're all about the same.

D. Roger Maves: Same size,

Fabi Anastasio: Similar. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Okay. Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: About, yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Got it. Got it. Okay. Um, let's talk about gear. What rod and line setups do you recommend for the golden dorado?

Fabi Anastasio: I recommend, we recommend eight as a rule, I would say could be a nine too for the paraná river.

What is very important for the kind of fishing we do and the flies, you know, and the wire and the, the leader too is to use a line [00:44:00] that is one number bigger than the rod. For example, if we are using a, yeah, if we are using a salt water rod eight, we use a red fish line number nine. So we overload the rod.

This is because. It's easier to cast a big fly, bulky, big fly, plus the wire because the piece of wire is heavy too. And also it is because the kind of fishing we do, especially when we do log structure, we need to cover a lot of water trying to avoid forecasting.

D. Roger Maves: Okay,

Fabi Anastasio: Because I mean, much more time is the fly fishing.

Of course, it's better because you might have much more chances because you cover more water and also [00:45:00] because it's much more tiring forecasting than fishing. Imagine that that gear eight weight steep rod, you know,

D. Roger Maves: Right?

Fabi Anastasio: Big flying, everything is heavy. And for, I don't know, the whole day. That means a lot. I mean, that is very important to have a very well balanced equipment.

D. Roger Maves: Right, right. Sounds a lot like pike fishing or muskie fishing, you know, in North America.

Fabi Anastasio: Yes, yes. I was told that people that fish from Muskie, they told me something similar. That is quite hard too.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Similar, you know, wire leader, uh, or shock tippet, I should say. Wire shock Tippet. Big flies. Wet flies, heavy flies. Yeah. Yeah. Now do you use any sinking or intermediate lines or [00:46:00] primarily floating?

Fabi Anastasio: No, no. We can use also sinking or intermediate depending on the place, but yes, we use them to a line that is really good, I think is the intermediate that has just the. Intermediate people, just probably 10 feet that, just that part of the line.

D. Roger Maves: Oh, okay.

Fabi Anastasio: A little bit, not the whole body, you know, not the 30 feet, the 10 or nine feet because,

D. Roger Maves: So you can still pick it up easy.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah. And it works like a floating line, but when you strip fast and sometimes you need to, it keeps the fly under the water.

D. Roger Maves: Right, right. Yeah, that makes sense.

Fabi Anastasio: Mm-hmm.

D. Roger Maves: Now, and you use, um, do you use short leaders?

Fabi Anastasio: For, uh, the line is a [00:47:00] floating one about between eight to to nine feet.

D. Roger Maves: Oh, okay. So it's, yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Including the wire. Okay. And if the, we use an intermediate or sinking, much more shorter than that.

D. Roger Maves: Right. Okay. Now you use wire for the shock tippet and not monofilament, correct?

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, it could be mono, could be fluorocarbon for, for wire in the Paraná we use mainly 40 pound wire. The

D. Roger Maves: 40 pound. Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: Seven by seven. In some places we use even 60 pound, 65 pound wire, depending on the place because for example, there are some in the upper Paraná we fish.

D. Roger Maves: Are you there? Okay, hold on folks. Uh, yeah, he just [00:48:00] fell off. So we'll wait for him to dial back in, but we've lost his connection. So, um, hang tight. If you've got any questions, send them in. We'd love to hear questions that you have. Thanks there, Robert, for your comments. Uh, I appreciate the kind words. Um, always good to hear things like that.

Okay, come on Fabi. Hope you can get back on. This is a problem with trying to, um, find a reasonable connection. You know, in countries outside the US and Canada, it's become real difficult. I've had people sitting in their truck under a palm tree down in, uh, in Mexico to get a cell phone signal to be on the show.

And also up here in Colorado. I remember Charlie Craven going to the end of the lane and sitting in his truck so he could get a good signal. So it's difficult and Fabi had found a really good [00:49:00] source. I think it was called Taki. Taki that his company uses to communicate with the US and that was, that was working great up until now.

So we'll hang tight here a little bit and see if we can't get him back on. Let me see if I can get him on WhatsApp here. Uh, hold on folks.

Fabi Anastasio: Hello. I'm back

D. Roger Maves: There we are. We got you back. Okay. Just in time. I was just

Fabi Anastasio: Okay.

D. Roger Maves: Going to WhatsApp. So. Yep. It happened. I told you. You know,

Fabi Anastasio: It might happen. It happen.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah, I tell, I tell all my guests that, you know, if you fall off the call, just dial back in and we'll be waiting for you and.

And a couple of times this, this is funny, just a couple of times I've gone off the call and my guest is there alone wondering what to do and then I'm dialing back in 'cause we're on a conference [00:50:00] call line and one time I fell off the call but my guest was still talking and was just going on and on. I fell off, dialed back in, got by Con and he was still talking and nobody even knew that I fell off the call.

So, uh uh that was pretty funny, you know, I was like, oh, okay, good. Nobody even knew it happens, you know, it doesn't happen very often, but whenever we're dealing with these connections that are not a direct connect so to speak, it can always be, be an issue. But anyway, so we'll take that as our commercial break.

Fabi Anastasio: Okay.

D. Roger Maves: Skip that. Uh, yeah. And just continue on. Do you use the same tackle setup when you are. Targeting the larger fish or the smaller fish? I mean, do both of them have sharp teeth, I guess and, uh, need the, the wire, uh, shock tippet?

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah. For the small ones, you also need the, to use wire, you [00:51:00] might use 30 pounds, 26 pounds wire, or of course a smaller piece, sorry, not a smaller, maybe 40 pounds mono, 30 pounds mono, you might use that.

But for the, we big ones, you need to go, you know, from 40 pound wires up for sure. And also mono or fluorocarbon, at least 60 pounds. It's not just because the strain is, as I said before, it's because another dorado might touch the leader and they might cut it very easily. So we need 10 wider piece of leader, you know.

And also the, you know, the logs are sharp and the rocks are also sharp. Sometimes it's not the strength, it's just the abrasion.

D. Roger Maves: Abrasion. Yeah. Yeah. I know. Um, I've lost a few tarpon to, uh, the leader being cut by their [00:52:00] gill plates, you know, when they're shaking their head. Is that ever an issue with the golden Dorado?

Fabi Anastasio: It is difficult. I mean, it might happen that we use a very long piece of wire to try to avoid that, but sometimes what happen is it's exciting, but you might lose fish that you hook one fish and other dorados might be around trying to take the, the prey in the mouth of the fish that you know, the fly.

D. Roger Maves: Oh!

Fabi Anastasio: And they might cut the leader. They might cut the leader. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Yeah. Interesting. Um, boy, not easy to get a meal down there on the Paraná. Huh?

What are, uh, well, we had Jason in Kentucky write in and he says, you know, like, what are your go-to flies for Dorado? And, and what hook size are you using generally?

Fabi Anastasio: For the regular size Dorado we can use, uh, the [00:53:00] size of the hook, maybe 2/0, 3/0. And for the big ones, have 2/0, from 4/0 to 6/0 and then the fly we usually use, uh, there is a fly that we call the Andino Deceiver.

It's a typical dorado fly. It's like a lefty deceiver with a deer mother head, and uh, lead eyes is a kind of bikey, you know, big head deceiver that

D. Roger Maves: So, deer head, deer hair head. Yeah?

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, exactly. Like a mother hair, you know, like, yeah, mother minnow but bigger.

D. Roger Maves: What? What did you call that again? What deceiver? Say it slowly.

Fabi Anastasio: Andino. Andino. Deceiver. It's a fly that was designed here in Argentina.

D. Roger Maves: Ah, you see on the,

Fabi Anastasio: I mean, taking the left [00:54:00] deceiver and adding that mother's head.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. Yeah. Okay. Google knows what it is. Okay. Yeah. Yeah. Big old hair head. Yeah. You know, a trimmed andino, A-N-D-I-N-O, deceiver. And you said you have lead eyes on yours, right? Okay. Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, because of the, you need some weight because of the deer, and also because it's good to have most of the time, a good splash when the fly touch the water. That works as a trigger many times for the route to come from that one.

D. Roger Maves: So do you use those in different colors? Any particular colors?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. Yes. No, there are many colors we can use. In the old time we thought that black was the best. It is still a very good color, [00:55:00] but we can use olive, yellow, purple, red, orange. Actually, sometimes in murky water we prefer to use, you know, chartreuse, orange color. Um, but apart from the color they feel, they feel the, you know, the fly touching the water.

D. Roger Maves: The movement. Yeah,

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, the movement. Yeah, exactly. Yeah,

D. Roger Maves: Yeah, yeah. Um, so you're not really trying to match the, the local bait fish specifically, like we, you know,

Fabi Anastasio: No, you might, I mean. You might try, but you need a monster fly because the bait, the salad is quite big.

What happens sometimes is when in the area that you are fishing, there are many small bait. They might be get a little bit picky and you might use smaller [00:56:00] flies. That might happen, but it's not like when you're fishing, you know, I don't know other fish that you need to match exactly what

D. Roger Maves: Right.

Fabi Anastasio: They are eating. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Let's talk about reading the water. What are you looking for? I know earlier you said you're looking for bait fish. But are you just, I'm just thinking about how big that river is and thinking of the ocean where you're looking for birds that are feeding on bait fish, then you head over there because the birds are feeding.

Do you look for similar things or, and you also mentioned fishing structure sounded like along the banks and stuff, which is much different than those

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly.

D. Roger Maves: Flat fishing, right?

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah. We use, I mean, what we do, of course we already know the, the places that might hold fish. They like to be, they love the structure.

Okay. Could be logs, could be, you know, cut [00:57:00] banks, could be rocks and running water. They like, I mean they need oxygen to, to feel comfortable and a certain kind of speed in the water to be okay. And I guess because I. They feel more comfortable and because it's easier for them to, to chase or to, to get contact with a prey, you know, apart from that, that those places that you already know because you know the river, you know, that are fast enough water in, in that particular spot, then we also pay attention to some splashes that you might see some feeling frenzy or eh, school of bait sometimes you can see school of bait.

You can smell them also. If [00:58:00] you see a school of bait, even if the water doesn't look very fishy, like it's not, the water is not fast enough for the dorado, they might be there because of the bait. They might be around, they may be under even. Not feeding for them. They might be just around and suddenly they might attack it.

It doesn't mean, what I mean is it might be bait, it might be dorado's that doesn't mean they are gonna be feeding, but of course there need to go and check and cast your fly there.

D. Roger Maves: Is there any tell tale sign above the water like we see with permit, you know, we see that sickle fin or any, or, or the tail of a red fish or something like that?

Fabi Anastasio: No. What you see when you find the, the school of bait, [00:59:00] they are easy to see because there are many, and most of the time they're close to the surface. Even if the school is thick, you know, like a, a couple of meter deep from the surface down. Um, if you, sometimes you pay attention and you, it's similar to the summer.

You might see the bait are not comfortable, a little bit, a little bit nervous, and suddenly you might see the rattle between them, like coming up like a shark, you know, and the, the, yeah and the bait moving around and you see the Dorado there, so you know for sure they are there. And sometimes it just cast a lot to the bait.

Cast, cast, cast. And suddenly they might go for your fly because they fly, spook the bait and looks there easy to take in the middle of them.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: That's why it works.

D. Roger Maves: Looks different. [01:00:00] Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Looks different and easy to take. Like an easy prey.

D. Roger Maves: Right. Wounded or, yeah, yeah, yeah. That kind of thing. Right. Um, now, uh, is that the same in in shallow or clear water conditions or things different in those situations?

Fabi Anastasio: In, in the Paraná, I mean in clear water, if you are fishing the, for example, uh, log structure or I mean not skinny water, it might be the same. Yes.

D. Roger Maves: Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: Of course, then after some cast or a couple of takes, they will stop for a while. For sure. You might come back later for them to be active again, because they get spook. But

D. Roger Maves: Just like any fish, right? Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly. Yeah. That's what I mean when I told you before, it is [01:01:00] not just an aggressive fish. They might be, quite spooky and careful. And then when you are fishing for them in skinny water, even if it's clear, it is a little bit more difficult. What is important is as soon as you see a fish and you are close enough to cast to it, is just to set the fly in front of them, just a few centimeters in front of the, the head of the fish, very, very close because that works very well, like a trigger, you know, like a path.

They fly, touch the water and they might go and take it. If they fly, if you present the fly, maybe one or two meters away from the fish, they might go and, but, but also they might refuse it. [01:02:00]

D. Roger Maves: So the flash down of the fly does not generally spook them when you're putting it so close?

Fabi Anastasio: No.

D. Roger Maves: No

Fabi Anastasio: No, no, no.

D. Roger Maves: Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: It works better than that I mean,

D. Roger Maves: Oh.

Fabi Anastasio: It was better to have a good cast just in front of the fish than casting like two or three meters away and then wait for the fish to see the fly and take it. Because most of the time they will refuse it when they

D. Roger Maves: Too much.

Fabi Anastasio: I think they see, yeah, I think they see the wire, they see something.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: They don't like it or whatever. But that trigger you mean that, that flies just splashing in front of the fish? Like it's, that's the best thing to fish for them on flats.

D. Roger Maves: I understand now why people describe them as explosive takes because your fly hits the water and almost instantaneously it's [01:03:00] taken, which, um,

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly.

D. Roger Maves: With many fish, it's not that way. Your strip strips, strips, strips, strip, you know? Yeah, yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: It must happen also. Well, let, let me tell you a little story about the fish of the picture.

D. Roger Maves: Mm-hmm.

Fabi Anastasio: That fish of the picture. That fish, I got it that way. I cast just in front of the fish and I got it. And before, five minutes before that one we found we were drifting down.

I was with another guide, we were drifting down and a couple of very big that got into the shallow, they smashed, eh, sawalo, I mean both of them taking the same sawalo like sharks. And when that happened, for a moment, they are like, you know, so focused on that, that you might get quite close. They don't get [01:04:00] spooked so easily so you can get quite close and see the whole thing.

So we were quite close and I make a cast very close to the fish and one of them left the Tablo and took my fly because of the splash I made close to it. I mean it was already eating, but the splash made the fish come to my fly,

D. Roger Maves: Right?

Fabi Anastasio: He took it, but very slowly, very gently, probably from the tail and I couldn't hook it. I felt the fish, but I couldn't hook it. That was just amazing. But you can see that, I mean, they might be even feeding. But the splash made, the fish came to my fly.

D. Roger Maves: They had, um, me see, hold on, let me see here, because we had, [01:05:00] oh, yeah. I'm looking at some other questions that came in here on the internet and I wanna make sure that I got these.

Hold on. Okay. Um, let's talk, uh, Thomas Holmes in the UK, the United Kingdom. He says, probably you're on the top of your game with dorado. What is the secret to really setting a hook and how hard sometimes gonna be to transition from trout sets to Dorado hook sets? Common problem.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, my friend Don. Don.

Okay. It's difficult, but the best advice I think is to fish for dorado as much as you can. Or at least those kind of yes. Or at least those kind of fish that you have to do the, the same kind of set.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah, strip set

Fabi Anastasio: One thing. Yeah. But I think one lead [01:06:00] secret is to hold the rod and lead a way. Sorry, and lead it away from you.

I mean, not the very close to your belly. You know, A little away.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: With your rod hand away from you. So, when you strip, you have enough room between the rod and your body to make, not also, you can make also a long strip. So you can make, you can move the fly faster, but also if you have a take in the middle of the strip, you have some more room to set the hook, you know, to strip set, you know what I mean?

If you are holding the rod too close to you, there is no much room to set. I mean, because you cannot go [01:07:00] too back with your hand to be able to set it. But if you hold it a little bit away from you, you're gonna have some more room. And also that, avoid that you lift the rod a little bit, but because that's a problem when you lift the rod like a, a trout set.

It's, it's when you cannot hook it most of the time.

D. Roger Maves: Right, right. What you said was a really good tip, I think, because you'll use that in salt water, you know, and for Dorado fishing.

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly. Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: But I'm just picturing that because I'm on the boat and I've got my tip down towards the water. Right. Maybe I'm stripping it in, but my hands should be out in front, not next to me because I'm stripping too, you know, to move the fly at times, but also to set the hook.

And if it's real close to you, you can't do, you're, you've tied yourself up, so to speak. You know you're not ready. Plus, you're in a more [01:08:00] ready position if you're hands are out in front of you. Right. It's not a relaxed position, it's a ready position.

Fabi Anastasio: No, exactly. It's not a relaxed position. You need to be like a focused, waiting for the take, you know?

D. Roger Maves: Right.

Fabi Anastasio: And also you can also, if you need to set the the hook with your right hand, you can do it also, you know, holding the line with a

D. Roger Maves: Yes and just pulling back. Yeah,

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly. I'm pulling back. You have that option too.

D. Roger Maves: Is it hard to keep them hooked once you set that hook? Like with Tarpon jumping, you said they jump a lot. Do you lose a lot of fish on the jumps? And if so, what do you do to prevent that?

Fabi Anastasio: You need to set a lot of, uh, pressure on the fish. I mean, a lot of, never lose tension, just pull, pull. I mean, you are [01:09:00] not gonna break the leader. I mean, we are. It, it's the opposite of trout fishing is, here you need to set a lot of pressure on the fish to try to control it, try to avoid the deep the rod up.

It's better to fight the fish with the rod on the side and down, bending the rod, you know, making it

D. Roger Maves: Right.

Fabi Anastasio: Making it work. Uh, that's the, the right thing to do. It actually, sometimes when you land a fish, you know, you put it on the boat with a net and you see that the fly is loose. It was not cooked, but the tension was good enough to keep it on.

D. Roger Maves: Keep it, yeah. Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Mm-hmm.

D. Roger Maves: So, yeah. What about handling Dorado when you land them, you just said netting 'em and bringing them onto the boat. Are they sensitive to being out of the water? Are you usually trying to keep them in the water? How do you prevent damage to the fish?

Fabi Anastasio: Yes. [01:10:00] The best is to use a good net.

Uh, to, to make the fight shorter. And, and after that, you know, you, you can hold the, the fish even in, in the water and until you are ready to, you know, to get your camera okay and everything set up. So then when you get the net with the fish on the boat, the first thing you need to do is, but the guy actually is that the fly is okay and the fish is not bleeding or whatever.

And if everything is okay, the, you have to take the fish from the tail. Uh, and then if the fish moves too much, if you leave the tail of the fish a little bit, but having the Dorado lying on the net, it, they cannot move much. Because you [01:11:00] hold the, the tail of the fish up. So they, they cannot do that movement with the tail when they are free on the, on the, uh, on the platform. You know, they might, I mean, they cannot sharp and after controlling that, you have to, with your other hand, have the best place to, to hold it one hand in the tail and another one in between the head and the belly of the fish. And after that, of course, a couple of pictures. And you can always use the net

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: To, to give them some more water, just to be sure that the fish is okay.

D. Roger Maves: What do you think the biggest mistake is that you see people make when fishing with for Dorado?

Fabi Anastasio: Uh, it probably, probably, uh, the, you know, setting the, the hook is quite difficult.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, because [01:12:00] it's, it's, uh, you have to do it much more, uh, stronger than you think it is.

The people are, if they are not used to do that kind of setting, like, you know, tarpon or whatever

D. Roger Maves: Right.

Fabi Anastasio: And they might think that it's too much, that probably second one, maybe not having enough tension.

D. Roger Maves: Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: On the side. Yes.

D. Roger Maves: Okay. Okay. And, uh, one last question. This is Phil wrote in, he says, what, what are the most important things to be aware of in arranging a fishing trip to, to Argentina? Uh, when targeting Golden Dorado? I mean, what, how should you prepare yourself to come down there for a fishing trip?

Fabi Anastasio: Hmm. Uh, he, what I would do is to keep my, I mean, to try to balance [01:13:00] my equipment. That's important. Something that you can do at home, you know?

D. Roger Maves: Okay.

Fabi Anastasio: If you have your own eight weight rod, get that nine line red fish. If it's summertime, you can use it. Summer red fish, if you're going in, in know winter time, you need to use the winter red fish you know. It's quite easy to, to get those lines. Practice casting with a big fly and a piece of wire and a very speed. So you get used to it and try to avoid, you know, to practice the, it's very, very important to be good at, um, double hauling, you know,

D. Roger Maves: Double hauling. Okay. Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: So

Fabi Anastasio: That's important. And, and just try to keep the, to avoid forecasting too much. Yeah. That's the only thing I think.

D. Roger Maves: Pull back and put it out there. Right. That's, uh,

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly

D. Roger Maves: One big,

Fabi Anastasio: A [01:14:00] fishy cast. I mean, sometimes what, what I, what I say to, to our guests is, don't show me a nice cast. Show me a fishy cast. I mean, put the fly there, right there. And because sometimes when, when we fish for trout, I'm a trout angler too.

If we are fishing the right side, for example, we are quite gently, you know, we need to get the leader straight and everything. Touch the water very gently, but take some time.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: You know, a couple of seconds, for Dorado it's not like that. You need to go to the water. I mean, straighten the line and touch the water.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: And as soon as the fly touch, the water. You need to be in contact.

D. Roger Maves: Be ready. Yeah, be ready.

Fabi Anastasio: Be ready. I mean, the thing is line control. If you let the [01:15:00] line go and then you need to find it to, to make the first strip that, that's it a mistake. Because most of the time the, they might be the one, the fly does the work.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. I remember, um, you know, before the show we were talking about you had visited Denver once for the fly fishing show, and I was down there one in one time when Lefty Cray was giving a casting demonstration. And I'll never forget this, because he put that line out there on the pond and he was showing how having your tip up like five or six feet as opposed to your tip down on the water made. A huge difference in your contact with the fish. And you know, when it was tip was up, you could pull on the line and the fly wouldn't even move. Right. Because there was too much slack.

But when your tip was down, pointed at the fly and you had that, the line was tau, you could just move it six inches and that [01:16:00] fly would move. So that taught me a lot.

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. That about, you know, being ready for the take and then being ready for that strip set at the same time. And I'll never forget that, and it was a, it was a simple demonstration, but showed me everything I needed to know about, you know, why I needed to be doing that, you know? So anyway, it reminds me of that. Yeah. Yeah.

Well, good Fabi, um, hey, we've run out of time, but we made it through only one little mishap, but we recovered. Okay. It's like, like missing a fish. Like missing a fish and then going back and getting 'em again. Right.

Fabi Anastasio: Exactly.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Never give up.

D. Roger Maves: Never give up. So, uh, hang tight with me just a little bit longer. We're gonna do some giveaways. We're going to give away one year membership to Fly Fishers International and a one year membership to Trout Unlimited and also a book courtesy of Stackpole books. So, um, hang with me just a couple more minutes and we'll finish this up.

The [01:17:00] Bonefish and Tarpon Trust works very hard to safeguard the future of our beloved Flats fisheries from protecting spawning sites threatened by unsustainable fishing pressure to securing historic funding to restore Florida's Everglades and estuaries. Thanks to their members, they've expanded their conservation to The Bahamas, Belize, and Mexico. There's still much more work to be done, and they need your help with your support. They can ensure that the Flats fishery is healthy and sustainable now and for generations to come. Visit btt.org and become a member of the Bonefish and Tarpon Trust today. Again, that's btt.org.

Just a quick reminder to everyone before you leave the website tonight. Please take a minute and give us your feedback about the show.

You can find the link on our homepage in the section under tonight's show that says, what did you think of the show? Just click on the link and leave your comments and would really appreciate it.

Well, now it's time to give away the prizes. The winners for our drawings are randomly selected from the show's registration database.

And if you didn't register for tonight's show, it's too [01:18:00] late now. But make sure you do so for our next show so you don't miss out on a chance to win some of these great prizes. If you are one of the lucky winners on the drawing, we'll contact you after the show to collect your information so we can deliver your prize to you.

So first, we'll give away a one year membership to Fly Fishers International. To find out more about Fly Fishers International, go to flyfishersinternational.org, flyfishersinternational.org.

And there you'll learn about the the organization and it's a great one to support. Um, hold on a second. I gotta get my database up here and, okay.

All right. Oh, maybe it's going to, oh, uh, hold on folks. I'm having a technical difficulty with the drawing now. We did switch over to our new website on a different [01:19:00] platform and just pick a winner thing that I have, may not be working properly. I'll give it one more shot and if not, we'll just, yep. Not working.

Okay. Sorry. No drawing tonight, but we will give away one of the books 'cause we can do that. And let's see here. Okay, so the question is, when we were talking about flies. Fabi mentioned three different sizes that he normally uses for the Andino deceiver. What are those three sizes? What are those three sizes?

So, let's see, Fabi, if we had somebody that was listening carefully, put notes and, uh, then we will, we'll have ourselves a winner. So it takes a minute because there's a little bit of delay before they hear my question. And then, um, and then of course they have to type the answer and, uh, nope. Uh, the first one is two, four, and six.[01:20:00]

I don't believe that's what you said. Was it, uh, Fabi? Don't tell me what it is. Just tell me if yes or no.

Fabi Anastasio: Okay. Um, I think I, I did not, I.

D. Roger Maves: Did not, did not say that. Right.

Fabi Anastasio: I mean, a couple of them. Not, not all of them,

D. Roger Maves: But, but not, yeah. Yeah. One of 'em was, right. Yeah. Yeah. Uh, two of them were right, but one of them was wrong.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Yeah. No car. Carrie says, um, one, one out, two out in three out. Nope. That wasn't right either. As I remember. Boy, I didn't think this one was gonna be No Treg Sorry, Treg uh, I've got one guy that keeps trying, you know, oh, I might've got him tonight. Sometimes, sometimes they anticipate my question and put in the answer before I even ask the question. Fabi. So,

Fabi Anastasio: But it's, it's a tricky question, Roger.

D. Roger Maves: It's too tricky. Okay. Okay.

Alright, [01:21:00] well, I'll tell you what, let's see, we, we'll give this one more shot. Uh, no Treg. Oh gosh. Well, I'll tell you what, nobody's getting it right. It was as I remember, two out, three out and four out. Was that right? Fabi?

Fabi Anastasio: Uh, I really don't remember, but I probably said from the small look, I think what I said it was for the small one from 2/0 to 3/0, and then for the big one, 4, 5, and 6/0 probably, yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Oh, okay. Okay. Okay. Well poor question on my part then. Okay. So, uh, Carrie and Treg I'll give you both an option to pick one book from the list that I have. So I will, I have your email addresses. I will send them the list out to you that I have, and, uh, you can pick something from that that you want and I'll send it out to you. So. [01:22:00] I appreciate you guys trying so hard and, uh, me not, not asking the question properly, which happens once in a while so.

Hey Fabi, thank you so much for being on the show. I know this was, you know, it was totally fun for me and I know it was, you know, not maybe the easiest thing for you to do in your second language. So, I totally appreciate that and, and the effort you've put into this show. So thank you so much for being with us tonight and, uh, and it looks like, uh, I've gotten messages here about what an incredible guide you are. So, um,

Fabi Anastasio: Mm-hmm.

D. Roger Maves: I'm sure you are, and I hope people come and fish with you someday. So

Fabi Anastasio: Thank you very much. I am very happy and very happy, really. I, uh, I told you months ago when we communicate that I used to listen to your show to practice my English.

D. Roger Maves: Well, there you go. Yeah,

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah, yeah. And now I'm here. Good.

D. Roger Maves: There you are here. Yeah. That's [01:23:00] incredible. That's a great story. Yeah. Yeah.

Fabi Anastasio: Yeah.

D. Roger Maves: Well, we'll talk again soon and I'll talk with you again in the next few minutes, uh, when I finish the show, okay?

Fabi Anastasio: Okay.

D. Roger Maves: All right.

Fabi Anastasio: Thank you very much.

D. Roger Maves: Sure. Hopefully you've all found the podcast archive on a website. If you haven't, just look in the link on the top line menu. In that archive, you'll find over 415- 20 shows something like that now. Search by keyword, keyword, phase, fish, fishery. Whatever you're looking for, I know you'll find something that'll interest you and educate you.

On our next broadcast will be on July 2nd at 7:00 PM Mountain, 9:00 PM Eastern on that show. I'm gonna interview Presley Garcia and our show will be Colorado's Hidden Gem: The Rio Grande on the fly, uh, tucked away in Colorado, San Juan Mountains. The Rio Grande River runs through the breathtaking St. Louis Valley and with it some of the finest fly fishing you've never heard of.

Guide Pressley Garcia takes anglers on unforgettable floats in search of wild brown cutthroat trouts surrounded by stunning high [01:24:00] country scenery. So join us as Presley shares his knowledge of the hidden gem, revealing the tactics, timing, and magic that make the Rio Grande a must fish destination. And just make sure you add that to your calendar, right under his picture.

You'll find a link to your favorite calendar. Just add that on and you'll be all set so you don't miss the live show.

I'd like to thank Fly Fishers International, Trout Unlimited, Bonefish and Tarpon Trust Olympic Peninsula Skagit Tactics, The Ugly Bug Fly Shop and Water Master for sponsoring our shows tonight.

Don't forget to visit our website, askaboutflyfishing.com, and make sure you sign up to receive our announcements so you don't miss out on any of our future live broadcast.

Thanks for listening to Ask About Fly Fishing Internet Radio. We hope you enjoy the show. That's it. Goodnight everyone and good fishing.