GOLDEN MAHSEER DIARY

SEARCH FOR THE HIMALAYAN GIANT PART 1 15th MAY 2023 to 4th JUNE 2023 NORTHERN INDIA

GREG ISZATT



INTRODUCTION:

Greg Iszatt first fished the confluence of the Kali River and Saryu River at Pancheshwar in northern India in October 2016. Greg was accompanied by mahseer guide - Christopher Oldmeadow. Chris and Greg made a plan, and returned the following year in June 2017 to catch the current IGFA All-Tackle World Record Golden Mahseer. In the last 8 years since 2016 Greg has caught and released numerous specimen sized golden mahseer from Pancheshwar.

For Catch Cult Greg has written an exclusive two part article that includes his insights into mahseer angling at Pancheshwar, as well as details from a recent 6 week diary kept whilst fishing there with friends.

Greg writes: Twelve hours by road from New Delhi Airport heading north east, and tucked away in the foothills of the Himalayas lies a special place. The snow fed Kali River drops from an altitude of 3600m to 400m where it is met by the spring fed Saryu River to form a confluence. Below the confluence the Kali River is renamed the 'Mahakali River', and continues as the border between India and Nepal. The confluence is a holy place with a temple dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva sited there. Residing at this temple is a sadhu - an ascetic holy person within Hinduism who has renounced all earthly attachments with the unswerving objective of connecting to the Divine. Many Hindus make the pilgrimage on foot through the surrounding hills to drink and bathe in the river. On the opposite bank to the temple is a sacred burial ground, where regular funeral pyre cremations take place. The ashes and remains are committed into the rivers which form part of the Ganges River system. The personification of the Ganges River in Hindu culture is that of the goddess 'Ganga Mata' or 'Mother Ganges'. This goddess is revered in Hindu worship and culture, venerated for her forgiveness of sins, and capacity to cleanse mankind.

To add to the theatre this is 'leopard country', and tracks reveal there are many leopards in the river valley and surrounding hills. It is not unusual on making your way along the river banks to see fresh pugmarks in the sand from the night before. The leopards are active after dark with sightings in the day being rare, although they do happen from time to time. A century ago tigers also prowled this territory, some of which turned serial maneaters preying on hundreds of hapless local villagers. Stories of these infamous man-eaters, and the heroic exploits of a one British Colonel - Jim Corbett who hunted them down are part of the regions folklore and history.

This special place is of course Pancheshwar in the state of Uttarakhand, northern India. In mahseer angling circles the river confluence at Pancheshwar has no less than iconic status, by some regular anglers it is simply referred to as 'The Junction'.

Befitting of such a place, swimming in the rivers is a very special fish, the Golden Mahseer (Tor putitora). The word 'mahseer' is derived from two Persian words 'mahi' meaning fish, and 'seer' meaning tiger. Thus the golden mahseer is sometimes referred to as the 'Tiger of the River'. This is the

premier gamefish of northern India, and catching and releasing a specimen sized golden mahseer is still considered to be one of the greatest challenges in freshwater angling. Inhabiting fast flowing submontaneous rivers the golden mahseer has an unrivalled combination of both beauty and power. Couple this with its occasional willingness to take a lure, bait, or fly, and perhaps you have the reason why this fish has inspired so many anglers over the years. In fact, travelling anglers have now been making the journey for some 200 years to pit their wits and skills against this fish. Unsurprisingly, a big golden mahseer sits high on the "Must Catch List" of many present day anglers.

Numerous books and stories have been written about golden mahseer angling, and I have included a list of some of these at the end of Part 2 of this article. There is no doubt that reading these inspiring stories prior to going on a trip can make the experience even more rewarding.

As much has already been written I wanted to try and provide something a little different here. With this in mind I approached Martin at Catch Cult earlier this year with the idea of a 'Golden Mahseer Diary'. The diary would be based on 6 weeks angling for golden mahseer at Pancheshwar, with the details being condensed down and included in an article for Catch Cult. The angling would include both lure and bait fishing, and we would keep a record of the river conditions, and the golden mahseer caught and released over the 6 weeks.

As with all wild river fishing timing would be key, and a window from mid-May to the end of June 2023 was selected. This period is often referred to as the "pre-monsoon" or "pre-spawning" window, and from my experience it is the very best time for big (+35lb) golden mahseer to be present at the confluence. In this window large numbers of female mahseer (both golden mahseer and redfin mahseer), are making their way up the Mahakali river to the confluence. Once there, they feed and build up their reserves whilst waiting for the monsoon rains to arrive to raise the level of the Saryu river. When the mahseer sense the water levels are right they continue their journey up the Saryu on to their higher spawning grounds. All the biggest golden mahseer, and biggest redfin mahseer are female fish.

In the state of Uttarakhand the fishing season closes at the end of June, with the monsoon rains typically arriving in early July. These continuous rains swell both rivers to monstrous and dangerous proportions that can uproot trees and move rocks as big as a bus.

Once the monsoon rains subside, which is typically sometime in mid-September, the rivers return to lower and calmer levels. The fishing season also re-opens in mid-September, and this period is referred to as the "postmonsoon" or "post-spawning" window. Anglers are now trying to catch the big mahseer on their return journey to and as they pass through the confluence before they disperse far and wide back into the Mahakali. This window typically lasts from mid-September to mid-October but can fluctuate by a few weeks depending on when the monsoon actually peters out, and the water levels drop back.



The Pancheshwar Confluence from 250m.



Saryu Clear and Kali Brown - conditions can change hour by hour due to snow-melt and rains.



Saryu Brown and Kali Grey.



View towards the confluence from the camp.



Thunderstorms and torrential rain this time of the year are not uncommon and the days can be swelteringly hot into the high 30 to 40C.

WARNING!

I think I have made it sound easy and a piece of cake to bag a monster sized golden mahseer or several, with all these fish waiting to be caught at the confluence. I hear you saying; "Surely it's like shooting fish in a barrel?" However, I assure you it is most definitely NOT!

In my opinion there are three types of mahseer at Pancheshwar at this time of the year:

- 1. The 'confluence resident mahseer'.
- 2. The 'local visiting mahseer' (visiting from the immediate surrounding area).
- 3. The 'visiting migrating mahseer'.

Let's start with the confluence resident mahseer. These are the 'Fish of a1000 Casts' that reside at the confluence and in the adjacent part of the rivers. These fish have seen all manner of lures and bait, and have likely been caught before, and are extremely difficult to catch in anything but perfect conditions. If just the confluence resident mahseer are present and the Saryu is running crystal clear, anglers can easily spend a week putting in lots of hours to just to catch one fish (the catch probably coming at night). The conditions are key if the resident fish are to be caught, and low clear water conditions are no good at all. Your best chance of catching these fish is after heavy rainfall further north that colours the water on both the Saryu and Kali /Mahakali rivers. As this colour starts to drop out of the rivers you may have a chance to catch one of these resident fish on lure or bait.

Now, the local visiting mahseer; these are the fish in the surrounding stretches of the Saryu, Kali, and Mahakali rivers that visit the confluence occasionally to feed. The confluence is the biggest feature for many miles around and a magnet for baitfish. A walk down to the river bank at night with a headtorch reveals thousands of small baitfish. What the catchment area is for mahseer making the journey to visit the confluence to feed is hard to say, but like all animals it will be a 'Calories Expended Vs Calories Gained' decision. Anyway, these mahseer if present are easier to catch than the confluence resident mahseer, but harder to catch than the migrating mahseer when they first arrive at the confluence. You still need favourable conditions to catch these local visiting fish on lure or bait.

Finally, the visiting migrating mahseer. These are the fish you want to be present, or arriving at the confluence in sync with your trip. Most likely they have not seen an angler's lure or bait since at least the previous September/October. These travelling fish are hungry and will readily take a bait or lure, however once several have been caught the fishing returns to being far from easy again.

Although these are wild fish that need to feed prespawning, and they are now concentrated into a smaller area, there are other factors in play here. Before even considering feeding patterns, lunar phases, barometric pressure, and both rivers' constantly changing conditions (level and colour). Any visiting angler should first consider the careful path of survival a big golden mahseer has already trod to get to

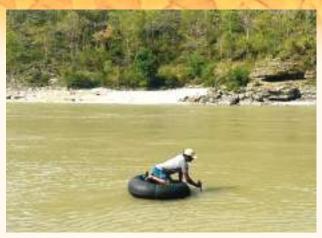
that size. Away from Pancheshwar, and obviously outside of the monsoon when the river is unfishable, this gauntlet-ofsurvival involves avoiding capture by local fishermen with their nets, long-lines, and salvaged tourist lures.

These are wild fish with an in-built survival instinct that have also avoided capture by local fishermen for years. Now consider that each year tourist anglers visiting the confluence cast all manner of lures, flies, and bait at these same fish. Obviously the aim is now catch and release, but ironically this heightens overall mahseer wariness even further. Once the tourist angling picks up, each time a big mahseer is caught and released to re-join the others, the whole group becomes more skittish. Once several mahseer have been caught and released none of the big fish in the pool (even if it is a huge number of fish) will take a bait or lure for some time. At this point static lines are bumped into by fish checking for them, and baited hooks are given a wide berth. Every type of lure cast and retrieved is ignored. Anglers are now left hoping for another new pod of migrating fish to come up the Mahakali and arrive at the confluence. When this happens, the new arrivals change the dynamic as they are not spooked, and they join with the other fish already at the confluence. The new fish are hungry, competition for food is increased, and subject to favourable river conditions the deadlock is broken once more. The cycle then repeats itself until all the migrating fish have reached, or passed through the confluence.

It is also worth mentioning that the relationship between these golden mahseer and the lures cast at them is not 'pike-like'. By this I mean we have all seen how a pike on occasion can become obsessed, and almost hypnotised by a lure, making a play for the lure again and again. This never happens with golden mahseer at the confluence. Zero interest or a single chance is the norm, but that single chance is only given if other conditions are right. Trusted lures that are known to work have been observed being pulled past pods of big mahseer many many times with no interest. The expression 'A fish of a thousand casts', has not been used without good reason to describe the golden mahseer. I agree with it to a point, however, if new migrating fish have arrived, conditions are favourable, and the right lure takes the right line, your very first cast could result in a fish. When migrating fish arrive, feeding frenzies can also occur at the Junction with multiple big fish being hooked in the space of an hour or two. I have been lucky enough to see this happen several times at the confluence, and also get in on the action.

I have written about golden mahseer tackle and lure choice in Part 2 of this article based on what friends and I have had success with, and have been using recently at the confluence.

Finally, I will just mention that it is a point of conjecture among some mahseer anglers as to whether there are always very big (50lb plus) golden mahseer at the Junction outside of the pre-spawning and post-spawning windows, i.e. resident 50lb plus fish. There are instances of big golden mahseer being caught at the Junction in March and April, however in my opinion these are fish that reside relatively



Bablu unsnagging lures.



As part of their Hindu religion people come to bathe in and drink the water in the rivers.



Baitfishing into darkness further down the Mahakali River in the pool below the confluence pool.



Red headed vulture on cow carcass.



Baby preying mantis.



Garden lizard at the camp.

close to the confluence and visit it from time to time to feed. I could not say these earlier months have been anywhere near the best for catching the biggest fish in the last 9 years. I guess though that climate change could play a part and change things at some point in the future.

GOLDEN MAHSEER DIARY 2023 PART 1

15th May to 4th June 2023 GROUP 1 - 15th May 2023 to 24th May 2023 ANGLERS - Tom Armitage, Ben Ryan, Greg Iszatt.

The three of us arrived at Pancheshwar to find the Saryu River running very low and crystal clear, and the Kali River running low for mid-May. There had been a lack of warm weather and rain this year, and this had affected both the level of the Saryu, and volume of water from snow-melt coming down the Kali. The Kali and Mahakali Rivers were running their usual milky grey colour.

It was quickly evident that the visiting migrating mahseer were yet to arrive at the confluence. We were therefore left fishing for the resident mahseer and local visiting mahseer which are notoriously difficult to catch having seen most lures, and baits before. Other tourist anglers had also been fishing the confluence for at least the preceding two weeks, and the resident fish were now totally disinterested in lures and bait. With the water running so clear and low in the Saryu there was no doubt in our minds that the fish could see both lines in the water and anglers on the bank.

As a result we decided that we would also fish a pool on the Mahakali River about 750 metres down river from the confluence until the conditions changed. The thinking being that we could more easily fool a less wary resident or local visiting fish down there.

DAY 1 - 15th May

23lb golden mahseer. Other camp angler - lure - night - Saryu.

DAY 2 - 16th May

5lb golden mahseer.

Greg - chicken bait - morning - Saryu.

Saryu running low and clear with 48 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali running low, and milky grey with 6 inches of visibility.

DAY 3 - 17th May

Blank.

Run on asla (snow trout) livebait but did not hookup - Tom - asla livebait - day - Mahakali 750m down from the confluence.

Saryu running low and clear with 48 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali running low, and milky grey with 6 inches of visibility.

DAY 4 - 18th May

31.5lb golden mahseer.

Tom - asla livebait - night - Mahakali - 750m down from the confluence.

Saryu running low and clear. Kali - Mahakali running low, and milky grey with 6 inches of visibility.

DAY 5 - 19th May

Blank.

Saryu running low and clear with 48 inches. Kali – Mahakali running low, and milky grey with 6 inches of visibility.

DAY 6 - 20th May

No fishing possible due to thunderstorm, lightening, high winds, plus torrential rain and hail stones.

Saryu running low, and brown with zero visibility. Kali

- Mahakali running low, and brown with zero visibility.

DAY 7 - 21st May

7lb - 35.5lb - 36lb - 15lb golden mahseer. Greg - lure - early morning - confluence. 4 mahseer in 1 hour and 10 minutes lure fishing! 35lb golden mahseer - estimated, not weighed - other camp angler - lure - mid-morning - Mahakali. 28lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure day - mid-afternoon - Mahakali. 15lb golden mahseer - Ben - lure late afternoon - Mahakali. Morning: Saryu running low and murky brown with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali running low, and brown with12 inches of visibility. Afternoon - Evening: Saryu running low and murky brown with 24 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali running low, and milky grey with 12 inches of visibility.

DAY 8 - 22nd May Blank.

Tom lost fish on lure, afternoon, Mahakali.

Morning: Saryu running low and chocolate brown with 2 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali rising, and murky brown with 4 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu running low and brown with 4 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali rising, and murky brown - grey with 4 inches of visibility.

DAY 9 - 23rd May

Greg lost fish on lure, morning, confluence. Tom lost fish on lure, afternoon. Mahakali. 47.4lb golden mahseer - Greg - lure evening - confluence.

Morning: Saryu water level up and river running 3m wider due to the increased water in Kali pushing it back, Saryu running murky brown with 10 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali rising and milky grey with 2 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu running murky green with 18 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey with 4 inches of visibility.

DAY 10 - 24th May morning

First new visiting migrating mahseer arrive!
Greg lost 2 fish to hook-pull on new type lure,
mid-morning, confluence.



28lb golden mahseer - Greg - Lure - Confluence.



35.5lb golden mahseer on Rapala J13.



31lb - Mahakali River - Asla Livebait - Tom Armitage.



36lb golden mahseer on Rapala J13. Greg with Bablu.



35.5lb golden mahseer on Rapala J13.



37lb golden mahseer - Greg - Lure.

37lb golden mahseer - Greg - lure - late morning - confluence.

Morning: Saryu running murky green with 20 to 24 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey with 4 inches of visibility.

GROUP 2 - 24th May 2023 to 4th June 2023 ANGLERS - Eugene Conradie, Christopher Oldmeadow, Greg Iszatt.

DAY 10 - 24th May afternoon

44lb golden mahseer, in first hour fishing of his trip!
Eugene - lure - early evening - confluence.
35.7lb golden mahseer - Greg - lure evening - confluence.

Afternoon - Evening: Weather Warning Thunderstorms and heavy rain. Saryu running murky green with 20 to 24 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey with 4 inches of visibility.

DAY 11 - 25th May

Greg foul hooked fish, not landed. Eugene foul hooked fish, not landed. 2lb golden mahseer - Eugene - lure afternoon - confluence.

45.4lb golden mahseer - Other camp guide - lure - evening last light - Saryu.

Morning: Saryu running murky green with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown/green with 4 inches of visibility.

Late Morning: Saryu clearing gradually and now at 24 to 30 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown/green with 4 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu now at 18 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown/green

with 4 inches of visibility. DAY 12 - 26th May Blank.

Greg lost fish due to hook-pull on lure - Saryu). Once hooked the fish headed at a steady pace up the Saryu for about 40 yards. Generally only the big mahseer have the confidence to head up river once hooked.

Morning: Saryu running murky green with 6 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown/green with 4 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Torrential rains, thunder, lightning and high winds. 6.30pm Saryu turned chocolate brown with lots of flotsam coming down, visibility reduced to zero. Mahakali subsequently turned chocolate brown with zero visibility. Session abandoned at 6.30pm due to too much flotsam coming down rivers.

DAY 13 - 27th May

Greg lost fish, due to hook pull, lure, confluence.
Golden mahseer headed up Kali stripping 30 yards of braid. Fish threw hook as it went airborne for the second time.

30.1lb golden mahseer - Eugene - lure - morning - confluence.

Morning: 5.00am Saryu running murky brown with 12 inches of visibility. 6.00am Saryu conditions changed to running brown with only 3 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown/grey with 3 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu running murky brown with 3 inches visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown/grey with 3 inches of visibility.

DAY 14 - 28th May

43lb redfin mahseer - Other camp angler - bait - chicken - afternoon - Saryu.

10.20pm Eugene run on bait - chicken, but did not hook-up. Saryu.

Morning: 5am Saryu running murky brown with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown with 3 inches of visibility.

By 11am Saryu running green and clearing in visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown with 3 inches of visibility.

By 2pm Kali - Mahakali chocolate brown with zero visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu running murky brown with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali running brown with zero visibility.

DAY 15 - 29th May

More migrating mahseer arrive!
7 to 8 fish spotted at the lower end of the
Mahakali pool above the rapid.

28lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure - late morning - Mahakali.

44lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure - late morning - Mahakali.

12 Noon: Fish lost over rapids at bottom of pool - other camp angler - lure - early afternoon - Mahakali . 22lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - bait - chicken - evening - Saryu.

Morning: Saryu running murky green/brown with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey with 3 to 4 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Sarayu running murky green/ brown with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey/green with 3 to 4 inches of visibility.

DAY 16 - 30th May

34lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure - mid-morning - Mahakali.

Morning: 5am Saryu clearing with 24 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali chocolate brown with zero visibility.

By 8am: Saryu clearing with 36 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown with 6 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu clearing with 48 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown with 6 inches of visibility.

DAY 17 - 31st May Blank.

Morning: 5am, Saryu running muddy brown with zero visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky brown/grey with 4 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu clearing with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey with 6 inches of visibility.

DAY 18 - 1st June

56lb golden mahseer! Eugene - lure - noon - Mahakali. 26lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure evening - dark - Saryu.

Morning: 5am, Saryu running murky green with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey/green with 4 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu clearing with 18 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey with 6 inches of visibility.

DAY 19 - 2nd June

28lb golden mahseer - Greg - lure - late morning - confluence.

20lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure - noon - Mahakali.

18lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure - day time - Saryu.

Morning: 5am Saryu running murky green with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey/green with 4 inches of visibility.

By 8am: Saryu running murky green with 18 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali turned chocolate brown with zero visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu clearing with 12 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali murky green with 4 inches of visibility.

DAY 20 - 3rd June

Chris lost fish - lure - early morning - Mahakali. Eugene departed camp for journey home. 15lb golden mahseer - other camp angler - lure mid-morning - Mahakali.

55lb golden mahseer! - other camp angler - lure - afternoon - Mahakali.

44lb and 47lb golden mahseer - other camp anglers - lure - noon - Mahakali.

Greg taking day's rest from fishing.

Morning: 5am, Saryu running clear with 48 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey with 6 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu clear with 48 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali murky green with 12 inches of visibility.

DAY 21 - 4th June

Blank, for all anglers.

River conditions took a turn for the worse with Kali river dropping in level throughout the day. The resident mahseer normally holding at the confluence in the slack water immediately below the temple steps were unable to stay there due to it becoming too shallow.

Very little visible fish activity was seen throughout the day.

Morning: 5am, Saryu running clear with 48 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali milky grey/green with 12 inches of visibility.

Afternoon - Evening: Saryu clear with 48 inches of visibility. Kali - Mahakali dropping in level - lowest level in last 3 weeks - milky green with 12 inches of visibility.

END OF PART 1 OF DIARY

NOTE 1: The Saryu or Kali rivers turning chocolate brown at the confluence is a result of rains further north. At this time of year this is a positive thing, as it reaffirms the signal down river for the migrating mahseer to come up the Mahakali. This muddy water can accelerate the migrating mahseers' arrival at the confluence. A day or two after the muddy water passes through, a new pod/s of migrating mahseer can often arrive at the confluence pool.

NOTE 2: At this time of the year the Kali and Mahakali fluctuate daily in level by an average of 12 to 18 inches due to the different rates of snow-melt between day and night time temperatures. These changes in water level can influence the daily feeding patterns of the mahseer who often hunt in the shallows for baitfish in the low water window.

LIST OF 251b PLUS GOLDEN MAHSEER CAUGHT & RELEASED BY OUR CAMP ANGLERS

56lb Golden Mahseer - Eugene - Lure.
47.4lb Golden Mahseer - Greg - Lure.
44lb Golden Mahseer - Eugene - Lure.
37lb Golden Mahseer - Greg - Lure.
36lb Golden Mahseer - Greg - Lure.
35.7lb Golden Mahseer - Greg - Lure.
35.5lb Golden Mahseer - Greg - Lure.
31.5lb Golden Mahseer - Tom - Bait - asla.
30.1lb Golden Mahseer - Eugene - Lure.
28lb Golden Mahseer - Greg - Lure.

BIRDS SPOTTED ON THESE TRIPS: Egyptian Vulture, Red-headed Vulture, Black Wagtail, Barn Swallow, River Lapwing, Crested Kingfisher, European Kingfisher, Grey Tree Pie, Red Billed Blue Magpie, Greater Yellow Nape, Great Tit, Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Blue Throated Barbet, White Throated Kingfisher, Chestnut Headed Bee Eater.

WILDLIFE SPOTTED ON THESE TRIPS: Goral (Mountain Goats), Rhesus Macaque Monkey, Langur Monkey, Yellow Throated Martin, Garden Lizard, Frogs, Toads, Preying Mantis, Scorpion, Monitor Lizard, Indian Rat Snake, Butterflies (Plain Tiger - similar to Monarch), Blue Tiger, Himalayan Sergeant, Punchinello.



44lb golden mahseer - Eugene - Lure.



56lb golden mahseer - Rapala J13 - Eugene.



30lb 1oz golden mahseer - vibe lure - Eugene.



47lb 4oz golden mahseer on vibe lure - Greg.



66lb golden mahseer IGFA All-Tackle World Record caught in 2017. Greg Iszatt the angler and Christopher Oldmeadow the guide.



The Golden Mahseer Diary continues in the next edition of Catch Cult where rod & reel, lure, and bait choices are considered. Hopefully there will also be details of more trophy sized golden mahseer caught.