

ochirbat-erdenejargal-2019-05-02.mp4

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:00:10] Yet even myself, I don't know. When I was a kid, I remember that I always tried to try to see how fishing is but because in that time, especially the elder people, they... It's like to have some... Sorry for my bad English. They don't want the kids to go to a river and to fish. Yeah. And especially my grandma, my dad. They just prohibit it for us. Yeah. And later I grew up and I made my decision and I went to the place where my grandparents born in Arkhangai Aimag. I went to that place with my friends, with my brothers, and one of my friends just showed me how to fish. And I caught two fish and that was like a spinning fish. And later I came back here, I dream that I'm fly-fishing. And I made some research on the Internet. And I found Mr Bayaraa, who is my fly-fishing teacher. And I just I called him and started my fishing.

James Thull [00:01:44] Wonderful

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:01:44] I dunno about the bait fishing spinning because everything started from fly fishing. Yeah, I'm maybe one of the least experienced fishermen in my country. Yeah, I'm maybe I am interested in the younger people. Yeah.

James Thull [00:02:04] Well that's great.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:02:04] That's why I think in 2015. And you know my first fish by fly fishing was myself. I caught myself and then I went to the river.

James Thull [00:02:18] I think that's often the case. Yes. Yeah.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:02:21] And I thought oh, how I should do this myself. Because Mr. Bayaraa did not taught me.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:02:35] I'm not sure because they think it's dangerous. It's kind of like a superstitious.

James Thull [00:02:41] OK.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:02:43] Most of Mongolian people think that fish and snakes. The closest animals to the god are the owner of the land.

James Thull [00:02:55] I got you.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:02:55] Owner of the land. That's why they don't want to catch them, play them, kill them.

James Thull [00:03:01] I see.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:03:08] No, I grew up in a small town called Erdenet city. And yeah. And during the summertime, I go mostly I spend my time with my grandpas in Bulgan and Arkhangai province. Maybe because, yeah, we call us. Not a urban people we are rural people. And because we live in now here in Ulaanbaatar place. We miss the wildness. We miss the nature. We missed the rivers. And that's why maybe we love fishing.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:03:51] Oh, yeah, yeah. And in 2000 in 1998. I've been to to university, which is located in Ulaanbaatar. And since then I'm living in Ulaanbaatar. But I always miss my childhood life experience.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:04:18] Maybe nature animals and just, I can shout, I can yell, I can run anywhere. Throw rocks to places, too. Maybe to water. I don't know. What I want to do I want I can do.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:04:46] Especially the mining that there is one river in Khentii Aimag coming from Russia. And one day maybe you can catch many fish. The next day the water becoming green with a dark green and no fish there because the mining operation started into Russia. And also there is other evidence that I'm seeing it that in Dadal Soum in Khentii Aimag is the place place... this has the highest record of precipitation, but it isn't years. No snow, no rain in this moment. We just, I don't know why it's happening. But it's happening now. It that that that thing is the change the nature and the river systems. Yeah, it changed a lot because of the lowest maybe the greatest precipitations. Yeah, that's the evidence I'm seeing now.

James Thull [00:06:01] So even though you're you're you're a young man, do you feel you've witnessed the change in climate change in your lifetime?

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:06:10] Yeah, because I have just four or five years fishing experience and I'm seeing.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:06:25] I don't know. It makes me happy. I thought catching fish is a good for me, but I'm telling you a story. I went to countryside to fish, but I sometimes I couldn't get any fish, but still happy. So what does it tell me? I don't know, but still happy. Maybe it's fresh air. Maybe going to the country. See people there and maybe eat their food. I don't know. Of course, they are catching these little fish. It's wonderful experience. But still they going to fish and going for fishing is good. But like just only to catch.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:07:15] Yeah, I'm thinking about fish in Patagonia, maybe from someplace from Chile, but from Argentina because friend of my friend who studied in Australia, you know, living there and we are going to see him later this year. And of course, I will fish there. In Patagonia, maybe the most interesting fishing destination in the world. Yeah. And if I had the chance, I want to go to Siberia, but not. Yeah, yeah, yeah. And I mean in Russia.

Offscreen Speaker [00:07:57] Kola Peninsula. (unintelligible)

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:08:02] And of course there are many places in my county even for me, it's hard to reach there. You can't just drive there, to right there. You have to take maybe a plane, maybe a horse riding, maybe a boat. I don't know. But that's kind of fishing places. I heard many times I want to go those places. Maybe Mr. Bayaraa will help me in the future. Yeah.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:08:39] I call it kick hopper. It's like a black color. Yeah. I'm trying to tie myself. Yeah. Did that kick hopper. Is that one of them most liked yeah.

James Thull [00:09:01] So like a grasshopper, is it? Yeah.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:09:05] Yeah, yeah, yeah grasshopper.

James Thull [00:09:06] Wonderful.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:09:07] Because by that fly I caught my first taimen.

James Thull [00:09:15] Wonderful.

Offscreen Speaker [00:09:16] Sacred fly.

James Thull [00:09:16] Ah sacred.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:09:18] Unconsciously I thought I didn't know that was a taimen. He was like really strong. And when I landed and my guide said, oh this is taimen, I just fascinated. I was shocked. Yeah.

James Thull [00:09:37] Beautiful fish.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:09:38] Beautiful. You know how you feel when you caught, when you catch taimen. It's a wonderful.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:09:50] Yeah. There are many species. I dunno all of them. But I like I like fishing because grayling, Pike, of course, trout and taimen these four fish. I love most of them.

James Thull [00:10:14] I'm guessing you probably have brown trout here. Those would be would would I think could be.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:10:18] I don't think they are brown? No.

James Thull [00:10:20] Rainbows?

Offscreen Speaker [00:10:21] We don't have rainbows, we don't have browns.

James Thull [00:10:24] What are you. Just the taimen.

Offscreen Speaker [00:10:26] No we have a lenok one of the brook trout.

James Thull [00:10:31] Ah, yes, yes. Yes, yes. It's.

Offscreen Speaker [00:10:33] You're living in Siberia.

James Thull [00:10:35] Ah,.

Offscreen Speaker [00:10:35] Russia.

James Thull [00:10:36] Yes, yes.

Offscreen Speaker [00:10:37] North Korea. And north Japan and north China. But I think in China dissapeared from pollution and overfished.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:10:49] Yeah, grayling is very beautiful fish.

James Thull [00:10:51] Yes, they are, aren't they? Yeah.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:10:52] Yeah. Well, I caught grayling. I want to keep it as a pet, but it's impossible.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:11:07] It's very cold. You make your hole. It's like.

James Thull [00:11:12] With an auger?

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:11:13] Yea, kind of exercising. Spending the first two or three nights. It's yeah. Always regret. Why? What I'm doing here in the wilderness. I should sleep at my warm bed having coffee in the morning with why I'm doing here like freezing cold. I'm almost dying here. No fish, no food. I do not. But I love it.

James Thull [00:11:40] Do to fish on lakes?

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:11:46] No on the river.

James Thull [00:11:46] Oh, you ice fish on the river.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:11:47] Yeah. And they sense the sense is different. Yeah. You. Yeah. Because it's like you can get. You can... Hold your...

James Thull [00:12:05] It's a small rod.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:12:06] Yes. Well not Rod.

James Thull [00:12:08] Just a little. Oh like a hand line.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:12:10] Yeah, handline.

James Thull [00:12:10] Okay. And just kind of jig.

Erdenejargal Ochirbat [00:12:12] Yeah. And you don't know what's happening there. Talking to each other. Making jokes. Yeah.