

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

August 2010

New Puget Sound Salmon Seasons

Area 5: July 1-August 15, two salmon limit, release wild chinook, wild coho and chum (see closures pages 109-110).

August 16-September 15, Daily limit two salmon, release chinook, wild coho and chum (see closures pages 109-110).

September 16-30, two salmon limit, release chinook and chum (see closures pages 109-110).

November 1-30, two salmon limit, only one chinook.

Area 6: July 1-August 15, two salmon limit, release wild chinook, wild coho and chum (see closures and special rules pages 110-111).

July 1-August 15, two salmon limit release chinook, wild coho and chum (see closures and special rules pages 110-111).

August 16-September 30, two salmon limit, release chinook, wild coho and chum (see closures and special rules pages 110-111).

October 1-31, Two salmon limit, only one chinook (see closures and special rules pages 110-111).

February 16-April 10, one salmon limit (see closures and special rules pages 110-111).

Salmon Area 7: July 1-July 13, two salmon limit, only one may be a Chinook (see

Coho Seminar September 17th

By John Martinis

Everyone is invited to the Coho Seminar that will be put on by John Martinis and the Everett Salmon & Steelhead Club at Bayside Marine

We are inviting the public to our Coho Fishing Seminar on September 17th at Bayside Marine. The seminar is free!! Just show up and bring a friend. The seminar will start at 7PM.

I will be discussing the latest techniques for catching coho in Puget Sound. If you missed my last seminar, this is a great chance to spend an evening discussing salmon fishing. At this seminar I will present my salmon fishing maps at the beginning of the program, followed by gear and how to advice.

Top Six Best Puget Sound/San Juan's Coho Spots

By John Martinis

Around the middle of August we will start transitioning from Chinook to Coho in Puget Sound and the San Juan Islands. With that transition our fishing methods will change. Gone, will be the hard core following the 90-120 foot depth line. Gone, will be fishing close to the bottom. For many anglers this will be a welcome change in fishing tactics. Coho are

by far easier to catch than their big brother the Chinook.

Let's take a look at some of the top spots to catch Coho and then we will take a snapshot of the gear and some of the methods for catching these mid-size salmon.

The natural migration of Coho bound for Puget Sound is down the straights of Juan De Fuca. Naturally they would arrive first off the west side of San Juan Island because this is only the half way point of their migration. Many expert anglers believe that these salmon are Skagit River Coho. Skagit River Coho are a bit smaller than Snohomish River Coho.

We will start off in the San Juan Islands because Coho will arrive first off the west side of San Juan Island. There is one place to fish for Coho on the west side and that is at Eagle Point. Many anglers refer to this area as, "Salmon Banks" ([see map click here](#)). This area is relatively easy to fish. Start fishing off of Eagle Point in 150-200 feet of water. Look for the tide lines or tide rips and fish along those rips and lines. Fish 30-60 feet deep. Be ready for something bigger. There is a run of Fraser River Chinook that is passing by at this exact time and they are generally large fish. This is a good place to get the daily double. The limit is two salmon, only one Chinook. You must release wild Coho.

As the Coho enter Puget Sound, one of the first places to intercept them is at Lagoon Point ([see map](#)

Just Fishing



closures page 112).

August 1-Sept 30, two salmon limit, only one may be a Chinook, release wild Coho and chum (see closures page 112).

October 1-31, two salmon limit, only one may be a Chinook (see closures page 112).

December 1-April 30, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook (see closures page 112)

Area 8-1: August 1-September 30, two salmon limit, release Chinook.

November 1-April 30, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook.

October 1-October 31, daily limit two Coho in Oak Harbor Fishery (see page 115).

Area 8-2: August 1-September 30, two salmon limit, release Chinook.

October 1-October 31, special closure area in the south part of 8-2, (see page 117). Two salmon limit, release Chinook.

November 1-April 30, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook.

Tulalip Bubble: June 4-June 18, Open Friday through Monday Noon. Closed on June 19. Two salmon limit.

June 20-September 6, two salmon limit. Open Friday through Monday Noon.

September 11-26, open Saturday and Sunday, limit two salmon.

Area 9: July 16-August 31, two salmon limit, release wild

[click here](#)) on the west side of Whidbey Island. Lagoon is a great place to fish because it is a tide bite. So, you can show up an hour before high tide regardless of what time of day it is and catch fish. It is relatively deep in front of Lagoon Point, so you don't have to fish very far from shore. However, watch for rip lines and fish parallel to those lines. I would fish 30-60 feet deep here.

When Coho get deeper inside of Puget Sound their feeding habits change. The bite goes from a tide bite to strictly a morning/tide bite. This is fine because it narrows and defines exactly when you are going to catch these fish.

One of the very best places to intercept Coho as they enter deep Puget Sound is off the Scatchet Head Buoy on the west side of Possession Bar. In fact, you will not be fishing the bar at all. Fish in this area when the tide is going out. There will be a large rip tide running straight off the buoy and to the west and into Useless Bay ([see map click here](#)). Fish parallel to this rip. The water will be running quite hard along this rip. If you get far too the west pick your gear up and run back closer to the buoy. Fish 30-90 feet deep at this location.

By the last week of August there should be enough Coho around to populate the west side of Possession Bar. The fish tend to hang off the southern extremes of the bar and out into deep water. Once again, look for rips and troll along side of the rips. Fish the typical 30-60 feet deep and deeper later in the morning. You can fish as deep as 120 feet deep. The longer Coho spend the last part of

their lives in Puget Sound, they will increasingly go to deeper depths during the day light portion of the day.

Around the Possession Point Buoy, I like to fish in what's called the "Horseshoe Hole". The Horseshoe Hole is the indentation in the bar that starts at the buoy and goes west into the bar. This is a particularly good spot to fish when the tide is coming in. ([see map click her](#))

If you are planning to use bait for Coho on Possession Bar, you might want to rethink your strategy. Possession Bar is the dogfish capitol of the world. Bring plenty of bait and lots of salmon leaders because you will need plenty of supplies to get through the day. Many of you experienced this while fishing for Chinook on the bar during July.

August 1, Marine Area 8-2 opens for Coho but not for Chinook. You can keep both wild and hatchery Coho through September 30. This opens up plenty of fishing opportunities for Coho fishing.

The most logical spot to mention first is the Shipwreck just south of Mukilteo ([see map click here](#)). The Shipwreck is the go to spot for Coho. It is easy to fish and it is not too far from home. If you can troll north and south or east and west, you know how to fish the Shipwreck. Sound too easy? This is a real pleasurable place to fish: there is lots of Coho, there is lots of room and it is extremely deep. You cannot get hung up on the bottom or a crab pot line if you are remotely doing the right thing. When the tide is going out, I like to start fishing right at the Shipwreck



Chinook (see closure area page 111).

September 1-30, two salmon limit, release Chinook and chum.

October 1-31, two salmon limit, release Chinook (see closure area).

November 1-30, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook (see closure area)

January 16-April 15, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook (see closure area)

Area 10: June 1-30, Catch and release, (see open area on page 121).

July 1-15, two salmon limit, release Chinook (see closure area).

July 2-August 8, Elliot Bay special fishery. Open Friday through Sunday. Two salmon limit. (See special rules on page 120).

July 16-August 31, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook (see closure area and additional rules page 121). August 1, release Chum.

September 1-30, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook (see closure area). Release Chum through September 15.

October 1-January 31, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook (see closure area page 120).

Area 11: June 1-September 30, two salmon limit, release wild Chinook (see closures page 122).

October 1-31, two salmon limit.

November 1-December 31, two salmon limit, only one Chinook.

February 1-April 30, two

but out near the middle of the channel. Don't fish in any less than 250 feet of water. Out in the middle of the channel the depth is 700-900 feet deep. I like trolling east and west toward Possession Point if the tide is not running very hard. If the tide is running hard, I will do the north and south routine until the water slows down. When the tide is coming in, I like to start fishing mid-way between the shipwreck and Mukilteo and out in the middle of the channel. Don't feel that you are doing something wrong if only you and a couple other boats are fishing out in the middle. This is the right spot. Don't get sucked in to the area that is closer to shore on the Mukilteo side. They catch a few fish in their closer but I have had much better luck out in the middle.

One last spot to mention: the "Bait Box Hole". The bait box hole is the area from Possession Point and North to Possession Point Bait Company. This area is quite deep close to shore. Most of the time you will be fishing within a block of the beach. This is the number one pick for my good friend Mike Greenleaf. You can effectively troll herring in this area without encountering too many dogfish. If you have the urge to troll herring this is the spot for you! ([see map click here](#))

Now, I want to address gear types when fishing for Coho. I would recommend having these items on hand: Green Hot Spot flasher with a red stripe, Purple Haze Hot Spot flasher, Green/Glow squid Goldstar #OG142R, Glow squid Goldstar #OG55R, Coho Killer spoon Army Truck color and a Grand Slam Bucktail Fly. Any of these lures should be fished 33-36

inches behind the flasher. The leader size should be 30lb test.

I would also recommend any of the Qcove flashers (formerly Jims Break Away flasher) in any of the UV colors. The Green Dragon color is a favorite among many anglers.

Keep your speed up when trolling for Coho. Your speed should be 2.5-3.0 mph. But closer to 3.0 mph. One of the most frequent questions that I ask anglers when they are struggling to catch salmon is, "how fast are your trolling?" The majority of the time they are trolling too slowly.

Coho Rigs

[Click Here](#)

August Chinook

Don't give up on Chinook quite yet. I have two good tips on where to fish for Chinook fishing in August. In the San Juan's, the west side of Guemes Island turns on around the 10th of August. Fish this area when the tide is going out. Hug the beach in 60-90 feet of water. Elliot Bay in Seattle is just peaking the first part of August for Chinook. This is an early morning fishery. Look for suspended fish on your fish finder. This is not a drag the bottom for Chinook operation like it is elsewhere in Puget Sound. Both these areas are in my book, "Saltwater Fishing Journal".



salmon limit, release wild Chinook (See Closure page 122).

Area 12: [Click here](#)

Area 13: [Click here](#)

Shrimp Seasons:
[Click Here](#)

Crab

In Marine Areas: Part of Area 4, Areas 5 and 13: crabbing opens June 18. Crabbing is open seven days a week. These Areas stay open through January 2, 2011.

In Marine Areas 6, 8-1, 8-2, 9, 10, 11 and 12: crabbing opens on July 1 at 7AM. Crabbing is open Wednesday through Saturday. These Areas stay open through September 6. Open Wednesday through Saturday.

Marine Area 7: is divided up into three Areas. **Marine Area 7 South and East,** opens for crab on July 14, at 7AM. This Area stays open through September 30. Open Wednesday through Saturday.

Marine Area 7 North: opens for crab August 14, at 7AM. This Area stays opens through September 30. Open Wednesday through Saturday.

If you find any mistakes in the seasons that I have stated please call John Martinis immediately: 425-259-3056

August Fishing Derbies

Oregon Tuna Classic, Ilwaco WA
Brewster Salmon Derby, Brewster WA

Des Moines Salmon Derby, Des Moines WA

Gig Harbor Salmon Derby, Gig Harbor WA

Hood Canal Salmon Derby
Oregon Tuna Classic, Charleston OR

Buoy 10 Salmon Challenge, Astoria OR

Sinclair Inlet Salmon Derby
Tokeland Marina-Willapa Bay Salmon Derby, Tokeland WA
Oregon Tuna Classic, Garibaldi OR

Port Alberni Salmon Festival, Port Alberni B.C. Canada

Everett Coho Derby September 18-19

Dates & Time

The Derby will begin on September 18th and end September 19th at 2:00 pm. All measured time will be determined by cell phone time.

Entry Fees

Adult ticket fee will be \$25.00 US. Youth ticket is free (12 years old or younger).

Weigh-In

Weigh-in will be from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm on Saturday, September 18th and from 10:00 am until 2:00pm on Sunday September 19th, at the 10th Street Public Boat Launch, off of Marine View Drive in Everett. Deadlines for weigh-in shall be followed.

Eligibility

The individual who caught the fish

must be present to enter the fish. The individuals legal Catch Record Card must accompany the individual and fish to be weighed in for evidence that a Coho Salmon was caught within derby rules. One entry fish per ticket purchaser. All persons in the boat must have a valid Derby ticket. This is an all weather derby. All Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife rules apply.

Fish Size and Qualification

Minimum size of fish entered shall be greater than two (2) pounds. Only legally hooked Coho Salmon are eligible to win. Fish species must be a Coho. All other species will be rejected. Must be sport caught. If in the opinion of the judges, any attempt is made to artificially enhance the weight of a fish, that fish and person WILL be immediately disqualified from this and all future Everett Coho Derby's and criminal charges WILL be pursued.

Derby Tickets

Ticket sales will close on Friday, September 17th at close of business at all retail outlets. Tickets will be available Saturday, September 18th, at the 10th St. Public Boat Launch in Everett from 4:00 am to 8:00 am.

Prizes

One Derby prize per ticket and that individual MUST be present WITH ticket to claim the prize. Ties will be broken by the earliest date and time of entry.

1st Place: \$3000
2nd Place: \$2000
3rd Place: \$1000
4th Place: \$750
5th Place: \$500

Prizes will be awarded September 19th, beginning at approximately 3:00 pm at Everett Bayside Marine & Outboards, Port of Everett, WA.

Location

All legal areas open to fishing in areas 8-1, 8-2, 9, 10; and all freshwater river systems in King, Skagit or Snohomish County.

Club News

By Ben Bear

rich.braun1@verizon.net

Want to Join Everett Steelhead & Salmon Club?

The Everett Steelhead & Salmon Club Is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, nonsectarian organization dedicated to the conserving and preserving Salmon, Steelhead and Trout as Game Fish. We work to promote sport fishing in a sportsman like manner and to work with and encourage constituted authorities and other conservation organizations to that end.

Yearly dues are **\$30**. Each member receives a club patch (new members only), a subscription to Tight Lines & The Northwest Fishing Journal.

Please make checks payable to: **Everett Salmon & Steelhead Club**
PO Box 1646 • Everett, WA 98206

New Member Renewal

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Address _____

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1913 Broadway
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