

# Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

May 2015

## Fishing Dates

### Halibut Fishing Dates

Areas 6,7,9,10  
May 8,9,15,16,  
21,22,23,24,28,29,30

### Kids Fishing Derby

Jennings Park  
Marysville  
8am-11am  
It's Free and  
you are invited  
May 2

**Puget Sound  
Spot Shrimp  
Areas 8-1, 8-2, 9  
May 2 and 13**

**Area 7 South  
Spot Shrimp  
May 2,13,14,15,16,20,21,  
22,23,27,28,29,30**

**Area 12 Hood Canal  
Spot Shrimp  
May 2,9,11,13**

**Puget Sound Ling Cod  
May 1 to June 15**

**Shop Online at  
John's Sporting Goods  
[shop.johnsportinggoods.com](http://shop.johnsportinggoods.com)**

## 2015 Ways to Make a Difference

### Everett Lions Club Derby for the Blind September 2015

I will match any donation dollar for dollar that you contribute to the Blind Derby.

I have been involved in the Blind Derby for many years. The Blind people who are involved in this derby will pull at your heart strings. They are so full of enthusiasm and excitement. Can you only imagine what it is like to be on the water salmon fishing and being blind? Please help. 100% of this money will be given out as cash prizes.

**I just gave the Everett Salmon and Steelhead Club \$1500 from the donations that you and I gave for the Jennings Park Kids Fishing Derby. Thanks for all your donations!**

## Spot Shrimp Season

**You can shrimp everyday if you want. Here's how.**

I look upon the Spot Shrimp season the same way I approach the salmon season. I do not look at shrimping season as merely Areas 8-1, 8-2, 9 or Area 10. It's just too easy to complain about the short season in central Puget Sound. However, there are additional opportunities if you are willing to travel by boat or trailer to other areas.

Let's look at the 2015 spot shrimp season and then I will get into a strategy that

will keep you shrimping throughout the summer.

**Area 6:** Opens May 2 and will be open daily

**Area 7 South:** Opens May 2 for a one-day fishery and then will be open May 13 - 16, May 20 - 23 and May 27 - 30

**Area 7 West:** Opens May 2 and will be open daily

**Area 7 South:** Opens May 2 for a one-day fishery and will be open May 13 - 16, May 20 - 23 and May 27 - 30

Areas 8-1, 8-2 and Area 9: Open for Spot Shrimp May 2 and May 13

**Area 10:** Open for Spot Shrimp May 2

**Area 10:** On May 13, the portion of Marine Area 10 west of a line from West Point to Alki Point will be open from 7 AM to 3 PM. This includes the Bainbridge Island shrimp fishing ground. Elliott Bay will remain closed on May 13 (Elliott Bay is defined as those waters east of a line from West Point to Alki Point).

**Area 11:** Open for Spot Shrimp May 2

**Area 12:** Hood Canal is open for Spot Shrimp May 2, 9, 11 and May 13

**Check the WDFW website to get all the details and regulations for all areas: [Click Here](#)**

There are places open for spot shrimp every day of the week if you are willing to travel and experience new areas.

# Just Fishing



For the past two spot shrimp seasons, I have traveled over to Hood Canal near Pleasant Harbor and Dabob Bay for spot shrimp. The shrimping in Hood Canal is excellent and it doesn't take much time to get there. Give it a try. The scenery is spectacular and you get additional shrimping days.

I also shrimp Area 6, which is open every day of the week. The only problem with shrimping in this area is the tidal flow. To effectively set shrimp pots in Area 6, you must carefully choose the days of the week when the flow is less than 6 feet between the tides. Not following this rule can cause two things to happen: first you can lose your shrimp pot and next it is difficult to catch a limit of spot shrimp if the tide is running hard. In Area 6 the best time to set pots is about two hours before high tide.

Take a look at Area 7 South. The spot shrimp season is open for 13 days. It is easy to launch a boat at Cornet Bay, Deception Pass or Washington Park and be at an excellent area in 20 or 30 minutes.

You see the picture I painting: if you travel a bit, you can get spot shrimp somewhere every day of the week.

## Anatomy of a spot shrimp pot

To effectively harvest spot shrimp, the pot should weigh around 30 pounds. There are two reasons why pots have to be this heavy: First, you will catch more spot shrimp if the pot is not being jostled by the pull of a 400 feet piece of rope. Second, the pot will not drift away because of the intense tidal flows in Areas 6 and 7. For most wire shrimp pots, there should be at least 15 pounds of additional weight.

For Areas 6 and 7, I also put a small anchor on the shrimp pots. What I do is attach a carabineer on a 10 - foot

piece of rope and a small collapsible anchor to the other end. The carabineer is attached to the bottom of the pot. Except in extreme cases, you will never lose a shrimp pot with an anchor attached.

You can use a shrimp pot harness or attach the rope to the side of the pot. Most shrimp pots should be rigged with a shrimp pot harness so that shrimp don't escape when pulling the pot to the surface. The SMI 19001 round shrimp pot is made so that you can pull the pot up sideways. The configuration of the ramps leading into the SMI 19001 shrimp pot do not allow shrimp to escape when retrieving the pot sideways.

The rope attached to any shrimp pot has to be at least 400 feet long. It must be leaded and the diameter can be either 5/16 or 1/4 inch.

## Items Need to Rig a Spot Shrimp Pot

- Shrimp Pots: SMI 19001 or SMI 19027, Kufa CT-150 SMI
- Heavy Duty Pot Harness Stainless or Regular steel harness
- 400 feet of 5/16 or 1/4 inch leaded rope
- Yellow buoys
- Optional folding anchor

[Click Here for more shrimp gear](#)

The buoys attached to the rope is something everyone wants to economize. I suggest a "No Loss Method" to attach the buoys to your shrimp pot line and then you make the choice. Attach enough buoys to the end of the rope so there is sufficient flotation to float the pot in case it drifts into deeper water beyond your rope length. Attach enough buoys to float the rig when the tide is running hard. To me, the "No Loss Method" has a lot of appeal because an entire shrimp pot

outfit can cost anywhere from \$250 to \$280.

## Items needed for Spot Shrimp Bait

- Friskies Ocean White Fish w/Tuna canned cat food
- Bumble Bee canned Mackerel
- Super Bait Prawn Bait pellets
- Ace of Bait Prawn Oil or Pro Cure Shrimp Attractant Oil
- 9 inch bait barrel

The idea behind mixing all these ingredients together is to set up a scent trail to attract shrimp to the pot. Once the shrimp are near, there is a good chance they will enter to feed on the Mackerel and pellets. The cat food and the shrimp oil will quickly leach out of the pot and attract shrimp. The pellets and the Mackerel will keep the shrimp in the pot once they get inside. Now you see the purpose of different ingredients.

Some people like to mix all the ingredients together and freeze the mixture in a large bait barrel. Then, put the frozen mixture in the pot and let it thaw while the pot is working. Some people will add ground up fish to the mixture while others add dry cat food (Friskies Seafood Sensation).

## My recommendations per pot

- Put 3 cups of Super Bait shrimp bait pellets in a zip lock bag and add 1 cup of Pro Cure shrimp Attractant Oil. Soak pellets for overnight before shrimping.
- After the pellets soak overnight, put them in a 9 - inch bait barrel and hang it inside the shrimp pot.
- Take the lid off a can of Mackerel and insert it in the center bait compartment of the shrimp pot.
- Take the lids off two cans of Friskies Ocean White Fish w/ Tuna and insert the cans in the center bait compartment of the shrimp pot.

# Just Fishing



Put the shrimp pot over board and soak for 45 to 60 minutes.

Each time the pot is retrieved, you need to replace the canned cat food. Most of it washes out of the cans quickly. The pellets last all day while the canned Mackerel lasts most of day. The cat food is the only item that needs frequent replacing.

I changed my shrimp bait formula from the past. Now I completely remove the lids from the cat food and mackerel cans. I have found that the mackerel and the cat food do not dissolve any faster with the lids removed. I also switched to 9 - inch bait jars. The 9 - inch bait jars full of bait allows more scent to get out into the water column.

## Shrimping Maps Puget Sound

Edmonds  
Hat Island  
Hood Canal  
Mukilteo  
Seattle

## Shrimping Maps San Juan Islands

Friday Harbor  
Iceberg point  
McArthur Bank  
Waldron Island

## The Cod Squad

### Ling Cod opens in Puget Sound on May 1

Every year on May 1, I fish opening day for Ling Cod in Puget Sound with charter skipper Gary Krein. We head out to Possession Bar and fish with a 100 of our best friends. It gets a little busy out there but there are plenty of resources for all.

Before we go to Possession Bar, we need to stop to fish for Rock Sole for Ling Cod bait. Rock Sole can be caught on small #6 worm hooks or a #6 or #8 Crappie rig. Use 3 or 4 ounces of weight to keep the rig on the bottom. I have found that the best Rock Sole bait is squid. The reason for squid is because of its rubbery texture. The best depths for Rock Sole is in 65 to 80 feet of water. Good areas are on the East side of Hat Island or near Possession Point on Whidbey Island. Plan on catching at least three Rock Sole per person in order to have an enough bait for that one Ling Cod.

### Ling Cod Rig Items Needed

- Large 3 - way Swivels
- 6/0 Double Hook Rig tied w/30 pound monofilament
- 3 - 6 ounces of weight

John's Sporting Goods has [6/0 double hook Ling Cod Leaders](#) already tied for your convenience. If you want to tie your own, tie the front hook with the Gamakatsu 6/0 black circle hook and the rear hook with the 6/0 black octopus hook. The circle hook prevents the live Rock Sole from wiggling off the hook.

The Ling Cod rig is set up like this: Attach a three - way swivel to the end of the fishing line. Attach the leader to the middle ring of the three - way swivel. The leader should be 36 inches long. On the bottom ring of the three - way swivel, attach an 18 inch piece of monofilament leader material. On the other end, attach a 3 to 6 ounce cannonball weight.

If you wish to simplify things by not catching Rock Sole, there is a great alternative. [Hogy Lures makes a soft plastic Rock Sole](#) imitation that is very realistic. John Sporting Goods always has these in stock. I have gotten great reviews from Ling Cod anglers who

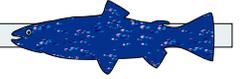
use this plastic bait. You might want add this lure to your Ling Cod arsenal.

If you prefer jigging for Ling Cod, I recommend the 4 and 6 inch plastic twin tail scampi's. The 4 inch scampi tails can be attached to 2 or 3 ounce lead head jigs. The 6 inch scampi tails can be attached to 4 or 6 ounce lead head jigs. In either case I put a filet of salted herring on the jig head hook.

[More Ling Cod Gear Click Here](#)

[AllStar Charter  
Book a Ling Cod Charter  
trip with Gary Krein and  
learn how the experts catch  
Ling Cod](#)

# Just Fishing



Join John Martinis  
and Tom Nelson

at

## THE LODGE AT ENGLEFIELD BAY

JUNE 20 - 24 2015

### PACKAGE INCLUSIONS

- Hotel accommodation in Vancouver on June 20
- Complimentary shuttle from the hotel to the airport on June 21
- Complimentary parking
- Round-trip airfare from Vancouver BC to Sandspit via chartered Boeing 737 jet service
- Helicopter flight from Sandspit BC to Englefield Bay lodge
- Deluxe accommodations based on double occupancy
- All chef-prepared meals, snacks and soft beverages
- Unlimited fishing trip including 5 hours per full day of guided fishing
- Fully equipped 18' center console boats, 90hp mercury outboards, gps, vhf radio, electric down riggers
- All-weather gear, boots and personal floatation collar
- Cleaning, vacuum packing, flash freezing and boxing of your catch

## TRIP ITINERARY

### JUNE 20 2015

1 Night stay at The River Rock  
Resort & Casino

### JUNE 21 2015

Check-in: 05:15AM

Depart Vancouver BC: 06:30AM

Arrive in Sandspit BC: 07:50AM

### JUNE 24 2015

Arrive in Vancouver: 12:30PM

On the last morning (June 24), the first helicopter will be arriving at the lodge by 08:15 with a scheduled departure from Sandspit by 10:30 arriving back in Vancouver June 24 by 12:30pm. The guests will be met at the airport by Westcoast Resorts staff with a shuttle waiting to take everyone back to the hotel for their vehicles.

### CATCH LIMITS

#### TOTAL POSSESSION

8 Salmon

2 Halibut

6 Lingcod

6 Red Snapper

#### DAILY LIMITS - BASED ON A 2

##### DAY LIMIT

2 King Salmon (Chinook)

2 Silver (Coho - other Salmon)

3 Lingcod

3 Red Snapper

\$3,595.00USD

per person plus taxes

[Click Here for more information](#)

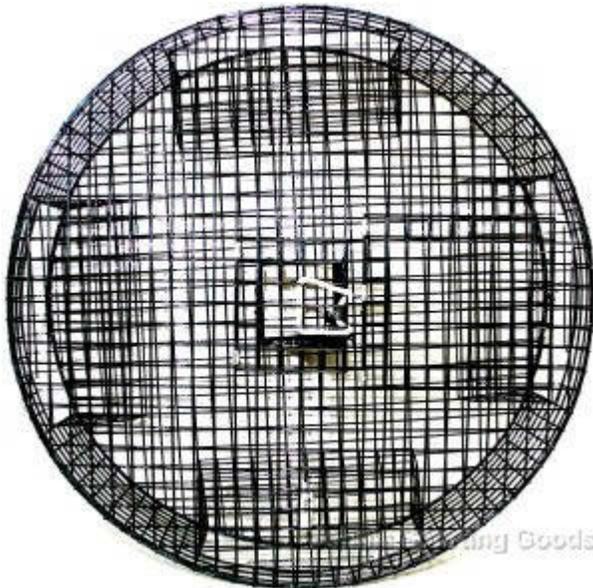
# Special Purchase



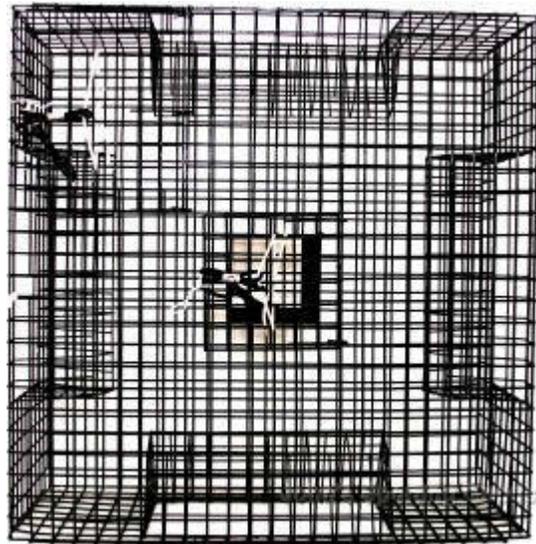
Tackle For The Serious Angler

## Shrimp Pot Sale May 1-30

[Shrimp Pot Rigging Video: \*Click Here\*](#)



**SMI 19001 Sale Price \$72.50**  
**John's #1 Selling Shrimp Pot**  
Reg. Price \$89.50



**SMI 19027 Sale Price \$79.50**  
**McKay Style Pot**  
Reg. Price \$99.50



**SMI 19022 Sale Price \$99.00**  
**Shrimp Pot, 400ft Leaded Rope,**  
**Yellow Buoy**  
Reg. Price \$125.40

These prices are for in store purchases only

## John's Sporting Goods

**John's Sporting Goods**  
**1913 Broadway**  
**Everett, WA 98201**  
**20% Discount**  
**on your next in store**  
**purchase**

Items that are excluded: Downriggers, Ace Line Hauler Products, Traxtech Products, Rods and Reels, Electronics, CTO3R Crab Pot, SMI Crab Pots & Shrimp Pots, Braided Line, items that are discounted, on sale, repairs, parts and closeout items. Cannot be used in combination with discounted gift certificates.

**10% Discount**

**Rods and Reels**

Excludes G-Loomis, St Croix, Daiwa Electric Reels

Not valid for online purchases or mail order  
Valid only with coupon at the time of sale

**Expires May 30, 2015**

**You Must have this coupon in your hand at the time of purchase. No exceptions made.**

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**Scotty Downrigger**  
**Maintenance**  
**300ft Cable**  
**or**  
**300ft Spectra Braid**  
**\$55**

Included in the price is new brake pads, your choice of 300' of 150lb. Cable or 300' 200lb. of Cortland spectra downrigger line, cleaning and lubricating the downrigger.

Coupons and discounted gift certificates cannot be used for this service

**John's Sporting Goods**  
**Facebook**

**Thursday: Big Fish Day**

**Friday: Deal of the Day**

**Scotty Downrigger Deal**  
**Exclusive at**  
**John's Sporting Goods**

**Scotty 1106**  
**Guide Series**

Installed with  
**300ft 200lb Braided Spectra**  
**#1148 Ball hook**  
**#371 Scotty Snubber**  
**\$525**

**Standard Scotty 1106**  
**\$473**

**Fishing Tackle-Crabbing Supplies-Shrimping Supplies**

Store Hours: 9:00AM - 5:30PM Monday - Saturday  
425-259-3056 - 1913 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201

**John's Sporting Goods**  
**Fishing Tackle**  
**for**  
**The Serious Angler**