

# Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

October 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

## Thanks to Every One of You Coho Seminar was a Great Success

I want to personally thank all of you who attended my Coho Fishing Seminar on September 17th. The Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club put up 400 chairs, and every one of those chairs was full with many more people standing. Bayside Marine was a very accommodating host, thank you: Dan, Jeff and Todd. The next seminar will be in March 2011, the topic will be "Chinook Fishing in "Puget Sound".

## Letters

I get quite a few emails and letters form different people and different organizations. In the past I have not published any of the mail that I get. This month, I thought that I would publish: One email from an avid reader of the Newsletter, One thank you card from the women who won the \$500 donation that I gave to the Everett Lyons Blind Derby, a thank you from Puget Sound Anglers, Renton Chapter. I also received a call from Danny Iverson within an hour after he won the \$500 cash prize that I donated to the Everett Coho Derby. The real thanks go to all of you who have shopped at John's Sporting Goods over the years. Thanks to all of you! The mail is on pages 5,6,7.

## River Coho

By John Martinis

Is there a harder fish to catch than Puget Sound Coho in the local rivers? Think about it. We have mastered catching Chinook in the freshwater (albeit it is a challenge). We have mastered Sockeye in the lakes. We have excelled in catching Pinks in the rivers. What gives with Coho? We catch them. But, we really have never dialed them in like we have the other salmon species. We catch some on jigs, some on plugs, some on small spoons and some just by shear luck.

Let's take a look at river Coho and try to understand where they are going. First, we will take a look at the Snohomish River System. The Snohomish System is a vast watershed made up of these tributaries: Skykomish, Snoqualmie, Pilchuck, Wallace, Sultan and several smaller streams. Coho start migrating up the Snohomish River in September. Without too much rainfall these fish will slosh back and forth from Lowell to the City of Snohomish for several weeks. As the Fall rains intensify the water cools and the small creeks swell. This is the cue for Coho to make the next leg of their journey. In late September and early October, Coho can be found in the Skykomish and Snoqualmie Rivers.

The Stillaguamish River gets an early shot of Coho long before the river opens for Coho fishing. If the conditions are right (no rain), fishing can be good right from

# 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

when the river opens (September 1, this year) for Coho fishing. This year there was too much rain and the fish kept on heading up stream. In the Stilly System, the north and South Fork have always remained closed for all salmon fishing. So, you cannot follow these fish past the Haller Bridge in Arlington. There are more Coho in October. The only limiting factor is wet weather. It seems that the Stilly gets muddy if a cloud passes over it.

If you are looking for good beach access to the Stillaguamish River, go to Blue Stilly Park. [Click Here for map.](#)

The Snohomish River offers a great variety in fishing. You can troll in the lower river with plugs. You can get above the tide water and pitch spoons and spinners. The lower Snohomish River below the town of Snohomish is all tide water. The water is somewhat deep, it moves fast when the tide is going out and the water almost quits moving when the tide is coming in. This is ideal conditions for trolling. You can troll in the lower Snohomish without any fancy gear. All you need is a 12 foot boat or larger with a rod holder. You don't need any electronics or downriggers at all. All you need is a small tackle selection: Wiggle Wart plugs, Fire Tiger and Red Herring Bone, #3 & #4 Super Vibrax spinners, colors chartreuse and flame. You will also need a handful of ½ ounce trolling sinkers. [See Map of Lower Snohomish and Boat Launches Click Here.](#)

Map of Upper Snohomish River that has good beach access, where you can fish from the shoreline,

[Click Here.](#)

The trolling set-up is the same for the plugs and the spinners. Tie a six foot leader (10lb Leader) to the plug or spinner and to the sinkers. It's that simple. I know I do not have to tell you that the **Hook Rules** are very confusing for river fishing. For the Snohomish River the rule goes as follows: Sinking lures need to have single hooks. Period! Floating lures can have treble hooks. There are no "what ifs" to these rules. If you drop a lure in the water and it goes to the bottom, you must have single hooks on it. If you drop a lure into the water and it floats, you can have treble hooks on it. Yes, you can have barbed hooks in the Snohomish River. If you are using bait where it is legal to use, you must use a single hook. Bait is legal in the Snohomish River and the Skykomish Rivers.

The Stillaguamish River hook and bait rules are simple: Single barbless lures and no bait. The no bait rule includes bait oils and scented lures like Power Bait Worms or pink worms that are scented.

Trolling for Coho in the river is somewhat similar to trolling in the salt. Keep your speed up and look for seams in the water. What I mean by seams: There are mini tides lines in the river. Troll on the clean side of these tide lines. If the fish are coming through in good numbers, you will see them jumping and rolling on one side of the seam. When you get to the river, you will see exactly what I am describing. The correct distance to let the gear out behind the boat is 30-40 feet. If you are hitting the bottom, wind in few feet

# Just Fishing



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

of line. It is perfectly normal to troll both upstream and down stream.

Many anglers like to exclusively troll smaller lures for Coho. Do not be intimidated by their size. #1 50/50 Dick Nite spoons can be very effective. In fact, I believe that the #1 Dick Nite is the most effective lure for casting for Coho. This is one case when the old saying, "Big Lure, Big Fish" definitely does not apply.

Another effective way to fish for Coho: Many anglers have turned to jigs underneath a bobber. Colors of jigs that work well are black, pink, cerise or red. 1/8 ounce jigs are the preferred size. [Click here](#) to see a diagram for rigging with a float, [Click Here](#).

If you want to get a jump start on Blackmouth/Chinook fish: October 1, Area 10 opens for Chinook fishing. The daily limit is two salmon and you must release wild Chinook. I would recommend fishing Jefferson Head or Apple Cove Point on the Area 10 side of Apple Cove Point. The November Newsletter will address Winter Blackmouth fishing in great detail.

## Everett Coho Derby Winners

### ADULT DIVISION

\$3000 1st Place by Everett Bayside Marine Randy Warren 15.68 Area 10

\$2000 2nd Place by Roy Robinson Chevrolet Doug Smith 15.61 Lower Skykomish

\$1500 3rd Place by Silver Horde Michael Blankenship 15.28 Area 8-2

\$1000 4th Place by Kershaw Knives Charles Blankenship 15.04 Area 9

\$750 5th Place by Dick Nite Spoons Kyle Bride 14.58 Area 9

\$600 6th Place by Ted's Sport Center Bryan Choate 14.37

\$500 7th Place by John's Sporting Goods Danny Iverson 14.31 Area 9

Raffle Boat Prize by 3 Rivers Marine Mike Hillman

### YOUTH DIVISION

\$100 1st Place by First Heritage Bank Sean McCauley 12.16 Area 9

\$75 2nd Place by First Heritage Bank Jarett Waldemer 9.10

\$50 3rd Place by First Heritage Bank Floyd Wm. Clark 6.83 Area 9

### SPECIAL SPONSOR PRIZES

\$250 Largest Coho on Silver Horde Product Randy Warren 15.68 Area 10

Number of Adult Tickets Sold 1587

Number of Kids Tickets Given Away 237

Total Number of Fish Weighed In 241

Total Pounds of Fish Weighed In 2146 pounds

Average Weight of Fish 8.91 pounds



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

## 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

## Edmonds Coho Derby Winners

1st Charles Lee 13lb 8.32oz 09-11-10 1:27 PM

2nd Shonn Gay 13lb 09-11-10 11:36 AM

3rd Greg Van Zanten 12lb 5.76oz 09-11-10 11:22 AM

4th Leonard Emry 11lb 13.60oz 09-11-10 7:25 AM

5th CHRIS ERICKSON 11lb 2.08oz 09-11-10 10:20 AM

6th Carl Martin 10lb 15.84oz 09-11-10 01:32 PM

7th RICK RICE 10lb 8.48oz 09-11-10 01:35 PM

8th JEFF WALL 10lb 8.00oz 09-11-10 01:58 PM

9th TONEFONG SAECHAO 10lb 09-11-10 09:24 AM

10th Bill Jensen 10lb 09-11-10 01:01 PM

5th CHRIS ERICKSON 11lb 2.08oz 09-11-10 10:20 AM

6th Carl Martin 10lb 15.84oz 09-11-10 01:32 PM

7th RICK RICE 10lb 8.48oz 09-11-10 01:35 PM

8th JEFF WALL 10lb 8.00oz 09-11-10 01:58 PM

9th TONEFONG SAECHAO 10lb 09-11-10 09:24 AM

10th Bill Jensen 10lb 09-11-10 01:01 PM

## Youth Division

1st Charles Lee 13lb 8.32oz 09-11-10 01:27 PM

2nd Shonn Gay 13lb 09-11-10 11:36 AM

3rd Greg Van Zanten 12lb 5.76oz 09-11-10 11:22 AM

4th Leonard Emry 11lb 13.60oz 09-11-10 07:25 AM





John's Sporting Goods  
1913 Broadway  
Everett, WA. 98201

9-15-2010

John,

Thank you for your donation to PUGET SOUND ANGLERS, Renton Chapter.

With your support we are able to provide quality fishing for Children, People with disabilities and Military personnel.

Thanks Again!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Pray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Frank Pray  
Auction Chairman  
Puget Sound Anglers, Renton Chapter

Non Profit Tax Id. 94-3053783

**From: Mark  
From Seattle  
Email sent  
September  
16, 2010**

**Thought you might like to see what happened when I used some gear you recommended on your newsletter. Thanks John! this was a solo trip, only one pole in the water.**

DYNAMITE! I fished Westport 13 & 14 Sep I have never had such great fishing. Catch and release was required or I would have sank the boat and probably been thrown in jail. Sunday I checked the weather, bar, tides, on line reports. I saw that conditions would be just about perfect for my 17' fishing machine. The only surprise was it wasn't just a little fog first thing in the morning with the typical burnoff by 10am. Tuesday it was socked in on the water the whole day, you could see up at some clear

sky but not outward very far. I was headed out to the 250' depth, I saw a large group of birds at about the 200' line and popped in there instead. I wasn't disappointed, BAM! FISH ON! Ace Hi fly behind a green flasher down 30' of wire. 8-12 pound silvers was the norm, release wild coho. One fish after another with just enough time in between to snack and fiddle with the plotter. I called it a day by 10:30 since I was already looking at being awake 36 hours. Tuesday there were so many fish to catch and release I didn't have time to eat breakfast till I shut down the motor and stopped fishing just drifting out there, nearly the only boat within sight. Speed was always 3 1/2 + mph SOG. These fish slammed my lure several times on the surface before or while I was clipping them into the rigger, pulling the line right out my hand! Two whales breached close to the boat about a dozen times as they headed north, I could hear them, they were

HUGE. I suspect the salmon would have hit just about anything but since the Ace Hi worked, I didn't change it. LOL That would have just been stupid! LOL Season ends the 19th, just enough time to get one more run out there. Fish are always on the move, look for birds and drop a line! This spot is about 14 miles off shore, WxSW of buoy 6. After fishing Puget Sound last week with dismal results, this was way more than I had expected.

Vicki was the winner of Everett Lyons Blind Derby  
and the \$500  
donation from John's Sporting Goods

Thank you for being so thoughtful.

Thank you for your  
generous gift to the  
Lions Club for this  
year's annual Blind  
fishing derby. Which  
I was lucky enough  
to take first place.  
It was truly a  
cool send.

Vicki Reeves

With Gratitude

**John's Sporting Goods  
1913 Broadway  
Everett, WA 98201**

**Scotty Downrigger  
Cleaning with 250' Cable  
or 300' Spectra  
Downrigger Line  
\$39.95**

Included in the price is new brake pads, your choice of 250' of 150lb. Cable or 300' 200lb. of Cortland spectra downrigger line, cleaning and lubricating the downrigger and any other Scotty factory authorized upgrades.



**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, Endurance Pot Puller, Shimano Products, G Loomis, Electronics, items that are discounted, on sale, repairs, parts and closeout items

One coupon per customer

Not valid for online purchases or mail order

Valid only with coupon at the time of sale