

# Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

March 2011

## 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

## Seminars

By John Martinis

**Put these Seminars on your calendar. You are invited to all three seminars that will be presented by John Martinis**

**Salmon Seminar** March 11, 7:00PM at Bayside Marine: sponsored by Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club. The public is invited. [Map click here.](#)

**Halibut Seminar**, March 17, **7:00PM** at Everett Fireman's Hall, 2411 Hewitt, Everett. Sponsored by Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club. The public is invited. [Map click here.](#)

**Shrimping Seminar** April 12th, 7:00PM at Bayside Marine: sponsored by CCA (Coastal Conservation Association). The public is invited.

All my seminars are open to the public and there is no charge for the seminars.

## Everett Blackmouth Derby Tickets Derby March 19

**The tickets are \$100 per boat. That allows up to four anglers to fish on the boat. All four anglers can weigh in their own fish. Tickets can be purchased at John's Sporting Goods. Top prize; \$3,000. [Click Here for details](#)**

## Derby Time

March is the Month

For Popular Salmon Derby's  
By John Martinis

If you are thinking about fishing the Everett Salmon Derby on March 19, there are a few tickets left. Stop by John's Sporting Goods and get your tickets. The Anacortes Derby on March 26-27 is sold out.

Chinook are much larger than usual this year. Nearly every derby a 20lb+ pound salmon is taking first prize. So, you have your work cut out for you.

Here are the results of the Stanwood/Camano Island Hot Plug Derby:

Here are the Results for the 2011 Hot Plug's Fishing Derby

1st Place	Curt Schaffer
20.03	\$2100.00
2nd Place	Darrell Clark
16.00	\$925.00
3rd Place	Ralph Brodie
11.40	\$695.00
4th Place	Geoff Aldcroft
10.07	\$465.00

The Anacortes Derby will be won by a person who understands San Juan Island Tides, Current and what position to be at different stages of the tide. This derby will not be won by some angler lucking into a big Chinook. This derby will be won by an angler who knows the rules of the game when fishing the San Juan Islands. Do you know the rules of the game? Let's talk about the do's and don'ts for fishing the Islands.. The Islands are a complex place to fish for

# 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

salmon. There is no one who knows it all. A lot of us who have fished the Islands for years know a small piece of the puzzle. For example: Larry Carpenter from Master Marine knows the outside of San Juan Island better than anyone I know. I have a customer named "Clint" who knows Smith Island better than anyone that I know. I feel that I have mastered fishing the Rosario Straights area. Then there is Point Lawrence, Cattle Point, Pea Vine Pass, Humphrey Head and Lovers Rock. That's just a few of the places. My good friend Richard Bailey knows Middle Bank better than anyone that I know. The list is so long. How do you make a choice?

There is never guarantee that you will catch derby winning Chinook by following the rules. What I will guarantee you is this: you most likely will not catch anything if you fish any of the spots that I mentioned if you fish any of these spots on the wrong tide.

Where do we start? Here is a partial list of places to fish and on what tide.

Cypress/Eagle Bluff/Incoming tide

East Lopez/Lopez Flats/Outgoing Tide

Blakely/Thatcher Pass/Outgoing Tide

Orcas/Point Lawrence/Outgoing Tide

Middle Bank/Small Outgoing Tide  
Smith Island/Any Tide

Cypress/Tide Point/Outgoing Tide

Eagle Point/San Juan Island/Outgoing

I want to emphasize how important it is to stay put when you are fishing the Islands. Develop a game plan and stick to it. I see

anglers all the time fish an area for an hour pull their gear in and leave, just to see the bite come on an hour later. They most likely would have participated in the action if they just left their gear in the water. I can't tell how important this is. Be patient or risk going home empty handed. If you like instant gratification, the San Juan Islands is not the place to be searching for it. Be patient! Let the fish come to you.

**Example:** I like fishing Thatcher Pass when the tide is going out. The place I like to fish is closer to Pointer Island (page 66 of my most recent book). The fish can bite at the beginning of the tide, the middle of the tide or at the end of the tide. But never all three or a combination of the three. But, the bite will happen sometime during the tide. Many times I have started fishing at the beginning of the outgoing tide and never got a bite, not a nibble until the water started slowing down towards the end of the tide. If I had left, I would have risked missing the bite. I am not making a case for going to Thatcher, what I am saying; fish the tide in one spot. Don't be lured into moving because some salmon angler in another boat caught a fish some other place. If you do move, it is highly likely that you are going to miss the bite by the time you get to the new place. Be patient! Let the fish come to you.

Let me tell you something really cool that you can do, because I have done it many times. You can fish Lopez Flats or Thatcher Pass on the outgoing tide and maybe pick up a fish. Don't continue fishing either spot as the tide transitions to start coming back in. Maybe 15 minutes after tide is all



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

the way low and the water barely starts to reverse. Pull your gear up and head to Tide Point/Eagle Bluff/Just as the tide starts to come in, I like to start fishing at tide Point and troll to Eagle Bluff. You have to do this on time and exactly as I have stated. This is what I meant earlier by stating; you have to be in position at different stages of the tide. You don't just go to these places and fish, you have to be in key spots at different stages of the tide.

Once the tide starts running hard between Tide Point and Eagle Bluff you keep fishing closer to Eagle Bluff. By the middle of the incoming tide, you never want to fish any closer than half way back to Tide Point. You might think that I am making this far too complicated than fishing has to be. I am not. The guys who are winning these derby's know what position to be in all the time. They probably know three or four spots really well and they can fish those spots very effectively.

Another good strategy if you do not want to move around to much. Fish between Strawberry Island and Tide Point. Many big salmon are taken out of this area. This is one of those areas that everyone forgets about, then someone takes a limit of derby winning Chinook out of here. Then it gains back it's popularity. [Tide Point Map Click Here](#)

I mentioned Middle Bank. Middle Bank is an excellent place to fish for Chinook in March and April. It is one of the best. However, you cannot fish effectively here unless there is less than six feet of tidal movement. This makes the number of times you can go to

Middle Bank a pretty narrow choice. When the tide is right, you will catch salmon there. Fish Middle Bank only when the tide is going out and fish only on the most northern tip of the Bank in 9-100 feet of water. [Middle Bank Map Click Here](#)

A great place to catch extra large Chinook is at Point Lawrence. I don't especially like fishing here, but it is a top producer. The water runs so hard that it makes fishing difficult. Don't let me sway your decision for going or not going to Point Lawrence, because I will guarantee that some of the top ten fish in the Anacortes Derby will come from this spot. There are two ways to fish Point Lawrence. 1) You can troll the big rip line than forms off the Point. 2) You can troll back in to the corner (Sea Acres). I have always chosen to troll back in to the corner to get out of the strong tide that runs off the Point. [Point Lawrence Map Click Here](#)

## My Book Saltwater Fishing Journal New Addition Coming Soon

I am adding several pages to my book, "Saltwater Fishing Journal". This will probably be the last significant upgrade for a while. I am adding more crabbing maps, shrimp maps and color plates for rigging tackle. The publisher said that we should see the books in April sometime if everything goes right.



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

## Club News

### SnoKing PSA

Meeting Dates:

The second Thursday of each month at 6:30PM

South County Senior Center  
220 Railroad Avenue  
Edmonds, WA 98020

Events:

**March 10th:**

**RON GARNER**

**Halibut Presentation**

**The Public is**

**Invited to Attend**

### Everett Steelhead & Salmon Club

Meeting Dates:

3rd Thursday of Each Month

2411 Hewitt Ave  
Everett, WA 98201

Events:

**Halibut Seminar, March 17, 7:00PM** at Everett Fireman's Hall, 2411 Hewitt, Everett.

Sponsored by Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club.

The public is invited.

### Everett Blackmouth Derby

March 19, 2011

## March

### Tackle Deals

**John's Sporting Goods**

**We Now have Lowrance Fish Finders and GPS**

**Penn Rod and Reel Halibut Combo \$149, Come with a Penn Senator 113H Reel This is a great Big Water combo**

**Halibut Rod and Reel Combo with Penn 309 Reel \$89, This is a great outfit if you are just fishing Puget Sound**

**Halibut Spears starting at \$35 with a stainless steel dart. These will arrive around March 10. This is the best deal I have found in a high quality spear**

**Jennings Pond Kids Fishing Derby May 7, 2011**

### Sponsors and Financial Donations Needed

This is the 20th year of the Marysville, Jennings Pond Kids fishing derby. John Martinis and the Everett Salmon Steelhead Club have purchased trout for this Derby for several years. The WDFW in years past has also given us trout for this derby. Because of the State budget shortfall, there will be no free trout from the WDFW. John Martinis and the Steelhead Club will both be donating several hundred dollars to this derby. John Martinis and the Marysville Kiwanis Club contribute all the prizes for this event.

From 300-500 children fish this derby every year. This is a great opportunity for children to be introduced to fishing. This event is free to all children 12 years old and younger.

**We urgently need cash donations to purchase more trout for this derby. Please contact John Martinis at John's Sporting Goods if you wish to make a contribution: 425-259-3056. 100% of your money will be used to purchase rainbow trout.**

**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