

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

October 2011

New Puget Sound Salmon Seasons

Area 5:

July 1-August 15: Daily Limit, two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release wild chinook, wild Coho and Chum.

See closure Area

August 16-Sept 18: Daily Limit, two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release Chinook, wild Coho and Chum

See closure Area

Sept 19-Sept 30: Daily limit two salmon, release chinook and chum

Nov. 1-Nov. 30: Daily limit two salmon, only one may be a chinook.

Feb. 16-April 10: Daily limit one salmon.

Area 6:

Selective Fishery Area

July 1-August 15: Daily Limit, two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release wild chinook, wild coho and chum.

See closures

Chinook Release Area

July 1-Aug 15: Daily limit two salmon plus two additional Pinks. Release Chinook, wild Coho and Chum

Entire Area

August 16-Sept 18: Daily Limit, two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release Chinook, wild Coho and Chum. See Closures

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Snohomish River Coho plus Maps
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Coho Derby Rap Sheet**

Seminar Wrap Up

Thanks to all of you who attended my Coho Seminar on Friday, September 23. I had 420 chairs set up and they were all full with people standing. You were a great crowd, very polite and quiet during the seminar. Thanks for taking some time the night before the derby to spend it with 420+ dedicated salmon anglers like yourself.

I did notice that the winning fish in the Coho Derby was caught on a flasher with a Green/White(glow) squid.

I believe that the next Seminar that I will be having will be March 2012 when the Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club will be having their Blackmouth Derby. My Seminar plans are: Blackmouth Seminar, Halibut Seminar, Shrimp Seminar and a Crab Seminar will be new in 2012.

Snohomish River October Coho

Many years the Coho in the Snohomish River refuse to bite on anything that is trolled, cast or jigged in front of them. Then there are years when the fishing is

darn right good. This is one of the darn right good years. The only thing that I can tell between good and bad years is how early the fish come into the river. This year Coho were being caught in the Snohomish by the middle of September. By the way; 1/3 of the Coho caught in the derby were caught in the rivers.

Let me break the Snohomish up into three segments: Lower River, that area between the Highway 2 Bridge and Rotary Park at Lowell. Middle River, from Rotary Park to the town of Snohomish. Upper River, from the town of Snohomish River to the forks.

I want to explain where to fish in each of the three segments of the river. The Snohomish is a big river so I will be leaving out quite a few good fishing holes but not purposely.

Lower Snohomish

This section of the river is mostly accessible by boat. There is a small amount of shore access right at Rotary Park ([see map click here](#)).

I recommend trolling in this section of the river. The trolling area is just above the Highway 2 Bridge. Start fishing from the "Newland Construction" building and upstream to the big bend in the river where Rotary Park begins ([see map click here](#)). You can troll pretty much right up the center of the river. The river is 10-15 feet deep in this area. If the tide is coming in hard, troll along the mini rips in the current lines. Trolling can be good both upstream and downstream. On all lures that you troll in this area of the river, you must attach a ½ ounce mooching sinker with a six foot leader attached between the sinker and the lure. I will explain the different rigs



Oct 1-Oct 31: Daily limit two salmon, only one chinook.. See closures

Feb. 16-April 30: Daily limit one salmon. See closures

Salmon Area 7:

July 1-July 31: Daily limit two salmon plus two additional Pinks, only one chinook. See boundaries and closures.

Aug. 1-Sept 30: Daily limit two salmon plus two additional Pinks, only one chinook. Release wild Coho. See boundaries and closures.

Oct. 1-Oct 31: Daily limit two salmon, only one chinook, release wild coho. See boundaries and closures.

Dec. 1-April 30: Daily limit two salmon, release wild chinook. See boundaries and closures.

Area 8-1:

Aug 1-Sept. 30: Daily limit two salmon plus two additional Pinks, release all chinook.

Oct. 1-Oct 31: Daily limit two salmon, release chinook.

Nov. 1-April 30: Daily limit two salmon, release wild chinook.

Area 8-2:

Aug 1-Sept. 30: Daily limit two salmon plus two additional Pinks, release all chinook. See closures

Oct. 1-Oct. 31: Daily limit two salmon, release all chinook. See closures

Nov. 1-April 30: Daily limit two salmon, release wild chinook.

Tulalip Terminal Fishery:

a little later.

Most any size boat can fish in this section of the river. The recommended boat launch is Langus Park (see map click here).

Middle Snohomish

This section of the river has a fair amount of shore access but it is best fished from a boat. If you are going to launch a boat at Rotary Park, check the tides before you do. If the tide is low you might not be able to put your boat in the water. If you put in at high tide and the tide goes out, you might not be able to get your boat out of the water. Not good.

The tide is an hour later in the Snohomish River than the Seattle tides. ([Click here for Seattle Tides](#))

The Middle Snohomish has been one of the better fresh water areas to fish Coho this season. I would fish approximately two miles upstream from Rotary Park. Here is a landmark: look for the large/high sand bank on you left hand side as you are going upstream. Just past this sand bank is a dock. Troll ½ mile either upstream or downstream from the sand bank.

The other area that I like is ½ mile in either direction of the Highway 9 Bridge near the town of Snohomish. ([see map of both areas click here](#))

Do not use any weight when you are trolling plugs in these two areas. Use a ½ ounce cannon ball drop sinker if you are trolling Dick Nite spoon in this area.

Upper Snohomish

This section of the river is dotted with so many places to fish from a boat and from the shoreline. The largest Public access

to the Snohomish River can be found at Bob Heirman Wildlife Preserve County Park. This park has a mile or more of good river access that is accessible by foot.

Driving Directions to Bob Heirman Wildlife Preserve

From Snohomish, drive south on SR9 approximately 2.5 miles to East Lowell-Larimer Road; turn left onto Broadway (131sr SE); turn left onto Connelly Road approximately ¾ miles to park entrance on the left ([see map click here](#)).

One of better trolling areas in the upper Snohomish River is just above where the Pilchuck River flows into the Snohomish River. I like to troll in the long straight stretch of the river, upstream from the Pilchuck River. The sides of the river are full of trees, old logs and debris, so troll in the middle of the river. Troll as far as the French Creek drainage gates on the left hand side of the river (approximately ¾ mile) and then troll back downstream to where you started ([see map click here](#)).

Unless you know your way around the upper Snohomish River quite well, I would not recommend a propeller driven boat in this area. The area around the Pilchuck River gets quite shallow at low tide. That's correct; the river is affected by the tide at least for another two miles or more upstream from the town of Snohomish.

Do not use any weight when you are trolling plugs in these two areas. Use a ½ ounce cannon ball drop sinker if you are trolling Dick Nite spoon in this area.

Fishing from Shore in the Snohomish River

There are three things to use when fishing from shore for Coho in the Snohomish River:



Tulalip Bubble: June 3-June 18, Open Friday through Monday Noon. Closed on June 19. Two salmon limit, plus two additional Pinks.

June 20-September 5, two salmon limit, plus two additional Pinks. Open Friday through Monday Noon.

September 10-25, open Saturday and Sunday, limit two salmon, plus two additional Pinks.

Closed June 19

Area 9:

July 16-Aug. 31: Daily limit two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release wild Chinook and Chum. See closures

Sept. 1-Sept 30: Daily limit two salmon, plus two additional Pinks.. Release Chinook and Chum.

Oct. 1-Oct 31: Daily limit two salmon, release chinook

Nov. 1-Nov 30: Daily limit two salmon, release wild chinook.

Jan. 16-April 15: Daily limit two salmon, release wild chinook.

Area 10:

June 1-June 30: Catch and release only. See closures

July 1-July 15: Daily limit two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release Chinook. See closures

July 16-Aug. 31: Daily limit two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release wild chinook. See closures

Sept. 1-Sept. 30: Daily limit two salmon, plus two additional Pinks. Release Chinook. See closures

Oct. 1-Jan. 31: Daily limit two salmon, release wild

#1 Dick Nite Spoons, 50/50 or chartreuse
#3 Vibrax Spinners, chartreuse
¼-3/8 ounce jigs, any combination of green or chartreuse

Rigging a Dick Nite spoon: Use a 3-5 foot leader, attach a #10 black barrel swivel. Above the swivel attach two large split shot

Rigging a #3 Vibrax spinner: Tie a #10 black snap swivel at the end of the fishing line and snap the spinner on. Do not attach any additional lead weight. Vibrax spinners must be rigged with a single hook to make them legal.

Rigging Jigs: If you have any humpy jigs with rubber squid tails, take the pink squid off and re-rig them with FG142R 2.0 Green/Glow squid ([click here to see squid](#)).

Rigging Note: All sinking lures used in the Snohomish River must have single hooks. Plugs that float can have treble hooks attached. This is my simple rule of thumb, "If it sinks it's single".

Yes, you can use barbed hooks in the Snohomish River.

Trolling in the Snohomish River

Rigging a Dick Nite spoon: rig a sliding cannon ball sinker with a ½ ounce lead. Tie a cannon ball sinker to a 12"-18" leader. Tie a #10 black barrel swivel to the other end of the leader. Slide the line from the fishing reel through the barrel swivel. Now slide on three #6 red beads. Now tie a #10 barrel swivel to the end of the line. Now tie a six foot leader from the other end of the barrel swivel to a #1 Dick Nite spoon. ([Click here to see Dick Nite Spoons](#))

Rigging Plugs: There are two ways to rig plugs depending where you are fishing. In the lower Snohomish, tie a ½ ounce mooching sinker to the end of the

fishing line. To the other end of the mooching sinker, tie a six foot leader to the sinker and to the other end attach a plug.

In the Middle and Upper Snohomish River, tie a swivel to the end of the fishing line. Tie on a six foot leader. Tie a Storm Wiggle Wart plug to the end of the leader. Do not use any lead.

Recommended Plugs:

Storm Wiggle Wart Fire Tiger #V74
Storm Wiggle Wart Red Herring Bone #V90

Storm Wiggle Wart Metallic Purple/Purple Herring Bone #V175

Rigging Vibrax Spinners: In the lower Snohomish, tie a ½ ounce mooching sinker to the end of the fishing line. To the other end of the mooching sinker, tie a six foot leader to the sinker and to the other end attach a Vibrax Spinner.

See color chart of some of the River Coho lures, [click here](#)

Smoke Salmon

Fettuccini

By Anne Martinis

This recipe is a solid 10! You will love it. You have fished hard all summer. This dish is one of the most appreciated dinners in our family. Invite some friends or family over and enjoy your summer salmon catch with all of them.

Smoked Salmon Fettuccini Makes 4 Servings

6-8 oz. Smoked Salmon (flaked)
2 clove garlic
½ cup butter
¾ cup heavy cream
½ cup fresh grated Parmesan cheese
½ t pepper
6 oz. or half a box of Barilla Fettuccini
Sauté garlic in butter. Blend in Salmon,



chinook. See closures

Elliot Bay Fishery:

Aug. 19-Aug 28: Open Friday through Sunday only. Daily limit two salmon, release Chinook and Chum, plus two additional Pinks. Fishing with bait prohibited. Other restrictions apply. See closures.

Puget Sound Crab Areas 8-13

**Will Open at 7:00 a.m.
July 1, 2011.**

Will be open Thursday through Monday only through September 5, 2011. Any additional opening dates will be announced in October. Refer to Shellfish Rule Change toll free Hotline, (866) 880-5431

cream, cheese and pepper. Cook only about 2 minutes on medium heat to insure flavors blend but not boil. Add to Fettuccini, toss and serve immediately. Substitute Crab and ½ t salt instead of Salmon for another excellent dinner.

Scotty Downrigger Maintenance Tip

One of the most expensive repairs that we do to a Scotty Downrigger is a replacement of the motor from water damage. This is not covered by the warranty. When we replace the motor, in most circumstances we have to replace the relay and the circuit breaker. Cost: \$139 parts and labor.

How does the water get in the motor casing and/or junction box? Most likely from the hole from where the motor shaft goes through the case of the downrigger. In all my years of repairing downriggers, I have not seen a downrigger (Penn, Scotty, Cannon) yet that is absolutely 100% waterproof. They all can get moister in the housing.

My first recommendation is to wash them with a fine mist with not too much water pressure.

My second recommendation is to open up the motor housing once a year and dry the housing/junction box out. This is problem with the older downriggers where the motor housing is a separate compartment form the electrical junction box. I would not attempt opening the motor housing on the older downriggers unless you really know what you are doing.

The newer downriggers house the motor and all the electrical in one box. These are very easy to open and to dry out.

If you want us to open up the junction

box on your downrigger to dry it out or just to inspect it for moisture we can do that for \$24.95 plus parts. On the older Scotty downriggers (two belt models) we will not open the motor housing unless there is substantial water/rusting in the electrical junction box.

Results of the Eighteenth Everett Coho Salmon Derby

The eighteenth annual Coho Salmon Derby was held on September 24-25 2011. This annual derby is a joint operation by the Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club, the Snohomish Sportsmen's Club and NSIA (Northwest Sports Fishing Industry Association). There were 497 salmon weighed in on Saturday and 176 fish on Sunday for a total of 673 salmon. Some of the fish weighed on Sunday were "upgrades" for the Saturday fish.

Among the 1700 plus adult ticket holders there were seven fish over 15 pounds and 109 over ten pounds. The winners of the adult cash prizes were:

1st place and \$3000 was Mike Fure with a 16.55 pound coho caught in area 8.2 on a green flasher/green squid combination. 2nd place and \$2000 went to Terry Metzger with a 15.70 pound coho caught in area 9 on a Silver Hoard flasher/squid combination.

3rd place and \$1500 went to Mike Brower with a 15.60 pound coho caught in area 10 also on a Silver Hoard flasher/squid combination.

4th place and \$1000 went to Adam Davis with a 15.53 pound coho in the Snohomish River using a Dick Nite Spoon.

Just Fishing



5th place and \$750 went to Peter Kline with a 15.20 pound coho in the Snohomish River using a Dick Nite Spoon.

6th place and \$500 went to Nelson Goodsell with a 15.13 pound coho in area 8.2 using a Silver Hoard Spoon.

Of the top 30 fish weighed in by adults, nine were caught in the Snohomish River, one came from the Skagit River and twenty came from the salt water.

There were 168 youth tickets (12 years and younger) given away and of those, there were 47 fish weighed in. The top five youth fish were:

1st place and \$100, Hunter Steltz who caught his 13.02 pound coho in the Snohomish River.

2nd place and \$75 went to Braydon Pittwood who also caught his 11.98 pound coho in the Snohomish River.

3rd place and \$50 went to Kathryn Holland with a 10.49 pound coho caught in the Snohomish River.

4th place and a merchandise prize went to James Trainer with a 10.37 pound coho caught in area 9.

5th place and a merchandise prize went to Amanda Davis with a 10.34 pound coho caught in the Stillaguamish River.

[Click here for total adult results](#)

The weather on Saturday was cooperative but Sunday, with the rain and strong winds, many of the boats did not make it onto the water.

The Northwest Marine Trade Association held its eighth drawing for a boat/motor/trailer package given

to participants in sixteen fishing derbies throughout the state. The winning ticket drawn was for Randy Aden who fished in the Hoods Canal Derby.

The Everett Coho Salmon Derby also had a boat/motor/trailer package dedicated to this derby and the winning name drawn was Jennifer Brager who was present with her husband and two children and proudly took custody of her prize.

The Everett Coho Salmon Derby would like to thank all of our sponsors and supporters and look forward to next year's derby. We hope to see all of you there.

Changes in Reel Repair

My long time employee and reel repair person Mohamed is taking over the reel repair business from John's Sporting Goods. Mohamed will be doing all the reels at his residence. You can still drop your reels off at John's Sporting Goods and Mohamed will pick the reels up and deliver them back to the store.

If you are mailing your reels in, mail your reels directly to:

Mohamed Jappie
1714 18th Street #B
Everett, WA 98201
425-259-1811

All downrigger repairs and Scotty downrigger warranty repairs will still be done at John's Sporting Goods.

John's Sporting Goods will still be selling reel and downrigger parts for Penn, Shimano, and Garcia.

River Level Links

This time of year is when the rain starts. With the rain comes rising rivers if it rains excessively. I always check this link if it has been raining so that I can see if the river levels are rising:

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/WA/nwis/current/?type=flow>

I like to check this link to the Skykomish River to judge what the Snohomish River might be doing. I don't check the Snohomish link because it has tidal influence.

**12134500 SKYKOMISH RIVER
NEAR GOLD BAR, WA**



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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

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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.