

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

April 2013

How To Videos

by John Martinis

New Pink Salmon Video
[Click Here](#)

Shrimp Pot Rigging
[Click Here](#)

Halibut Rigging
[Click Here](#)

Ling Cod Fishing
[Click Here](#)

Chinook Fishing
[Click Here](#)

John's Videos
[Click Here](#)

Seminars 2013

by John Martinis

Halibut Seminar

April 18, 2013 @ 7PM

At the Everett Steelhead &
Salmon Club General Meeting

[Directions Click Here](#)

Dungeness Crab Seminar

June 20, 2013 @7PM

At the Everett Steelhead &
Salmon Club General Meeting

The Public is invited to all my
seminars and the seminars are free

2013 You Made a Difference

A big Thanks to everyone who donated
to the Jennings Park Kids Fishing Derby
and the Everett Lions Club Blind Derby.

We raised \$700 for Jennings, not
including my matching dollars. We
raised \$1700 for the Blind Derby, not
including my matching dollars.

These Derbies are not a success without
all of us. We all sacrificed to make a
difference for someone else. None of
these people are as fortunate as all of you
who made a donation. Your generosity
will put a smile on a young child or a
person who cannot see the end of a
fishing rod. Thank you so very much!

I will keep you informed as we approach
these events. I know many of you are
willing to volunteer your time.

Web Site Update

The John's Sporting Goods web site will
have a new look sometime between
April 7-12. Some of the links that you
have been using for Maps, Newsletters
and other useful information will
change. You will have to reset your
links after the changes have been made.
I believe that you will find my site easier
to use. The new site will be optimized so
that you can use my site on your PC as
well as any portable device including a
cell phone. The menus will appear in the
same place except for the Newsletter
index. The Newsletter index, where all
the Newsletters are stored, will be on the
link bar. Current information such as
"Deal of the Day" and "Big Fish
Thursday", will be at the bottom of the
page in Blog Boxes. The new format is a
cleaner smaller format that requires very
little scrolling. I hope you like it!

Spot Shrimp Puget Sound

Spot Shrimp Season

Areas 8-1, 8-2, 9, 10 and 11

May 4 and May 8, 7AM to 3PM

Additional dates and times will be
announced if sufficient quota remains
after the initial fishing days scheduled
above.

Spot Shrimp Rules, [Click Here](#)
Spot Shrimp Gear Rules, [Click Here](#)

If you are new to any fishing, crabbing or
shrimping in Puget Sound, it can be
intimidating at first. First there is the
cost of getting geared up to participate in
what Puget Sound has to offer. Besides



New Puget Sound Salmon Seasons 2013

Area 5: Feb. 16-Apr. 10
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species - no
min. size. Daily limit 1.

Area 6: Dec. 1-Apr. 10
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species - no
min. size. Daily limit 2.
Release wild CHINOOK.

Area 7: Dec. 1-Apr. 30
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species - no
min. size. Daily limit 2
(combined). Release wild
Chinook. See Bellingham Bay
Closure and Fishery.

Area 8-1: Nov. 1-Apr. 30
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species - no
min. size. Daily limit 2
(combined). Release wild
CHINOOK.

Area 8-2: Nov. 1-Apr. 30
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species - no
min. size. Daily limit 2
(combined). Release wild
CHINOOK.

Area 9: Nov. 1-Nov. 30
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species - no
min. size. Daily limit 2
(combined). Release wild
CHINOOK.

Jan. 16-Apr. 15 CHINOOK -
min. size 22". Other SALMON
species - no min. size. Daily

the cost, venturing out onto the Sound and discovering the all the places to go can be mind boggling. Puget Sound is a big place! I hope that you have taken advantage of all the maps, videos and other "How To" resources that are stored on my web site. If you have, then the learning curve is bent in your favor and you have discovered the huge library of maps and newsletters that I have provided to all of you over a long period of time. If you are looking for a place to go shrimping, go to my site and search "Puget Sound Shrimp". Or simply go to "Map Downloads" and scroll through the maps.

Spot Shrimp are widely distributed throughout Puget Sound. Some of the best areas to gather Spot Shrimp are near the major metropolitan areas. This makes shrimping very popular and easy to get. If you live in the Seattle area, Spot Shrimp are right at your door step. Elliot Bay is one of the very best areas in Puget Sound to set a pot for spot shrimp. You can set a shrimp pot on either side of the ferry lanes in 250-300 feet of water and have no problem catching your 80 Spot Shrimp limit. I know this sounds silly reminding you not to set your shrimp pot in the ferry lane, but, just don't do it. [Click Here for Elliot Bay Shrimp Map.](#)

If you live closer to the Everett/Edmonds area, there are plenty of places to set your shrimp pots: Possession Bar, Browns Bay and the east end of Hat Island. No ferries to worry about in these areas. Just toss your shrimp pots in 250-300 feet of water and hang out with 500 of your best friends. Yes, it is a little crowded in the good shrimping areas, but with a little luck you will have your 80 shrimp in a couple of hours and you will be back to work by noon.

Soak your pots for 45 minutes and never leave them un-gaurded. The very best part of the tide for shrimping is an hour before any tide change.

Maps

Possession Bar Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)
Browns Bay Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)
Camano Island Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)
Camano Head Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)
Elliot Bay Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)

If you live on Whidbey Island or Camano Island and you don't want to get near us folks who live in the I-5 corridor, Saratoga Passage has plenty of shrimp. It is still a very busy area on opening day of Spot Shrimp, but not near as bad as Browns Bay (my favorite). The same depth rule works in Saratoga as everywhere else, 250-300 feet are good depths.

Setting up a Shrimp Pot

Let me start off by telling you what I tell everyone who is new to shrimping, "If you are planning on cutting corners while setting up your shrimp pot. Don't Go." Setting up a shrimp pot is something that has to be done right or else you will not catch any shrimp. I am confident that if you follow my instructions and maps, you should catch your limit of shrimp every time you go shrimping.

The first and most important rule for setting up a shrimp pot is that the shrimp pot must weigh 30lbs. Most pots weigh less than that right out of the box, so you must add weight to the pot. There are two important reasons behind a 30lb pound shrimp pot: 1) The pot must be sitting perfectly still while it is on the bottom of Puget Sound. If it rocks any at all from the rope pulling on the pot, shrimp will not go in your shrimp pot. The shrimp that have entered your shrimp pot will leave the pot if it is disturbed. 2) If your shrimp pot weighs less than 30lbs, there is a good chance that it will drift away from the water current pulling on the rope. If your shrimp pot drifts, you may lose your shrimp pot. You definitely will not catch



limit 2 (combined). Release wild CHINOOK.

Area 10: Oct. 1-Jan. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release wild CHINOOK. See Agate Pass Area on previous page. See Duwamish Waterways

Area 11: Nov. 1-Dec. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained.

Feb. 1-Apr. 30 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2. Release wild CHINOOK.

Area 12: Oct. 16-Dec. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 4 (combined). Only 2 CHINOOK may be retained. Release wild CHINOOK.

Feb. 1-Apr. 30 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2. Release wild CHINOOK.

Check the Reg's for more information, [Click Here](#) for a complete set of the saltwater rules

any shrimp if your pot is drifting away. Shrimping is a lot of work; the season is short, so make every pot set count.

Use plenty of rope. 400 feet of leaded rope will usually do. Setting a shrimp pot is quite different than setting a crab pot. You can't let the pot out with only a few feet of rope to spare. Shrimp reside in very steep terrain. If you miscalculate the depth, you could easily lose your shrimp pot. Plan on having 50 feet of rope to spare when letting out a shrimp pot.

One of the most important and most overlooked aspect of setting up a shrimp pot is having enough flotation. Plan on having buoys and more buoys. Don't go cheap when it comes to the buoys that protect your \$250 investment. The buoys will not help you catch more shrimp. But, they will surely guarantee you that your rope will never pull your buoys under water if you have enough flotation. How much is enough? You should have enough flotation to float your shrimp pot. If you do, you should never lose a shrimp pot. Having enough flotation serves two purposes: 1) So that your buoys do not get pulled under water while the tide is running. 2) To float the pot if it slips off the edge and into deeper water than you have rope.

Take a look at my shrimp to set-up diagram, [Click Here](#). Also take a look at my video on setting up a shrimp pot, [Click Here](#).

One last piece of advice on setting up a shrimp pot: Assemble everything in modules for ease of storing after you are finished shrimping.

Shrimp Pots

Round, rectangular, eight sided, McKay, Ladner. Hmmm, seems like not

everyone can agree on which shrimp pot style best. So, I will settle it once and for all. The limit is only 80 Spot Shrimp. When the limit is only 80 shrimp, the bait mixture is much more important than the style of the pot.

I do like the pots with the maximum allowed opening. I believe the easier that you make it for the shrimp to get in the pot, the more effective the pot will be. My own personal shrimp pots are the round SMI 19001 pots. These pots are very durable and they have a large bait container. Plan on spending \$69-\$99 for one of the better shrimp pots. I have the round SMI 19001 pots on sale for \$69. If you wanted to mix it up a bit, I would get one of the Kufa Ladner style medium size pots and one of the SMI 19001 Round shrimp pots. They are both great shrimp pots. [Click Here](#) to see shrimp pots.

Spot Shrimp San Juan Islands

Fishing for Spot Shrimp in the San Juan Islands is not the same as Puget Sound. If you are headed to the Islands for shrimp, you must look at the tides before you go. There are two major factors involved before setting your pots: 1) How big is the tide 2) When is slack tide. If you disregard my warnings, you will lose your shrimp pots!

When there is more than six feet of tidal movement between the tides, you can only set your shrimp pots out one hour before slack tide. I am sure that there are some areas that my rule does not apply, but don't take a chance on losing your gear. Losing a complete shrimp pot set-up is not like losing a flasher and squid. When you lose a shrimp pot set-up you are throwing \$250 out the window. You will find that the best shrimping in the San Juan's is when the tide is not moving very much. I have found that the best

Just Fishing



shrimping is an hour before high tide.

I would highly recommend using 1.5lb folding anchor snapped on to the bottom of your shrimp pot when you are shrimping in the San Juan's The anchor will keep the pot in one place. This is extra insurance so that the shrimp pot does not drift away.

One of the very best areas to catch shrimp in the San Juan's is near Iceberg Point and in front of the southern end of Lopez Island. Shrimp in this area in 250 feet of water. You must watch the tides very closely if you are shrimping in this area. You can only set your shrimp pots here when there is little tidal movement. This is a great spot to catch shrimp, but a lot of pots are lost here because people think that they can set their pot out here without looking at their tide book. This area is as close as you can get to a guaranteed limit of Spot Shrimp. [Click Here](#) for Map.

San Juan Islands Shrimping Maps

Lopez Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)
Park Bay Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)
McArthur Bank Shrimp Map [Click Here](#)

See WDFW Recreational Shrimp Page to see Area 7 shrimp seasons. Area 7 now is broken into three sub-Areas for shrimp. [Click Here](#)

The Cost to Catch Shrimp

Shrimp Pot \$59-\$99
Heavy Duty Pot Harness \$13.95
400 feet Leaded Rope \$49.95
1.5lb Folding Anchor \$9.95
Medium Yellow Buoys \$7.95
Large Yellow Buoys \$12.95
Inflatable Buoy \$17.95
Bucket of Pellets \$19.95 -\$22.50

Bait Oil \$18.95 - \$25.50
Mackerel \$2.95/can
Friskies Cat food .85/can

Save money by using the John's Sporting Goods 20% off coupon in this Newsletter. [Click Here](#) to see shrimp pot accessories.

Shrimp Bait Formula

Items needed:

Friskies Ocean White Fish w/ Tuna
canned cat food
Bumble Bee canned Mackerel
Super Bait Prawn Bait pellets or
Copper River Prawn Pellets
Pro Cure Shrimp Attractant Oil or
Copper River Prawn Oil
6" bait barrel

The idea of mixing all these ingredients together is to set up a scent trail to attract shrimp to your shrimp pot. Once the shrimp are near your pot, there is a good chance that they will want to enter the pot and feed on the Mackerel and pellets. The cat food and the Ace of Baits shrimp oil or Pro Cure 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. You can see the purpose of the different ingredients.

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

My recommendation per pot:

- 1) Put 3 cups of Super Bait shrimp bait pellets in a zip lock bag and add 1 cup of Pro Cure shrimp Attractant Oil in the zip lock bag. Soak the pellets from 1-12 hours before shrimping.
- 2) After the pellets soak for 1-12 hours, put the pellets in the 6" bait barrel. Hang the bait barrel from the inside of the shrimp pot.
- 3) Poke holes in one can of Mackerel and insert the can in the center bait compartment in the shrimp pot.
- 4) Poke holes in 2 cans of Friskies Ocean White Fish w/ Tuna and insert the cans in the center bait compartment in the shrimp pot
- 5) Let the shrimp pot over board and soak the pot for 45-60 minutes.

Each time you let the shrimp pot out and retrieve it, you need to replace the canned cat food. It pretty much washes out of the cans fairly fast. The pellets will last all day and the canned Mackerel will last most of the day. The cat food is the only item that needs frequent replacing.

I have recommended this concoction to many shrimp anglers and they find that it works quite well. Some anglers will just use the pellets; other anglers will use only the canned Mackerel. Use it all to set up that good scent trail. Setting up an immediate scent trail is essential for good shrimping.

2013 Fishing Shellfish Licenses

You need a new fishing or shellfish license as of April 1, 2013

The new Recreational regulation books will not be out until the last week in April.

Go to the WDFW web site for any current regulation changes.

Shrimp sport fishery opens May 4 in Puget Sound with longer seasons

OLYMPIA – Recreational shrimp fishers will get more days to fish and a larger share of the catch in areas of Puget Sound under fishing seasons announced today by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

This year's sport fishery for spot shrimp, set to begin May 4, is expected to run from one day to several weeks longer in various areas of the Sound, due to policy changes recently adopted by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Under the state's updated policy, 70 percent of the non-tribal spot shrimp harvest is now allocated to the sport fishery, said Rich Childers, WDFW shellfish manager. In past years, the non-tribal harvest was divided approximately evenly between recreational and commercial fisheries.

"Recreational shrimp fishers will see a real difference in the length of this year's seasons, particularly in the San Juan Islands and the Strait of Juan de Fuca," Childers said. "Sport fisheries in other areas are also likely to pick up some extra fishing days under the updated policy."

Spot shrimp, also known as prawns, are the largest shrimp in Puget Sound and may grow to nine inches in length. In all areas of Puget Sound, fishers are limited to 80 spot shrimp per day and a valid 2013-14 fishing license is required to participate in the fishery.

In the San Juan Islands, the recent change in the state's spot shrimp policy will increase the sport fishery's share of the catch from 15 percent to 80 percent. To accommodate that change, WDFW split Marine Area 7-North into two subareas – 7 West and 7 South – each with its own season.

Under the higher sport quota, Childers said the new Marine Area 7-West could be open for more than a month this year, up from six days of fishing in those waters last year. The spot shrimp fishery in Marine Areas 7 East and 7 South, also open six days last year, is expected to run 13 days during the 2013 season, he said.

A map of the new subareas is available on WDFW's Recreational Shrimp Fishing webpage (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/shellfish/shrimp/12/>) and will be published in the 2013 Spot Fishing Rule pamphlet available in late April.

The shrimp season in Marine Area 6 in the Strait of Juan de Fuca is also expected to expand by several weeks under the new allocation policy, which increased the sport fishery's share of the catch in those waters from 15 percent to 22 percent this year.

The sport fishery in Hood Canal has received 100 percent of the state shrimp allocation in previous years, so it is not affected by the change in the commission's policy, Childers said. However, sport shrimpers will have five days to fish – up from four days last year – because stock trends have been healthy in recent years, he said.

Childers said the new policy does increase sport fishing allocations in other areas of central Puget Sound, but WDFW will determine whether that will translate into additional fishing days during the course of the season.

"The question is whether the higher catch shares will be enough to add a third day of fishing in those areas," he said. "We'll be watching the catch totals during the season and will make that decision on an area-by-area basis."

Puget Sound recreational shrimp season opening days are:

Hood Canal Shrimp District (Marine Area 12): Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 4, 8, 15, 18 and 22.

Discovery Bay Shrimp District (Marine Area 6): Open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on May 4, 8, 15, 18 and 22.

Marine Areas 4 (east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line), 5, 6 and 13 (excluding Discovery Bay Shrimp District): Open daily beginning May 4 at 7 a.m. The spot shrimp season closes when the quota is attained or Sept. 15, whichever comes first. The exception is Marine Area 13, which closes for spot shrimp May 31.

Marine Area 7 East and South: Open May 4 at 7 a.m. for a one-day fishery and will reopen May 8-11, May 15-18, May 29 – June 1.

Marine Area 7 West: Open May 4 at 7 a.m., open Wednesday through Saturday each week until June 1. After June 1 the area will be open Thursday through Saturday each week until the quota is reached or Sept. 15, whichever comes first.

Marine Areas 8-1, 8-2, 9, 10 and 11: Open May 4 and May 8 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Additional dates and times will be announced if sufficient quota remains after the initial fishing days scheduled above.

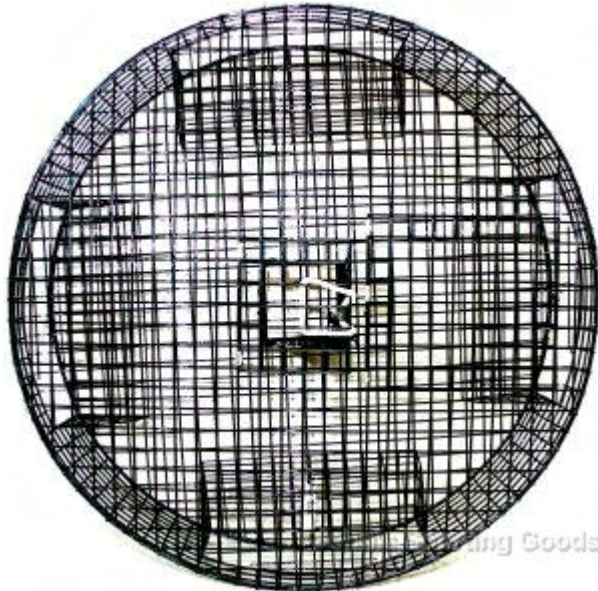
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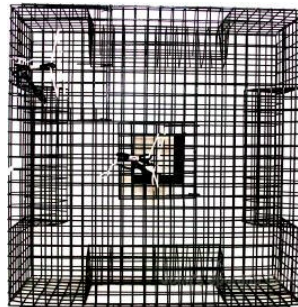
Tackle For The Serious Angler

Shrimp Pot Sale April 1-30

Must have this Sale Flyer with you to get these prices



SMI 19001 Sale Price \$69.50
John's #1 Selling Shrimp Pot
Reg. Price \$89.50



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



Ladner Style Shrimp Pot
Medium Size \$75
Large Size \$89
Reg. Price \$89-\$119



SMI 11"X5"
Yellow Buoys
3 Buoys \$9.95
Reg. Price \$23.85

Check Out Dimensions and Weights of these Shrimp Pots: [Click Here](#)

John's Sporting Goods

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Everett, WA 98201

20% Discount on your next in store purchase

Items that are excluded: Downriggers, Ace Line Hauler, Shimano Products, G Loomis, St. Croix, Electronics, CTO3R Crab Pot, Braided Line, items that are discounted, on sale, repairs, parts and closeout items. Cannot be used in combination with discounted gift certificates.

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Expires April 30, 2013

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
\$49.95**

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
\$585**

**Standard Scotty 1106
\$473**

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