

# Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

May 2013

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## Halibut Tackle

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## John's Videos

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## Seminars 2013

by John Martinis

### Shrimping Seminar

May 2, 2013

At John's Sporting Goods

5:30PM

### Dungeness Crab Seminar

June 20, 2013

At the Everett Steelhead &  
Salmon Club General Meeting  
7PM

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

## Jennings Park Kids Fishing Derby May 4 , 2013

Bring your children 12 years and younger to the Jennings Pond Trout Fishing Derby. This event is totally free to the public. I am having the pond stocked with enough Rainbow Trout to assure that each child will catch a fish. If you do not have any fishing, tackle and bait will be provided. Directions to [Jennings Park](#). There will also be a pancake breakfast by the Marysville Kiwanis Club. The Fishing derby is sponsored by John's Sporting Goods, Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club, Marysville Kiwanis Club and Marysville Parks and Recreation.

## Halibut Opens May 2 Puget Sound/San Juan's

Go to this link for Halibut fishing days:

[WDFW Halibut](#)

Why do we spend so much time, money and energy on a fish that we only catch about once every three trips out onto the water? Answer: The adrenalin of a fish that is big enough to spear and gaff to get it over the side of the boat is quite the rush! The fun factor of Halibut fishing is real high. When fishing Puget Sound or the San Juan Islands for Halibut, there is no need for sophisticated fishing tackle or an assortment of different size baits and lures. The fish are big and the fishing is really pretty simple.

Before we start talking about where to go and how to fish, let's explore what is needed for gear for one day of fishing:

[Spreader Bar](#)

[White 7" Pline Squid](#)

[10/0 Hooks](#)

[50lb Leader](#)

[Miracle Thread](#)

[16-24oz lead weights](#)

[Herring 7"-8"](#)

[Reel w/300yds of 65lb Braided line](#)

[Rod rated at least 30-50lb](#)

[Harpoon](#)

[Gaff](#)

[Halibut Rigging](#)

[Halibut Rigging Video](#)

Other colors of 7" squid will work just fine, if you stick with white, there will be no need to have a greater selection of colors. These critters are not like salmon, they are not sensitive to colors



## 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  
limit 2 (combined). Release

on different days of the week. Halibut are just an eating machine, consuming most anything that comes their way.

Rigging from the rod to the squid: At the end of the 65lb fishing line that is on the fishing reel, tie a swivel that is rated at 100lb or more. American made [Rosco Swivels](#) all have a rating on the package. The knot I like to use to tie the braided line to the swivel is, "[John's Spectra Knot](#)". On the other end of the swivel tie an 18" piece of 50lb leader material. The reason this is tied to the swivel is so that the braided line does not hit the bottom. Braided line does not have enough abrasion resistance to be pounding on the bottom. If you fail to tie in this piece of 50lb, the line will part. That would not be good if you got a Halibut on the line. At the end of the 50lb, tie the 50lb directly to the spreader or you can tie a 100lb snap swivel to the end of the 50lb. If you use a snap swivel, do not use the \$1.50/pkg snap swivels. You are going to spend a lot of money on gas to go Halibut fishing, don't be cheap on one of the important items that might make a difference on whether or not your Halibut comes in the boat or goes back to the bottom.

Rigging the leader: If you are going to tie your own leaders, tie two [Gamakatsu 10/0 Hooks](#) on a 50lb leader. Tie the leaders at least 25"-30" long, so that when you tie the leader to the spreader bar it will be 18"-24" long. Before you tie the leader to the spreader bar, slip a #6 Corky or a large bead down the leader until it rests against the hook. Now, thread the leader through the 7" squid and slip the squid down the leader until the #6 Corky slips inside the squid. Tie the leader to the spreader bar.

If you do not want to tie your own leaders, I have tied 10/0 Halibut hooks at the store

Rigging the spreader bar: The weight snaps on the end of the short end of the spreader bar. The leader gets tied onto

the long arm of the spreader bar. Some Halibut anglers prefer using Tuna Cord for a spreader. The only reason why I don't recommend the Tuna Cord method for Puget Sound: because the hooks pick up too much debris from the bottom. The Tuna Cord method works quite well in the ocean where there is hardly any debris on the bottom. I keep reminding myself that I catch a Halibut every three trips out, so I don't like to make too many rigging errors when I am fishing Halibut. I want everything to go right when my chances are only 33% of bringing a fish home.

Bait is an essential part of fishing for Halibut. Hopefully you looked at my [Halibut Video](#) by the time you got to this point. Ok, one more chance: Halibut Video. I like to tie a Herring onto the leader and hooks with Miracle Thread. First run the top hook through the lower jaw of the Herring and through the top of the head. Lay the back hook along the side of the Herring, but not in the Herring. Start wrapping the Miracle Thread around the tail of the Herring and wrap forward until you get to the top hook. Now start wrapping the thread back to the tail. Make a couple of half hitches' to tie off the thread. The Herring is now securely tied to the leader. This is a great way to keep the Herring on the leader and a great way to economize on bait. The most important reason to tie the Herring onto the hooks is to make sure the bait stays on the hooks when a hungry Halibut want to takes a swipe at your bait. If you happen to strike at a Halibut and don't get the hooks in the fish, you stand a very good chance of the Halibut coming back a second time. There are very few instances when a Halibut takes your bait and then leaves. However, if he gets a free meal because you lose your bait, kiss Mr. Halibut goodbye for good. Tie your bait on!

You've been fishing for six hours, your arms are tired, the one pound weight feels like it is 50lbs, you feel a tug on the other



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**

end of the line. Do not overreact. You have plenty of time to hook up. Immediately drop the tip of the rod to the water. That's counterintuitive, eh? If you give a Halibut the chance to swallow the bait, he will. When you drop the rod tip down to the water, the bait will slide right down his throat. When the rod tip is thumping, pull back hard three times. Now you are hooked up. You will hook up every time if you do this. Better to hook the fish in the throat than in the lips.

Reel slowly and keep a deep bend in the rod. The Halibut will come straight up if you don't try to horse him in.

Now, you have the fish at the boat. This is where team work counts. Everything has to happen as if you rehearsed this many times. Do not give the fish any slack. If you do, he will go right back to where he came from. Don't pull his head out of the water. If you do, he will go right back to the bottom. As soon as the fish gets near the surface, harpoon the fish in the middle of the fish. You will not ruin any meat by doing this. This is no different than a knife going through the fish. Pull the fish back to the boat with the rope that is tied to spear tip. Gaff the fish by inserting the gaff through the inside of the mouth and through the lower jaw. Take your fillet knife and insert it in the gills. Rake the knife against the gills. The Halibut will die immediately. Let the fish bleed. Bring the fish onboard. If the fish does not fit in your cooler, put a wet towel on top of him.

**Rigging a Harpoon:** Tie a 20' piece of 1/8" nylon cord to a heavy duty snap. Do not use parachute cord. Put the snap to the loop that is on the end of the wire that is attached to the spear tip. Tie the cord to a cleat on your boat. Some Halibut anglers tie a buoy on the end of the cord and throw the buoy overboard after they spear the fish. I prefer getting the fish into the boat as soon as possible so that I can get back to fishing. When the bite is

on, I like to get back to fishing as fast as I can.

## Places to fish for Halibut in

### Puget Sound:

Mutiny Bay  
Admiralty Bay

### Places to fish for Halibut in the San Juan Islands Areas 6& 7:

Partridge Bank  
Eastern Bank  
Hein Bank  
Dallas Bank

## Ling Cod Opens May 1 Puget Sound San Juan's

Go to this link for Ling Cods season by Marine Area: [WDFW Marine Rules](#)

I will be fishing the morning of May 1, for Ling Cod on Possession Bar. This trip is my most favorite of the year. I will be using two methods to catch Lings on opening day: 1) Live Sand Sole. 2) 4" Twin tail motor oil scampi tails on 2 ounce and 3 ounce lead heads.

First lets address fishing with live Sand Sole. Sand Sole have to be caught by you before you go Ling Cod fishing. Plan on spending 1.5 hours to catch enough Sand Sole to go fishing for the day. You need at least four Sole per angler. You also need to keep them alive in a live well or in a bucket of water with a small battery operated air pump. I have the air pumps at the store and they are inexpensive.

You can catch Sand Sole on the East Side of Hat Island in 100 feet of water. To catch Sole, you can tie your own rigs with a couple of #6 worm hooks and 4-6oz of lead. You can also use a herring jig. In either case, bait the hooks with a small



# Just Fishing



amount of squid. Let the rig to the bottom and hold the rod steady. If you get a bite, do not jerk, wait until another Sole gets on the other hook(s). Once you have a few Sole in the bucket, head for Possession Bar and go fishing for Ling Cod.

**Rigging live Sand Sole** is quite easy: Rig a 3-way swivel with a dropper line to a 4-6oz cannon ball weight. Rig the leader to one of the eyes of the swivel. The leader should be tie 24"-30" long and tied with 5/0-6/0 hooks. Preferably Gamakatsu octopus hooks.

Fishing with live bait is as simple as fishing gets. Let the bait to the bottom and hold the rod steady. No Jigging motion! When a Ling Cod picks up the bait, let the rod tip get a deep bend. Start reeling the Ling in slowly without setting the hook. The Ling will hang on to the bait if you reel slow and steady. Net the Ling immediately as it approaches the surface. Do not let the Ling break the surface of the water because it will let go of the bait.

Fishing with jigs for Ling Cod is completely different than fishing with live bait. Let's first deal with rigging jigs.

Whenever I am fishing for Ling Cod with jigs, I like to use as light as jigs as possible. I prefer using **4" twin tail scampi plastic baits** with 2-3oz jig heads. That works quite well most of the time as long as tide isn't ripping and the wind isn't blowing too much.

If the wind is blowing or the tide is moving fast, in this instance, I go to 4oz jig heads and move up to a 6" scampi tail.

If you are using **braided line** (30lb), tie a small black barrel swivel to the end of the line. Tie an 18"-24" piece of 20lb

monofilament leader material to the other end of the barrel swivel. Tie the jig to the end of the 20lb. Don't tie the jig to the end of the braided line because it will break off in short time from pounding on the bottom. As tempting as it might be, do not use a snap swivel to snap the jig to the mono. Tie it on!

Whenever I am using plastic baits for Ling Cod, I always use a salted strip of Herring with the jig. Here's how to do it: Take a 6" Herring and fillet the sides off. Lay the fillets in a small tub and cover them with rock salt. Do these the night before you go fishing and the fillets will be ready for you in the morning.

Take a fillet of Herring and put it on the jig hook with your scampi tail. This will add some natural scent to the jig.

When you are jigging for Ling Cod, you really aren't jigging if you are fishing properly. Swim the jig as if it were a small fish swimming parallel to the bottom. Make the scampi tail jig look natural. If you think about it, "there isn't any small fish swimming around that leaps off the bottom 3'-5' and then plunges back to the bottom. Any respectable Ling Cod would never take a jig hopping around like that." Swim the jig. Move the rod no more than 6" in any direction. Do it slowly and softly. This will steadily draw strikes from a hungry Ling looking for an easy meal.

[Possession Bar Ling Cod Map](#)  
[Live Bait for Ling Cod Video](#)

## Lake Chelan Kokanee

Lake Chelan Kokanee fishing was on my bucket list of thing to do this year. I am glad I picked this year because the

fish are much larger than they normally are in Chelan. I was surprised catching Kokanee out of the Lake that were 15"-18". The fishing should last through the end of May and through the first half of June.

The Kokanee rig that works in Chelan is the same rigs that work in the local lakes. I like to use a **Dick Nite 4/0 Dodger (Wonder Bread)**. I rig the dodger with a **Goldstar 2.5 Pink Shrimp Glow Head**. The squid is tied with two #6 Gamakatsu Red Hooks. Tie the hooks far enough apart so the trailing hook extends beyond the tail of the squid. Tie the hooks with 6lb fluorocarbon leader. The leader should only be 12" long after it is tied to the flasher.

The squid hooks need to be rigged with bait. I used Pautzke Red Fire Corn. I put a piece of corn on both hooks. Another good bait is died pink or red shrimp. Cut up small pieces of frozen deli shrimp and die them red.

Fishing with downriggers is a must for Kokanee in Lake Chelan. The fish can be anywhere from 30'-125' depending on the time of day. The day I fished, I caught most my fish at 125'. Trolling speed is 1.0-1.4mph.

Typically, the fish will be at 30 feet at daylight and then move down to 75 feet as the light gets on the water.

The best Kokanee fishing on Chelan is about a 1 ½ miles east of the town of Chelan. There is a public boat launch in town in the canal near the dam. Another good boat launch is near Manson and it is closer to the good fishing. When you get on the lake, you will see other anglers fishing near a rock wall on the north side of the lake. You can't miss it.

# Just Fishing



If you are looking for a very reasonable place to stay, I stay at the [Apple Inn Motel](#). This is nothing fancy but plenty adequate. On March 23, 2013, the room I stayed in was only \$47.25 before the sales tax was included. There is plenty of room in the parking lot for boat trailers. Their phone number: 509-682-4044. A block away is a very good restaurant that opens at 6am

If you want to hire a guide to show you how fish the lake, call my friend Joe Heinlen, [Lake Chelan Adventures](#), 509-393-9665. There is a pretty good chance that he will take you out Kokanee fishing and help you catch your 10 fish limit.

Another excellent Guide is: [Darrell and Dad's Guides Service](#), 509-687-0709.

WDFW [Lake Chelan Kokanee Information](#).

Kokanee are one of the best eating fish that we have here in the Pacific Northwest. You are in for a real treat after when you barbeque these landlocked salmon. They are like eating candy.

## Spot Shrimp with Apple-Tomato Salad

**Total time 30 minutes**  
**Makes 3 main-dish servings**

- ½ c. packed fresh cilantro leaves
- ½ c. reduced fat sour cream
- ¼ c. light mayonnaise
- 4T. fresh lemon juice
- 1T red wine vinegar
- Salt and pepper
- 1 lb. shelled shrimp (26-30ct)
- 1T extra virgin olive oil
- 1tsp. ground coriander
- 4 cups of lettuce chopped

1 pt. cherry tomatoes cut in half  
1 Granny Smith apple cut into ¼-in. sticks

1. Grill shrimp on medium high till cooked or opaque; 3-4 min. each side.

2. In blender, puree cilantro, sour cream, mayo 2T lemon juice, Vinegar, ¼ t. salt, and ½ t. freshly ground black pepper. Set dressing aside.

3. In large bowl, combine shrimp, oil, coriander, remaining 2T. lemon juice, 1/8t salt, and ¼t. freshly ground black pepper, tossing until well coated.

4. In another large bowl, toss lettuce with half of the dressing until well coated.

Divide among 3 serving plates. In same bowl, toss tomatoes and apple With half of remaining dressing until well coated; place on lettuce with shrimp.

Drizzle with remaining dressing. Enjoy!

## Lake Stevens Kokanee Derby May 18th

This Derby is brought to you by the joint effort of the Lake Stevens Lion's Club & the Snohomish Sportsman's Club. All proceeds from this event remain in the community to help further the projects of the two organizations.

The 4th Annual Lake Stevens Kokanee Derby is just a few weeks away. Mark your calendar for Saturday May 18th, 2013. Line up of prizes: **Largest**

**Kokanee 1st Place - \$1,000.00 Sponsored by Dick Nite Spoons.** 2nd Place - \$ 500.00 Sponsored by Ted's Sports Center. 3rd Place - \$ 250.00 Sponsored by John's Sporting Goods. 4th Place - \$ 100.00 Sponsored by Triangle Beverage. Largest Trout - \$500.00 Sponsered by Trout Lodge. Biggest Kokanee Limit - (Up To 10 Kokanee) - \$500.00 Sponsored by 3 Rivers Marine & Tackle. Largest Kokanee caught by a GAMEFISHIN.COM member - \$100.00. Largest Kokanee caught by an Active Duty Military - \$100.00, sponsored by GAMEFISHIN.COM Kid's Derby Prizes all sponsored by Greg's Custom Rods \*1st Place - \$100.00 for Largest Kokanee, 2nd Place - \$75.00 for any fish, 3rd Place - \$50.00 for any fish Tickets - \$20.00 for Adults (15 & Over) Kids - Free (14 & Under)

Ticket locations: Greg's Custom Fishing Rods, 3 Rivers Marine, John's Sporting Goods, Ted's Sports Center, Holiday Sports, and Triangle Bait & Tackle.

**Tickets for the Lake Stevens are available now at John's Sporting Goods**

**New Hat Island Spot Shrimp Map**

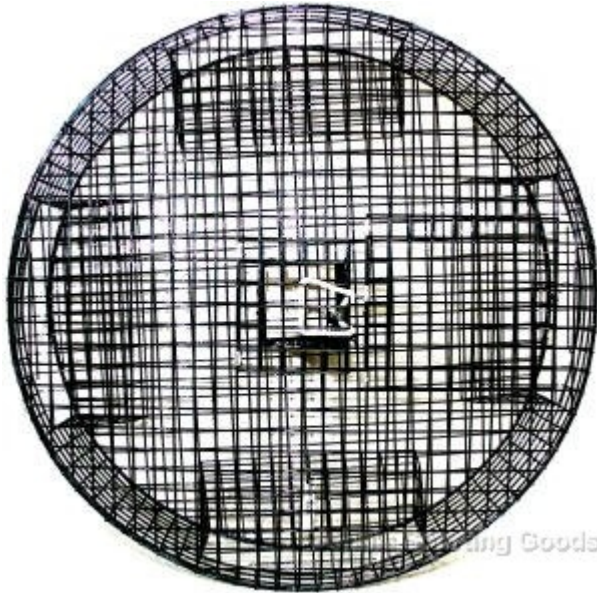


# Special Purchase

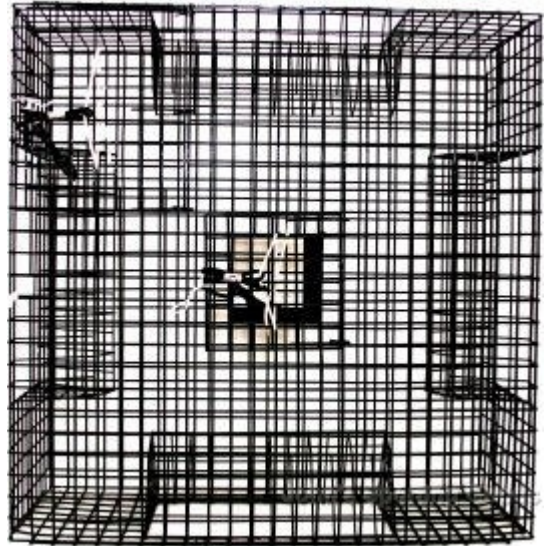
Tackle For The Serious Angler

## Shrimp Pot Sale

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



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

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

## 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, 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.

Not valid for online purchases or mail order

Valid only with coupon at the time of sale

**Expires May 30, 2013**

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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**

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  
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