

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

November 2013

Fishing Maps

[Click Here](#)

Fishing Knots

[Click Here](#)

Rigging Tackle

[Click Here](#)

How To Videos

by John Martinis

Shrimp Pot Rigging

[Click Here](#)

Halibut Rigging

[Click Here](#)

Ling Cod Fishing

[Click Here](#)

Chinook Fishing

[Click Here](#)

John's Videos

[Click Here](#)

John's Sporting Goods

[Facebook](#)

Gift Certificates

\$50 for \$30

John's Sporting Goods is once again offering \$50 gift Certificates for only \$30. That is 40% off the face value. These gift certificates can be redeemed anytime after December 25. If you want us to mail you the gift certificates, the postage is \$4.90 for priority mail. See page

include: Knot tying, ideas for selecting gear, hook tying, rigging and casting and the best waters for fishing. This clinic is a valuable resource for beginner fisherman as well as the experienced angler. For more information call: 425-257-8300 ext. 2. The public is invited to attend.

Winter Chinook

Has salmon fishing been good this year? Yes, indeed it has!

I will tell you a funny story." One day I was out fishing at the Shipwreck during the early part of the Coho season, when I heard on the VHF radio, "boy, the WDFW sure blew the Coho prediction." I would bet money at this time that the angler who made that silly statement now has a freezer full of salmon. You are well aware of the rest of the story; the fishing for Coho was tremendous!

Here we go to the next phase of the 2013 salmon seasons. On November 1, Winter Blackmouth (Chinook) in Areas 8-1, 8-2 and Area 9 will open. The limit is two Chinook, release all wild Chinook.

Area 10 has been open for Chinook for some time. If the Chinook catches out of area 10 are any indicator of the Chinook fishing in Puget Sound, it looks like the fishing is going to be quite good in Areas 8-1, 8-2 and Area 9.

While fishing for Coho these past two months, we have not had to refine our skills for fishing close to the bottom or fishing close to structure. If you are new to salmon fishing this year, Coho fishing

Bayside Marine Salmon Derby November 2-3

Get your tickets for the Bayside Derby at John's Sporting Goods. The tickets are \$30. In addition to the Derby, there will be BBQ on Sunday with free Salmon, Hot Dogs, Chips and Beverages. A portion of the tickets sales go to support a local food drive. [Derby Rules](#). If you need more information about the Derby call: 425-252-3088. This is the 22nd year for the Bayside Salmon Derby.

Steelhead & River Fishing Workshop

Saturday November 9th
Floral Hall at Forest Park
802 E. Mukilteo Blvd, Everett

Are you trying to figure out how and where to fish these local rivers? Here is your chance and it is free. Instructions



New Puget Sound Salmon Seasons 2013

Area 6: July 1-Aug. 15

CHINOOK - min. size 22".

Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2

(combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release wild

CHINOOK, wild COHO, and CHUM.

July 1-Aug. 15 No min. size.

Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release

CHINOOK, wild

COHO, and CHUM.

Aug. 16-Sept. 30 No min. size.

Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release

CHINOOK, wild COHO, and CHUM.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 CHINOOK -

min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily

limit 2 (combined). Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained.

Dec. 1-Apr. 10 CHINOOK -

min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily

limit 2. Release wild CHINOOK. See Dungeness

Bay Fishery and Closure below. Season may close

earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

Area 7: July 1-July 31

CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no

min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional

PINK. Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained. See Southern

Rosario Strait/Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca Closure below.

See Bellingham Bay

Aug. 1-Sept. 30 CHINOOK -

has made salmon fishing appear to be relatively easy. Now, all the pieces on the chessboard are about to change places. Effective Chinook fishing entails intimate knowledge of bottom structure and skills that will allow you to fish close to the bottom in 90-120 feet of water. And sometimes deeper. When Chinook fishing opens on November 1, we will no longer be fishing in deep water and wandering around until we find fish. Now we will be trolling in that very narrow band of water along the edges of the many bars in Puget Sound.

Chinook fishing will also bring a whole new set of gear into the picture. The flashers and squids that we used for Coho will work for Chinook. However, I would recommend switching over to flashers and spoons for better results.

The areas that we fish for Chinook are much more defined than the areas that you got acquainted with while fishing for Coho. Our attention is now going to be directed to these areas: Possession Bar, Useless Bay, Pilot Point, Elger Bay and Mid Channel Bank. There are also many other areas that are quite good fishing for Chinook throughout Puget Sound.

Let's explore some rigs that I would highly recommend: [Gibbs Red Racer flasher](#) with a [Goldstar 3.5 Red Racer spoon](#) 42"-60" in back of the flasher. Other spoons that I would recommend: [3.5 Goldstar White Lightening spoon](#), [3.5 Goldstar Cookies'n Cream spoon](#) and a 2.5 White Lightening spoon. On the red Racer Spoons, I would recommend putting some UV tape on the backside of the spoon. Last year, I fished the 2.5 Goldstar White Lightening spoon with the 2.0 Goldstar purple spatter squid on the hook. I had great success with this rig. The White lightening spoons are UV but not glow, so I put a strip of glow tape on the back of the spoon. I am sure it will be something different this Winter Chinook season. All these spoons should

be rigged with [30 pound Pline fluorocarbon leader](#) material. Experiment with the leader length because sometimes these Winter Chinook like a longer leader behind the flasher.

Herring: Sometimes herring can be very effective for Winter Chinook. When I use herring in the winter, I prefer to use 5 inch herring with a [Rhys Davis clear UV anchovy holder](#). I prefer the anchovy head holder with herring that is 5 inch or smaller. The 5 inch herring snugs up into the anchovy head holder and gives the herring that perfect spin. Any time you are using herring with a flasher make the leader 60 inches. [Illustration Rigging Rhys Davis anchovy head holder.](#)

If you prefer to use a herring without a head holder, take a look at this [video](#) that I made this summer that shows the proper way to rig a herring.

Most of the time I like using flashers and spoons for winter Chinook. However, there are times when the fish are queued in on herring. In this instance, fishing with herring will out-fish anything you have in your tackle box. This doesn't happen often, when it does, you better be prepared with the real thing.

Ace Hi Flies: the [Goldstar Ace Hi Fly](#) is gaining traction as a rig of first choice for Winter Chinook. This summer and fall most of us used the Ace Hi Fly as an insert for squids while fishing for Coho. Chinook anglers who use the Ace Hi Fly, use it as a stand-alone lure 42" behind a flasher. The color of Ace Hi Fly that Chinook anglers prefer is the UV Purple Spatter Needlefish Ace Hi Fly. Tie this rig with two 3/0 hooks. Tie these hooks close together just as you would for a squid with 30 pound PLine fluorocarbon leader material.

Plugs: When the Chinook season opens November 1, there is going to be zillions



min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained. Release wild COHO, and CHUM. See Southern Rosario Strait/ Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca. See Bellingham Bay Closure and Fishery, Samish Bay Closure, Lummi Reservation and Bay Closure, and Yellow and Low Islands Preserve

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained. Release wild COHO. See Bellingham Bay Closure and Fishery, Samish Bay Closure, Lummi Reservation and Bay Closure, and Yellow and Low Islands Preserve.

Dec. 1-Apr. 30 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release wild Chinok. See Bellingham Bay Closure and Fishery, and Yellow and Low Islands Preserve on

Area 8-1: Aug. 1-Sept. 30 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK.

Area 8-2: Aug. 1-Sept. 30 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK. See Tulalip Terminal Area

of 6" salmon around. When you encounter this, you cannot get any serious salmon fishing done. Time to change to plugs. The plug of choice for Puget Sound Chinook fishing is the [5" Tomic 602 and 603](#). These are nearly identical plugs except for the fact that one has a red face and the other has a pink face. Tomic Plugs are not a lure of second choice. Fishing with plugs is a very effective way to fish for Chinook. No flasher, no swivels, just tie the plug on the end of the fishing line and let it out. Can't be more simpler than that! Rig the 5" Tomic Plugs with [Mustad 9510XXS 5/0 Hook](#).

The Nuts and Bolts

Let's go through some of the basic nuts and bolts of rigging Chinook tackle. My favorite fishing reel for Chinook fishing is the Shimano Tekota 500. This reel holds 230 yards of 20 pound monofilament fishing line. It will hold close to 450 yards of 30 pound braided line. This fishing reel has more than enough capacity to handle any salmon Puget Sound.

There are two salmon rods that are plenty adequate for salmon fishing in Puget Sound: [Lamiglas Classic Glass CG82DR](#) and [Shimano Talora TLA80ML2](#).

At the end of the fishing line tie on a Sampo X3CB snap swivel. This is where you don't cut any corners. Your fishing gear, your fish and your entire day out on the water depends on the quality of this ball bearing swivel.

Snap the Sampo swivel to the narrow end of the flasher.

Flashers can be either [Gibbs or Hotspot flashers](#). Make sure that the flashers have a UV sticker on them before you make your purchase. I prefer the Gibbs Red Racer flasher. These flashers cost

approximately \$4 less than any comparable flasher and they have ball bearing swivels on both ends of the flasher. The Gibbs flashers also have the most UV flash.

I always use PLine fluorocarbon leader material in 30 pound test. 40 pound test would also be acceptable. PLine fluorocarbon is a great value and it consistently has good knot strength. The knot strength being far more valuable than the cost of the leader material. Here you have both.

Whenever I'm fishing with spoons for Chinook, I always apply herring oil. The oil that I like is Mike's extra thick Lunker Lotion. I honestly think that the brand of herring oil doesn't matter, I happen to like the Mike's because it stays on the spoon with only one or two applications during the day.

Hooks. I just can't say how important it is to have good hooks on the spoons that you are using. The hooks that the spoons come with are just OK. You are better off if you change the hooks with Mustad 9510XXSS stainless steel hooks. The 3.5 size spoons take a 3/0 hook. I encourage you to change the hooks on your new spoons.

On two different fishing trips this summer in the San Juan Islands I got burned by not following the advice that I give to you: one trip to Hein Bank, we lost a pretty good size Chinook because the hook that the spoon came with broke. A week later, we lost two nice Chinook at Pile Point. This time I attribute loss to the narrow gap in the hooks that the spoons come standard with. My point is, don't be in a hurry and cut corners like I did because you will have losses by not choosing to fish with top-notch fishing tackle.

Remember: The snaps swivels and hooks are an equally important



Fishery.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK. See Tulalip Bay Closure.

Nov. 1-Apr. 30 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2(combined). Release wild CHINOOK. See Tulalip Bay Closure. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

May 31-Sept. 2 Open Fridays through Noon Mondays ONLY. CLOSED JUNE 15. CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK.

Sept. 7-Sept. 22 Open Saturdays and Sundays only . CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK.

Area 9: July 1-July 15 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK and CHUM.

July 16-Aug. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release wild CHINOOK and CHUM. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained. CLOSED south of a line from Foulweather Bluff to Olele Point, except lawful to fish from shore contained within the boundary of Salsbury Point Park; daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release

component for good salmon fishing.

Winter Chinook Hot Spots

Winter Chinook are opportunistic feeders. They are wandering around in search of food and have no real destination for 1 to 2 years. These fish are immature Chinook that will either swim to a river in 2013 or 2014 or perhaps even at a later date. So, they are not on a mission, except to be in search of food. When Puget Sound is a rich source of food for these salmon, fishing inside the Sound can be relatively good. Some years, these same fish find that the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the San Juan Islands provide a richer source of food.

Possession Bar: I would say that without any doubt, there are more Winter Chinook caught at Possession Bar than any other place in Puget Sound. Some years that may not be true, but by and large, you can bet on it from year to year. Possession Bar can be broken up into three main areas to fish: the West side of the bar, the East side of the bar and the Tin Shed drift.

The West side of Possession Bar extends from the Scatchet Head buoy and South along the contour that is 90-150 feet deep. That is just the edge of the bar.

The East side of Possession Bar extends from the Possession Point buoy and South along the contour that is 90-150 feet deep.

The Tin Shed drift is the very southern end of Possession Bar. This area is highly irregular and drops off very quickly into very deep water.

All of these areas can be excellent Chinook fishing at different times. The one determining factor is the amount of bait that may be hanging out in any of

these three areas. In years past, the rule of thumb is to fish on the East side of the bar when the tide is coming in. When the tide is going out, the West side of the bar was the preferential spot to fish. Many years of fishing has proven that this theory is all wet. There is one and only one thing that determines where the fish are and that's "bait". If you don't find bait, you don't catch Chinook. It's just that simple.

If you want to be more methodical when picking your Winter Chinook fishing spots: Go to [Useless Bay](#), when the tide is coming in. Try fishing [Pilot Point](#), when the tide is coming in. [Mid Channel Bank](#) is always a good bet when the tide is going out. [Skunk Bay](#) near Point No Point is also a good bet when the tide is going out. Once again, these places are dependent on good populations of bait fish in order for the fishing to be good.

Chum Salmon in Puget Sound

Chum salmon fishing in Puget Sound has been fairly robust this year. I have spoken to several anglers who have caught Chum salmon while fishing for Coho at the Shipwreck.

If you wish to catch Chum salmon, you need to get to it right away because it will only last through the 10th of November.

You might already have the tackle that you need to catch Chum salmon in your tackle box. Use the same flashers that you've been using for Coho fishing and rig the flasher with a green/glow squid ([OG142R](#) or [OG 140R](#)). You may even try a [purple/glow OG138R](#) squid. You can use the 3.5 Goldstar squid or the mini squids in the same colors.

If you want to target just Chum salmon, you may want to slow your speed down

Just Fishing



CHINOOK and CHUM.

Sept. 1-Sept. 30 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK and CHUM.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK.

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 wild CHINOOK. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

Area 10: June 1-June 30 Catch-and-release. Open only north of a line from Point Monroe to Meadow Point.

July 1-July 15 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK. See Shilshole Bay Closure and Elliott Bay Closure.

July 16-Aug. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release wild CHINOOK. Beginning Aug. 1 release CHUM. See Shilshole Bay and Elliott Bay Fishery and Closures. See Sinclair Inlet Fishery. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

below Coho trolling speeds.

Pilot Point is the place to go if you want to really get serious about Chum salmon fishing. These fish round the corner of Point No Point when the tide is coming in and school-up in large numbers near Pilot Point.

Chum salmon fishing is legal in the saltwater this year but not in rivers.

Special Purchase

Tackle For The Serious Angler

John's Sporting Goods
1913 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201

\$50 Gift Certificate for \$30

Gift Certificate

To: _____
From: _____

Sample

Only one Discount Gift Certificate can be used on these items:
Downriggers ,Scotty Pot Puller, Ace Line Hauler Products,
Electronics, CTO3R Crab Pot, Custom Made Crab Pots
Cannot be used on these items: G Loomis, St. Croix, Repairs, Parts, Licenses
Cannot be used in combination with other coupons.

Limit Two Discount Gift Cards Per Person

Offer Good Until 12/24/2013

Valid Only When this Coupon is Presented at the time of Purchase

Certificates can be redeemed on merchandise purchases after 12/26/2013

Gift Certificates cannot be redeemed for online purchases
If Ordering by Phone Mention Gift Card Offer
All Gift Cards are sent USPS Priority Mail add \$4.90



Shimano Tekota 500 & 600
Price \$149
Reg. Price \$165-\$175



Shimano Tekota 700 & 800
Sale Price \$169
Reg. Price \$179-\$189

Prices Good Through November 30th, In Store Purchases Only

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 November 30, 2013

You Must have this coupon in your hand at the time of purchase. No exceptions made.

Send your fish pictures to:
customerservice@johnssportinggoods.com

Like us on Facebook:

http://www.facebook.com/?ref=tn_tnmn#!/pages/Johns-Sporting-Goods/166123680152608



**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
\$525**

**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
Fishing Tackle
for
The Serious Angler**