

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

March 2016

Fishing Dates

These Seasons
and Limits
May Change

Area 6
Closed

Area 7
Dec 1-April 30
Daily limit two
Chinook, hatchery only

Area 8-1
Nov 1-April 30
Daily limit two
Chinook, hatchery only

Area 8-2
Nov 1-April 30
Daily limit two
Chinook, hatchery only

Area 9
January 16-April 15
Chinook, daily limit
two, hatchery only

Area 10
Closed for Chinook
until further notice

Shop Online at
John's Sporting Goods
johnssportinggoods.com/shop/

2016 Ways to Make a Difference

Jennings Park
Kids Fishing Derby
May 2016

Everett Lions Club
Derby for the Blind
September 2016

This is the time of year to contribute to two great events: The Jennings Park Kids Fishing Derby and the Everett Lions Club Derby for the Blind.

I will match any donation dollar for dollar that you contribute to either event.

I have been involved in the Blind Derby for many years. The Blind people who are involved in this derby will pull at your heart strings. They are so full of enthusiasm and excitement. Can you only imagine what it is like to be on the water salmon fishing and being blind? Please help. 100% of this money will be given out as cash prizes.

Including my matching money (2015), we raised \$3000 for the Blind Derby and \$1,500 for the Jennings Park Kids Fishing Derby. Thank you for your donations!

Contact John Martinis (425-259-3056) to contribute to either event. Thank you for your help!

Seminar 2016

By John Martinis
Chinook Seminar
Wednesday March 16th
at Bayside Marine @7PM
1111 Craftsman Way, Everett
You are invited, free to the public

My popular Chinook seminar will be held on March 16. Mike Greenleaf and I will be presenting winning strategies guaranteed to put more Chinook in your boat. We will talk about correct methods to rig flashers and spoons as well as fishing with herring. In addition, we will go over some fishing charts that should help getting to the correct fishing spot on the right tide. Take the guesswork out Chinook fishing and be at the seminar at Bayside Marine on March 16 at 7 PM.

The Everett Steelhead and Salmon Club will have a raffle at the end of the seminar. There will be some great prizes including rods, reels, salmon tackle and a Scotty Pot Puller.

Salmon Derby Success \$3,000 at Stake

The Everett Blackmouth Derby is coming up soon on Saturday March 19. A casual day of fishing could net you \$3,000 if you bring in the winning Chinook. Other prizes include 2nd Place \$1500, 3rd Place \$500 and 4th Place

Just Fishing



\$250. Tickets for the derby are \$100 per boat and that includes up to four anglers per boat.

The weather last year was absolutely brutal during the Everett Blackmouth Derby. The wind blew 20 to 30 mph. With that kind of weather, you would have assumed an angler with a medium to small boat never stood a chance of winning the Derby. Dale Helgesson, who won the \$3000 first prize, tucked behind the north side of Hat Island in 60 feet of water to get out of the wind. Dale put out a herring and came up with a 16.12-pound Chinook to win the Derby. You don't need to go far or have a large boat in order to get a decent chance at winning the Everett Blackmouth Derby. Purchase your ticket right now at John Sporting Goods, because if you wait to the last minute, "you'll be sorry".

Next, let's explore some winning strategies for putting that winning Chinook in the boat on March 19. In the last few weeks most of the larger Chinook have been caught in front of Camano Island State Park and Onamac Point on the northwest side of Camano Island. Also, I might state that Chinook fishing in either of the two areas has been at best inconsistent.

The southern end of Green Bank near Baby Island has been holding a considerable amount of bait and a few legal size Chinook.

Another area occasionally putting out Chinook in the mid to low teens has been the bar running between Hat Island and Camano Island, locally

known as the "racetrack".

If you want quantities of fish, the most southern end of Possession Bar (Tin Shed Drift), has been putting out legal Chinook that are averaging an inch or two over legal size. That will not win any Chinook fishing Derby.

Pilot Point has also been a consistent producer of Chinook that are averaging 5 to 7 pounds. Once again, it will be difficult claiming first prize with a 5 to 7-pound Chinook.

Point no Point to Skunk Bay has been putting out a handful of Chinook averaging 5 to 7 pounds. This area holds loads of bait fish. You would think a respectable Chinook in Puget Sound would be feeding in this area with the quantity of bait available, but "it ain't necessarily so".

Useless Bay is one of my favorite places to fish for Chinook this time of year and has been substandard for the last 30 days.

Port Townsend's "Mid Channel Bank" was loaded with bait fish but salmon fishing has not been that good. However, I would rate it high on my list for putting a \$3000 Chinook in my boat on tournament day. The March 19 Port Townsend low tide is early at 9:03 AM. With the tide so early in the morning, consider going to Port Townsend the day before the Derby so you can have ample fishing time.

The March 19 tides for Inner-Puget Sound are: 9:57 AM low tide and 3:04 PM high tide.

That 9:57 AM low tide rules out two areas at daylight on March 19: Pilot

Point and Useless Bay. All the other areas mentioned can be successfully fished until the 9:57 AM low tide. After 9:57 AM, the tide starts coming in and you can consider fishing Pilot Point and Useless Bay.

With two people fishing, I have been fishing whole herring and no flasher on one downrigger 100% of the time. On the other downrigger I have been using either of these two combinations: Gibbs Red Racer Flasher with a #395 Coho Killer 42 inches behind the flasher or a Gibbs Red Racer Flasher with a #964 3.5 Kingfisher Spoon 42 inches behind the flasher. I have been relatively successful employing this strategy for Chinook this winter. There are times when I end up using flashers and spoons on both downriggers. You will know when the herring bite goes flat, that's when you change. I never fish whole herring on both downriggers. I like to rely on at least one flasher to bring the fish into the gear. Then the fish can make up their mind whether they want to strike a whole herring or a spoon that is an imitation of herring or candlefish. The strategy has been working quite well for me this winter.

Tip: when I am using whole herring I tie my leaders with 20 pound test and 3/0 hooks.

Fishing Maps

Tin Shed Drift

Pilot Point

Useless Bay

Mid Channel Bank

Green Bank

Elger Bay



Gear

Gibbs Red Racer Flasher
#395 Coho Killer (Herring Aide)
#964 3.5 Kingfisher Spoon
30 pound Pline fluorocarbon leader
material
New *Sampo Cork Screw Swivel
X4KB

Video

Rigging Herring

7 Reasons to fish Area 7

The closure of Area 6 for Chinook fishing was somewhat depressing. Really, I was looking forward to fishing Area 6 in March and into April and then it closed. In retrospect, I look at the closure as a reason to force myself to fish other areas I do not ordinarily fish. Lucky me, I have done that with an abundance of success.

After the Area 6 closure I focused my Chinook fishing on: Salmon Bank near Cattle Point (Middle Channel), Hein Bank, the northwest side of Eastern Bank and McArthur Bank. Actually, this has been a remarkable fishing experience. Not one of the places I mentioned will be hitting on all cylinders every day. The everyday routine is the same: hopscotch around until you find a single fish or two, then off to the next spot. It seems like a lot of moving around but it's actually kind of fun. It's a hunt and very rewarding!

If you have been fishing in Area 7 lately, you know there has been a

severe lack of bait fish. This makes Chinook fishing a little more challenging. Normally you can find bait in any of these areas and then work the area really hard. The fishing strategy this year is to fish in one direction for maybe a mile or more and then worked that same area over again. Most days you will catch at least one legal Chinook for every mile that you fish. This doesn't seem like a strategy. I call it, "grinding it out". It works and the Chinook fishing has been reasonably good.

I wish I could pinpoint some specific areas for fishing in Area 7, but I can't. I don't even go to the same place to fish on different fishing trips. I do encourage you to fish the areas I mentioned because Chinook fishing has been a slightly above average and on some days extremely good.

I usually fish one area if I continue to see large fish marks on the fishfinder. If I fish an hour and have little activity, I leave and hit another area. Don't grind it out in one area if you're not running into large fish marks. Don't assume fishing is done for the day just because one area went south. On one particular fishing trip (February 25), the best fishing was right in the middle of the day. The tide and time of day had no bearing on the bite that came on mid-afternoon. One of my good friends and fishing guide, Derek Floyd (Reel Class Charter) was fishing a totally different area on February 25 and caught all his fish before noon. My point is, these fish are moving around from Bank to Bank and you need to be willing to do the same until you get on top of the them.

Here are some tips: fish a tad bit deeper than normal. I would recommend 125 to 135 feet deep. Always start the day fishing one line rigged with whole herring and one rod rigged with a flasher and spoon. Use the same flashers and spoons I recommended in the first part of this article.

Fishing Guides

Derek Floyd (Reel Class Charter)

Gear

Gibbs Red Racer Flasher
#395 Coho Killer (Herring Aide)
#964 3.5 Kingfisher Spoon
30lb Pline fluorocarbon leader
material
New *Sampo Cork Screw Swivel K4K

Tackle Review

New items at John's Sporting Goods

Sampo Corkscrew Swivels

At last, Sampo came out with a ball bearing cork screw swivel. If you have trouble opening up snaps on the Sampo X3CB swivel, your prayers have been answered. For the past month I have been using the new X4KB Sampo Cork Screw Ball Bearing Swivel and I can honestly say that this is one of the best products to hit the fishing tackle market in a long time. This swivel allows you to easily change fishing rigs. You can simply rig or un-rig a piece of fishing gear no matter how cold it is. This is a must-have item!

Daiwa Tanacom 750 Electric Reel

Tom Nelson and I have used the Daiwa Tanacom 750 in Sitka Alaska and Canada for Halibut fishing. The

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average depth we fished was 400 feet. That's deep if you are hand cranking. Not deep at all if you are using the Tanacom 750. Tom and I have wrestled Halibut off the bottom with ease. The Tanacom 750 has adequate power and a good drag system for any size fish in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. This reel holds 440 yards of 65-pound braid and no backing. You can change the electrical plug to fit your downrigger outlet or you can use the battery clamps supplied to attach the power cord to your boat battery. I have sold many of these reels and have not had one single complaint. John's Sporting Goods has these reels on sale. When your purchase this reel from us, we will fill it with 65 or 80 pound braided line for free (a \$44 savings).

2016 West Marine Northwest Salmon Derby Series Schedule

Roche Harbor: January 21-23 |
SOLD OUT

Olympic Peninsula Salmon
Derby: February 19 – 21

**Everett Blackmouth Derby:
March 19**

Bellingham Salmon Derby: July
8 – 10

South King County PSA Salmon
Derby: August 6

Gig Harbor PSA Salmon Derby:
August 13

The Big One Salmon Derby: July
27 – 31, Awards August 6

Willapa Bay Salmon Derby:
September 3

Columbia River Fall Salmon
Derby: August 20

Edmonds Coho Derby:
September 10

Everett Coho Derby: September
24 – 25

Bayside Marine Salmon Derby:
November 5 – 6

Resurrection Salmon Derby
(Anacortes): December 2 – 3

Friday Harbor Salmon Classic:
December 1 – 3

Kids Fishing Events

May 7, 2016

Kids Fishing Derby
8AM-11AM

Jennings Park, Marysville
Free to the Public

Silver Lake Kids Fish-In
7:30AM-3PM

Thornton A. Sullivan Park
at Silver Lake, Everett

Kids Fishing Event
8AM-2PM

Twin lakes County Park
North Gissberg Park
Smokey Point, Arlington

Special Purchase



Tackle For The Serious Angler

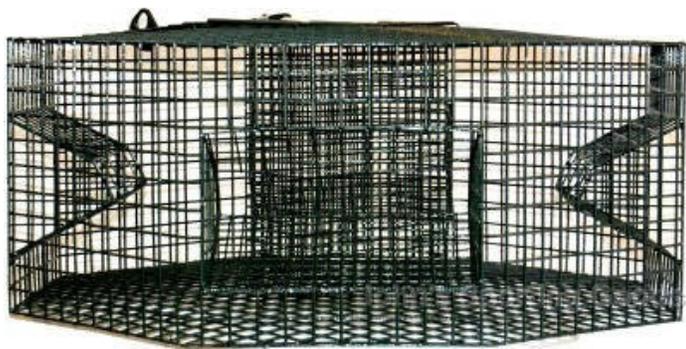
Shrimp Pot Sale March 1-30



SMI 19001-600ft Leded Rope-Buoy
Sale Price \$109

John's #1 Selling Shrimp Pot
Reg. Price \$127

Large Size Available Real Soon
Ladner Style Shrimp Pot
Medium Size \$79
Large Size \$88
Reg. Price \$89-\$119



SMI 19027 Sale Price \$89.50
Octagon Shrimp Pot
Reg. Price \$99.50



1/4" Leded Rope Sale Price \$39.95
600ft Leded Rope
Reg. Price \$48

No Coupons or Discount Gift Certificates can be Used on these On-Sale Items

John's Sporting Goods



Tackle For The Serious Angler



Daiwa Tanacom 750
Sale Price \$549

Filled Free w/65lb-80lb Braided Line



Daiwa ACCUDEPTH 27LCB
Right Hand \$59
Reg. Price \$69.95



Daiwa M-One Mooching Reel
\$59.95
Reg. Price \$79.50



Daiwa Seagate SGT60XHR-RS
Halibut Rod \$59.95
Reg. Price \$79.50

No Coupons or Discount Gift Certificates can be Used on these On-Sale Items

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 Products, Traxtech Products, Rods and Reels, Electronics, CTO3R Crab Pot, SMI Crab Pots & Shrimp Pots, Braided Line, items that are discounted, on sale, repairs, parts and closeout items. Cannot be used in combination with discounted gift certificates.

10% Discount

On Shrimp Pots, Rods and Reels
Excludes G-Loomis, St Croix, Daiwa Electric Reels

Not valid for online purchases or mail order
Valid only with coupon at the time of sale

Expires March 30, 2016

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
\$55

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

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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

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Fishing Tackle
for
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