

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

October 2017

Fishing Dates

These Seasons
and Limits
May Change

Area 6

December, January,
February: Closed

Area 7

November-December:
Closed

Area 8-1

November 1-April 30
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species -
no min. size. Daily limit 1.
Release COHO and wild
CHINOOK.

Area 8-2

November 1-April 30
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species -
no min. size. Daily limit 1.
Release COHO and wild
CHINOOK.

Area 9

November 1-April 30
CHINOOK - min. size 22".
Other SALMON species -
no min. size. Daily limit 1.
Release COHO and wild
CHINOOK.

Area 10

August 16-October 31
No min. size. Daily limit 2
(combined). Release
CHINOOK and wild
COHO. Aug. 16- Sept. 15:
release CHUM.

Squid Fishing at Redondo and Edmonds

If you are looking for a fresh source of Calamari or bait for Crab and Halibut the time to go squid fishing is right now. The Pier at Redondo has been quite good with anglers getting their 10lb limit of squid. I have also heard that squid are being caught at the Edmonds fishing pier. The squid are in early this year and they are in very plentiful quantities.

SMI makes a variety of squid jigs that are both economical and very good for catching these tasty creatures. Bob Buchanan owner of SMI recommends these colors of squid jigs: Green/Natural Glow. The best sizes are 3/8 to 1/2 ounce.

Rig two to three squid jigs on a line approximately six inches apart. The jigs need to be fished 2 to 3 feet from the bottom. Rig the bottom squid jig with lighter line so that if you get snagged to the bottom you will lose only one squid jig. To fish the jigs consistently at those depths rig a sliding float so that the line will only go out to the desired depth.

Use a long fishing rod that is light action. If the fishing rod is too stiff you will not feel the squid on the jig. Some of the best squid anglers use a fly rod rigged with a spinning reel. For the most sensitive feel use 8 to 10lb fishing line

and the same for leader.

The best times to fish for squid is when it is dark out and the tide is coming in. This means that you will sometimes be fishing well after mid-night. No worries you will not be lonely on the fishing pier. Squid fishing is a very popular sport from Edmonds to Tacoma.

Rules and regulations for squid fishing
No min. size.

Daily limit 5 qts. or 10 lbs., plus up to 5 HUMBOLDT SQUID.

Legal gear is a forage fish jig, a maximum of 4 squid lures, forage fish dip net, or a hand dip net.

Each harvester must have a separate container.

A shellfish license is required

A Snap Shot from Three Days of Coho Fishing

I would not want the job of managing the Coho seasons for Puget Sound and for the rivers that flow into Puget Sound. It is a job that is always destined to make some Coho anglers unhappy. Although the Coho fishing options for Puget Sounds were severely curtailed in 2017 many of you managed to find plenty of Coho in Marine Area 10 and in the Snohomish River. And the best of the Snohomish River Coho fishing is yet to unfold in the next couple of weeks.

Just Fishing



Yes the Skagit River is closed and the Stillaguamish River is closed for Coho fishing and we still have to deal with next year which will be the worst of the Coho returns from the drought years. These reduced Coho seasons has nothing to do with nets or mismanagement, Mother Nature dried the streams up and overheated our rivers thus producing subpar Coho returns. I have seen this all before in the late 1980's and early 1990's. It wasn't pleasant then and it isn't pleasant now. But we will get through this shortly.

This is what we have and it's not all that bad because the Coho fishing has been rather good in Marine Area 10. We should see at least two more weeks of good fishing in Area 10 near Edmonds. If you chose not to go to Marine Area 10 and fish for Coho this year, you missed some very good Coho fishing! Interestingly there were fewer anglers fishing this year in front of Edmonds as other years when all of Puget Sound is open for Coho. Go figure that?

This is an interesting snap shot of my own Coho fishing the last week September 26, 27 and 28. On Tuesday the 26th the Coho bite was evenly distributed through the morning hours. I trolled parallel and very close to the Area 10 boundary line. Les Jacober and I caught easy limits that morning fishing in depths from 450 feet to 620 feet. Most of the fish we hooked that day came from 65 feet of line off the downrigger.

On Wednesday the 27th the Coho bite for Anne and I was non-existent

before noon. We had only one fish in the boat before Noon. High tide was around Noon that day so we stuck it out hoping that there would a tide bite. No tide bite. We trolled back towards shore and caught a quick limit of Coho in 250 feet of water. The bite for us that day was between Noon and 1:30PM which was an after the tide change. This day the best depth of line off the downrigger was 75ft.

On Thursday the 28th, Anne and I left the dock earlier hoping we could catch an early morning daylight Coho bite in Area 10. That idea didn't pan out too good for us. That day we trolled all the way over to Kingston and then picked up our gear and ran back to the Edmonds side of Area 10. We trolled towards Edmonds and then to the Edmonds oil docks and released one small wild Coho. This was exasperating because it was now 10:30AM and we had no Coho in the boat. There was a gillnetter with a net out so I decided to troll out to the shipping lanes to get out beyond the net. Once I got out in the shipping lanes I saw my friend Don Ringman. This was out in the middle of nowhere. I trolled over to Don to say hi and to compare the morning woeful fish stories. Before we got close to Don I told Anne that we were going home without a salmon today. This would be the first time this year without a salmon in the boat at the end of the days fishing. As we approached Don he hooked a fish and put it in the boat. As we passed Don we hooked a Coho and landed our first legal Coho. We put our lines out and immediately hooked a large wild Coho. While the boat was in neutral and the gear was hanging straight up

and down another Coho took the other squid. We released the wild Coho and landed the other hatchery Coho. Great, it was 11:15AM and things were looking a little rosier. Don immediately had his two fish and was on his way. Before Don was out of site Anne and I had our limit of four hatchery Coho. This day the good Coho bite was between 70 feet and 75 feet of downrigger line out.

The reason I laid out three days of my fishing experiences is for a variety of reasons. 1) There was a gillnet out both Wednesday and Thursday when I was fishing. Many anglers left early those two days because there was no morning Coho bite and they were discouraged from having a gillnet close to where they were fishing. I thought differently. On Wednesday I fished closer to shore inside of where the gillnet was. On Thursday I fished out in the shipping lanes where not many anglers fish and quite a distance west of where the gillnet was. 2) Both Wednesday and Thursday the high tide was respectively at 11:55AM and 1:55PM. Past experience told me to be patient and to fish around the tide change regardless of how terrible the fishing was earlier in the morning. These tactics paid off both days. 3) During these three days of fishing I kept my gear in a very narrow range between 65 feet and 75 feet off the downrigger. 4) I adapted to the gillnetting situation rather than getting discouraged by the netting.

A snap shot of the gear I was using: It clear to me by the end of the day on Tuesday that the Goldstar OAL12R 3.5 squid was outperforming the Green/Glow Ace Hi Fly. I had the



squid rigged with Purple Haze Ace Hi Fly inserted inside of the OAL12R 3.5 Squid. All the hooks that I tie for the Goldstar squid have three #6 glow beads between the hooks. Do I think that fine point in rigging makes a huge difference? Yes, yes and yes! I rigged the squid with a 30lb Fluorocarbon leader. The leader is measured from the end of flasher to the end of the squid. Strips of herring are absolutely essential for good Coho fishing.

Prepare your herring strips the day before you go fishing. Fillet the herring and cut the fillets into strips. Salt the strips liberally while placing them in a container. Leave the container of strips overnight out in the garage with the lid off the container. Do not refrigerate!!! If you refrigerate the strips water will build up in the container and make the strips mushy. If the strips get mushy they will not stay on the hook.

I hope this snap shot of my fishing experiences helps other anglers to not get discouraged when the fish are not biting or when there are experiences such as gillnets that you can't do anything about. When I am Coho fishing I have to constantly force myself to leave the gear where I know the fish will be when the bite comes on. When I do not stick to my game plan the results are nearly always the same. No bites until I get my gear back in the strike zone. When the fish are not biting don't move the gear to some crazy depth unless you have a very good reason to do so such as your friend getting his Coho limit in the last ten minutes. Good luck fishing!

Snohomish River Coho

When the WDFW salmon managers close Marine Areas 6, 9 and 8-2 for Coho fishing there is the inevitable result. The resource (Coho) are moved to the Snohomish River where they can be harvested by you and I. More encouraging is the Snohomish River three Coho limit that can be either Hatchery or Wild Coho. Even though you might prefer to harvest your Coho in the saltwater this management regime makes for better fishing in the river. Two things make the river fishing better: 1) More Coho are available to be harvested the Snohomish River. 2) The more aggressive Coho also get moved to the river thus making available more actively biting fish in the freshwater.

As you well know the Snohomish River is well known for Coho that have serious lock-jaw. Hopefully with the increased numbers of Coho entering the river the fishing will improve as a result of the increased numbers of fish.

So far this Snohomish River Coho season the majority of the fish that are willing to bite have been one half mile of either side of the town of Snohomish. Most days when the fishing has been good very few Coho are showing on the river surface. Quite odd? Most years the fishing/catching does not heat up until there are Coho showing everywhere on the surface.

If you are planning on fishing the

Snohomish River for Coho from a boat here is a list of gear that you need: Brads Wiggler BW74 (Firetiger), Brads Wiggler BW71 (Red Herring Bone), Storm Wiggle Wart V74 (Firetiger), Storm Wiggle Wart V90 (Red Herring Bone), Dick Nite spoon #1 Frog and Dick Nite spoon #1 50/50.

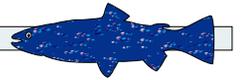
The Brads plugs and Storm plugs can easily be rigged by tying either on a 10 or 12lb leader tied to a bead chain swivel 36 inches from the plug. The other end of the bead chain can be tied to the 10 or 12lb fishing line.

While at trolling speed let the plug out 30-40 feet behind the boat. Trolling speed should be brisk. Troll fast enough so that the plug dives but does not roll over.

Rigging a Dick Nite Spoon can be done a couple of different ways: 1) Tie a ½ ounce mooching sinker to the end of the fishing line and then tie a 6 foot leader to the spoon. Let the spoon out 30-40 feet behind the boat and troll at a brisk speed. 2) Tie a small three way swivel to the end of the fishing line. Tie a 6 foot leader to the Dick Nite spoon. Tie a 12 inch dropper line to the remaining end of the three way swivel. Tie a ½ ounce to 2 ounce weight to the end of the dropper line.

On most days I believe that you will find the best fishing in the Snohomish River and Sloughs is on the last half of the flood tide. To figure out the tides for the Snohomish look at the Seattle tides and add one hour. Example: if the stated tide is at 10:00AM the tide in the river will be approximately 11:00AM.

Just Fishing



Bob Heiman Memorial Coho Derby Tickets at John's Sporting Goods Derby Day October 7th

1. Weigh-in will be held from 2:00pm until 5:00pm, Saturday, October 7th. Derby participants must be in the official weigh-in queue prior to the close of the weigh-in time. The weigh-in area will be located at the City of Snohomish boat launch (off of Lincoln Avenue). The participant's legal Catch Record Card must accompany the individual and Coho Salmon to be weighed-in as evidence that it was caught within the Derby Rules. All persons fishing from a boat must have a valid Derby Ticket. This is an "ALL WEATHER DERBY".
2. Participants are limited to one entry COHO SALMON.
3. Ticket sales will close on Friday, October 6, 2017, at the normal close of business at the retail outlets.
4. Coho Salmon entered must be a minimum of 2.0 lbs. If, in the opinion of the judges, any attempt is made to artificially enhance the weight of an entered fish, that fish and the person entering the fish WILL be immediately disqualified from this and all future Everett Salmon Association Derby's. Criminal charges WILL be pursued.
5. ALL WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RULES APPLY. Coho Salmon entered in the Derby MUST have been caught on Saturday, October 7th. Fish may be bled, but not gutted or cleaned for weigh-in. The winner of any tie will be determined by the earliest date and official time of entry. Only Coho Salmon caught in the following areas are eligible to be entered in the Derby: Snohomish River, Skykomish River and Snoqualmie River.
6. The Everett Salmon Association and the sponsors of the 2017 Bob Heirman Memorial Coho Derby accept no responsibility for loss, damage, injury to any boat, vehicle, equipment, participant, passenger or observer during this event. The Derby ticket holder, and all members of their party, agree to hold harmless all Derby sponsors, advertisers, and volunteers from any and all liability in connection with this Derby.
7. The Derby Ticket purchaser agrees that any and all appropriate taxes, including use and sales taxes; fees, transfer and operating fees, and all federal taxes, shall be the sole responsibility of the prize winner, and that the aforementioned Derby organizations and volunteers shall have no liability for any such taxes and/or fees. Prize winners must furnish their tax identification number upon request by the Derby prize representative(s) prior to the delivery of any prizes. Proof of purchase will be required for any prizes linked to a special prize.
8. Prizes will be awarded on Saturday, October 7, 2017, beginning at approximately 5:30 pm at the City of Snohomish boat launch (off of Lincoln Avenue). ALL PRIZES: YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN – NO EXCEPTIONS.
9. Contest Winners will be solely responsible for all appropriate taxes, fees and licenses. If a minor wins the contest or cash as the result of having purchased an Adult Derby Entry ticket; the cash or prize shall be awarded in the legal name of the minor-aged participants' legal parent or guardian, and the named winner will assume sole responsibility for subsequent taxes, fees, and licenses.
10. Each participant acknowledges that contact information is required on the Derby ticket/stub and represents their true and legal contact information.
11. Cash Prize awards will include: 1st – \$2,000.00; 2nd – \$1,000.00; 3rd – \$500.00
12. Derby Entry tickets prices is: \$25.00

Special Purchase



Tackle For The Serious Angler

October Special Purchase



FTCC Crab Pot Complete
Crab Pot, Bait Bag, Buoy,
100ft Leaded Rope, Crab Measure
Sale Price \$39.95



600ft 1/4" Leaded Rope
Special Price \$39.95
Reg. Price \$59.95



Shimano Tekota 500 & 600
Price \$159
Reg. Price \$179



Shimano Tekota 700 & 800
Sale Price \$179
Reg. Price \$199

These prices are for in store purchases only-No Coupons or Gift Cards on these 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

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 October 30, 2017

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
\$59.95

Included in the price is new brake pads, your choice of 300' of 150lb. Cable or 300' 200lb. of braided spectra downrigger line, cleaning and lubricating the downrigger.

Coupons and discounted gift certificates cannot be used for this service

John's Sporting Goods
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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
\$499

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
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