

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

June 2016

Fishing Dates

**Area 6
Spot Shrimp
Open Daily until
further notice**

**Area 7
Ling Cod
May 1-June 15**

**Area 7 West
Spot Shrimp
Open Daily until
further notice**

**Area 8-1
Ling Cod
May 1-June 15**

**Area 8-2
Ling Cod
May 1-June 15**

**Area 9
Ling Cod
May 1-June 15**

**Area 10
Ling Cod
May 1-June 15**

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Super Spot Shrimp Ideas for June

Just because a major portion of the Puget Sound Spot Shrimp season is closed it does not mean the season has come to an end. There are still a lot of opportunities to harvest Spot Shrimp if you are willing to travel to locations still open.

Marine Area 6 will most likely be open for Spot Shrimp harvesting for a few more months. As a matter of fact, Area 6 is open every day of the week until further notice for Spot Shrimp.

Area 7 West is also open every day of the week for harvesting Spot Shrimp. Area 7 West shrimp map, [Click Here](#)

Statewide shrimp map by area: [Click Here](#)

Even though Marine Areas 6 and 7 West are open every day for Spot Shrimp you have to take in account the tide. If the tides are very big it is really not worth going shrimping for two reasons: you could lose your shrimp pot(s) or you might not catch many shrimp. Take a look at a tide book before you decide on shrimping in Areas 6 and 7. The ideal days for shrimping are when the tide difference is less than six feet.

In both Areas 6 and 7, I found the best time to go after Spot Shrimp is an hour before high tide until an hour after the tide. Spot shrimp can be caught at all

stages of the tide in these Areas but it is tough pickings when the water is moving really fast.

Area 6 Spot Shrimp Maps

[Lawson Reef](#)
[Eastern Bank](#)
[Dallas Bank](#)
[Partridge Bank](#)

Area 7 West Spot Shrimp Maps

[Park Bay](#)
[Spiden/Stuart Islands](#)
[Waldron Island](#)

Rigging Spot Shrimp Pots for Areas 6 and 7

If you go to either of these areas without a shrimp pot properly rigged you will probably lose your shrimp pot. Here are some tips. The shrimp pot must weigh 30 pounds. Attach a small folding anchor with a 10-foot rope to the bottom of the trap. Use a Polyform LD2 buoy and two of the regular size molded yellow buoys for flotation. These buoys will float 50 pounds. The extra buoys will achieve two things: They will float the shrimp pot and rope if the pot floats into deeper water and they will prevent the rope from dragging the buoys underwater when the tide is moving.

I would not put any extra weight in the shrimp pot making it weigh more than 30 pounds because it will make the Ace Line Hauler or Scotty pot puller slow down. A typical shrimp pot weighs 30 pounds; has 10 to 12 pounds of leaded rope attached; a harness weighing a



couple of pounds and 5 pounds or more of bait in the pot. This makes the whole outfit weigh close to 50 pounds.

Shrimp Bait additive

The last day Puget Sound was open for Spot Shrimp, I tried a new addition to the bait. I used the normal Spot Shrimp bait formula that most of you have seen on the Shrimp Pot Rigging handout at John's Sporting Goods. [Click here for shrimp pot rigging and bait formula.](#) In a food processor I mixed Icy Point Pink Canned Pink Salmon with Mackerel until it was almost a liquid. I added some oatmeal to make the slurry thicker. I poured the contents into a 6-inch bait barrel until the barrel was 7/8 full and froze it. I took the bait barrels out of the freezer on the morning I went shrimping. In each of my shrimp pots was a 9 inch bait barrel with the regular Spot Shrimp Bait and a 6 inch bait barrel with the frozen slurry. This seemed to work rather well. The frozen slurry leached out of the bait barrel at just the right rate. By the time we were done shrimping at 1PM the 6 inch bait barrels were now half full. On that day seven of us caught 560 Spot Shrimp.

I purchased the Icy Point canned Pink Salmon at Bartells when they ran it on sale for \$1.99 a can.

Puget Sound Ling Cod

Puget Sound Ling Cod is still open until June 15. The crowds have really died

down out on Possession Bar and now it is time to give it another try.

Time to Try Something Different Sole/Flounder

There are many anglers who just want to go out on the Sound and catch anything that bites. I realize not all of us are "gung-ho" salmon, Ling Cod or Halibut anglers. There are many anglers who just want to free themselves from downriggers, flashers and all the complicated gear and regulations associated with catching some of these fish species. If you fit the mold, I have the perfect thing for you and you will catch loads of fish.

Everywhere else south of us on the Pacific Coast catching Rock Sole, Sand Dabs and English Sole is a big deal. Let's call these sole "flounder" for lack of a better description. There is close to twenty species of sole/flounder in Puget Sound. Most of these fish look so identical to one another that you can't tell the difference. The one thing they do have in common is their great quantity. When I say great quantity, I mean there are loads of flounder in Puget Sound. Some areas of the Sound have greater populations than others. There are some places which have the small Sand Dabs and other places which have flounder which are dinner plate size.

Rock Sole, Sand Dabs and English Sole are easy to catch without any complicated fishing gear. This is what

you need: Gamakatsu Top and Bottom Fish Rig #238109. This is a two hook rig with a swivel on both ends of the rig. One swivel attaches to the fishing line and the other attaches to a weight. Attach a 4 ounce weight to the end of the rig.

The best bait to use is squid. Although flounder will bite on nearly anything, a small piece of squid will stay on better than most other baits.

Drop this rig to the bottom and hold the rod still until a flounder bites the hook. Adjust the line with the changing bottom depth as you drift along. This time of year flounder will be in 65 to 75 feet of water.

The best spot to catch flounder is slightly east of the Langley Marina. [Click Here for Map.](#) I fished this spot three weeks ago for flounder and caught flounder every time I let my line to the bottom. Many times I caught two flounder at once. There are so many flounder in this area it will take only a few seconds to get a fish on the end of the line. When I say "a few seconds", I mean it happens the moment the rig gets near the bottom.

If you want larger flounder but fewer of them, head to Mutiny Bay on the south side of Whidbey Island. Flounder can be found in Mutiny Bay in 75 to 100 feet of water. The flounder here are dinner plate size.

Another place to catch good sized flounder is on Possession Bar in 35 to 45 feet of water.

The limit on sole is 15 fish per person. If there are two of you fishing, you will

Just Fishing



have 30 flounder in no time. Remember, the barbless hook rule is also in effect for these fish.

Cleaning flounder: cut around the perimeter of the fish and then pull the brown skin off with a pliers. Leave the white skin on the fish. Cut the gut, head and tail off of the fish.

Frying flounder: Coat the fish with your favorite fish coating and fry them. The white skin easily pulls off the fish after it is fried.

Sole and Flounder Recipes

[Click here](#)

Things to Consider

Lake Roosevelt: Huge Kokanee and Rainbow trout are being caught.

Lake Stevens: Good kokanee fishing will last through June.

Lake Chelan: Kokanee and Mackinaw will be quite good through June.

Icicle River: near Leavenworth will open Monday (May 16) until further notice for hatchery-marked spring chinook fishing.

Kelp Greenling: A very under looked and under-fished fish that are extremely good eating. These fish are readily available around all kelp beds in Area 7.

Lower Columbia Spring Chinook: Anglers fishing the lower Columbia River can catch and keep spring chinook salmon for four more days in May – including Memorial Day weekend – and up to 13 days in June under an agreement reached today by fishery managers from Washington and Oregon. [Click Here for full story](#)

Everett Steelhead & Salmon Club Presents:
King and Sockeye Salmon
Opportunities on the Upper
Columbia River

by Mark Gavin who is a Longtime PSA member
and Salmon University Staffer



Mark will cover 3 outstanding fisheries! The Summer Sockeye fishery, the Summer King (aka “June Hogs”) fishery and the world famous Fall King fishery (aka Upriver Brights). He will provide details on run timing, the best places to fish, proven tactics plus some guide secrets to improve your success! This year’s Fall King return is predicted to be the third largest ever! He will tell how to target these fish and even enjoy 2 of the most friendly salmon derbies in the PNW. They are Atomic Salmon Derby and the “King of the Reach” Live Capture Brood Stock Derby.

When: **Thursday, June 16 @ 7:00 pm**

Everett Firemen's Hall, 2411 Hewitt Ave., Everett, WA

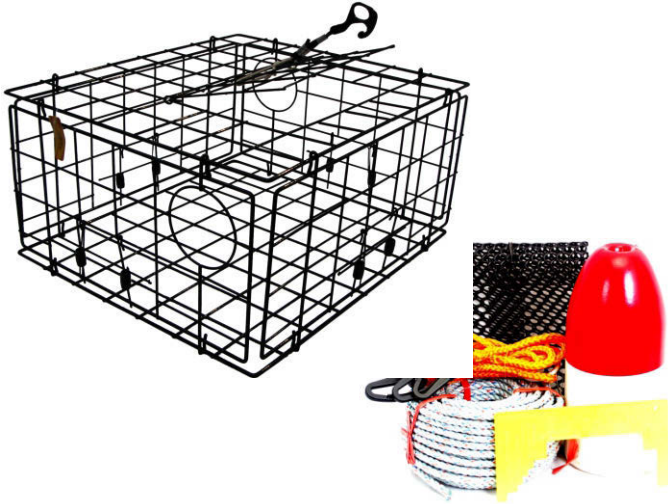
Free Admission and guests are always welcome, **plus a Great Raffle!**

More information at: <http://www.everettsteelheadandsalmonclub.com/>

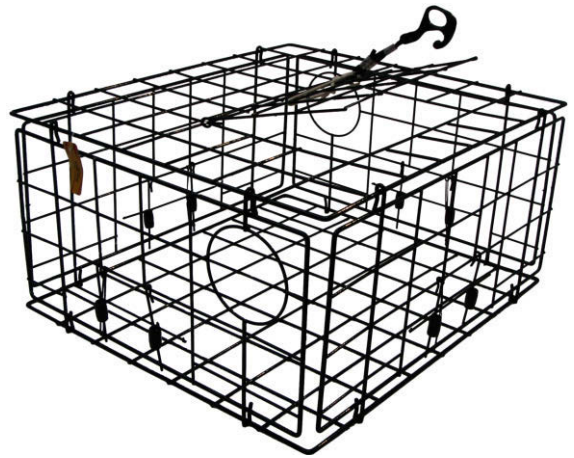
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Expires June 30, 2016

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Friday: Deal of the Day

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