

**Fishing** from 1B

caught from the lower river up to the hatchery. Good numbers of fish typically start returning over the next few weeks.

**SALMON RIVER: Steelhead**  
Winter steelhead are starting to show up in most coastal basins. Salmon River does get a good return of wild winter steelhead and an occasional stray hatchery fish.

**SILETZ RIVER: Steelhead, Chinook**

Winter steelhead season is underway with a small number steelhead being caught from the lower river up to Moonshine Park by both bank and boat anglers. This time of year is typically slow to fair for winter steelhead. Fall Chinook fishing is slow as most remaining fish have moved onto the spawning grounds.

**SIUSLAW RIVER: Steelhead, Chinook**

Winter steelhead are starting to show up in small numbers around the mid to lower sections of the Siuslaw and Lake Creek. Fall Chinook fishing is very slow and any remaining fish have moved onto the spawning grounds.

**WILSON RIVER: Chinook, steelhead**

Fall Chinook are still available in decent numbers. Fish should be spread out through the river, especially after rains raised the river last week. Release dark fish to spawn. All techniques should produce fish, with bobber and bait, back bouncing, bait-wrapped plugs, and casting spinners among the best.

Winter steelhead are available in increasing numbers as well.

**YAQUINA RIVER: Steelhead, Chinook**

The winter steelhead run is starting to kick in with anglers getting into a few fish along the Big Elk as conditions allow. The fall Chinook fishery is essentially over for the

season as most fish have already spawned.

**COOS RIVER BASIN: Dungeness crab, bay clams, steelhead**

Steelhead have been caught this past week on the West Fork Millicoma, East Fork Millicoma, and South Fork Coos rivers. There is bank access on the West Fork Millicoma at the Millicoma Interpretive Center and on the East Fork Millicoma at Nesika Park. Access to the South Fork Coos River is through Weyerhaeuser property and anglers must have the appropriate permit from Weyerhaeuser.

In the Coos Basin, one additional fin-clipped steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of three adult fish harvested daily.

Crabbing in Coos Bay has been decent for boat crabbers. The best crabbing has been near the jetties but crabbers are getting legal-size crab all the way up to the BLM Boat Ramp.

Clamming is excellent during low tides near Charleston, off Cape Arago Highway, and Clam Island.

**UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Steelhead**

The South Umpqua is open for steelhead. The peak numbers of fish normally show up from February to late March. The South Umpqua offers the best chance for catching an adipose-fin clipped steelhead for harvest.

The hatchery program for winter steelhead is centered in the South Umpqua. Most hatchery fish are caught from Canyonville downstream.

All wild fish must be released unharmed.

**TENMILE BASIN: Yellow perch, coho salmon**

Yellow perch are biting on night crawlers or jigs tipped with a worm in Tenmile Lakes. Yellow perch will be concentrated in big schools in deep water. Sometimes anglers need to try several spots before finding the bigger fish. There are lots of smaller yellow perch that anglers have to sort through to catch enough keepers for a meal. Some of the keeper yellow perch are over 12 inches long.

The wild coho season open in Tenmile Lakes is closed.

**WINCHESTER BAY: Chinook, fin-clipped coho**

Most salmon have already moved upstream. Fishing for bottomfish in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful.

Crabbing has been good recently.

**PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: Bottomfish, Dungeness crab**

The ocean is open again for harvest of Dungeness crab. Fishing for bottom fish, including rockfish and lingcod is open to all depths. The marine fish daily bag limit is seven fish

and a separate daily limit of two lingcod.

Retention of cabezon is allowed but for only one cabezon per day per angler.

**PACIFIC HALIBUT:**

The 2014 Pacific halibut seasons have all closed for the remainder of the year. The International Pacific Halibut Commission will set 2015 quotas for all areas in late January 2015. More information on the 2015 seasons will be available after that time.

**BOTTOM FISHING:**

The ocean is open to bottom fishing at all depths. This time of year, whenever the weather permits, bottom fishing can be great fun and very productive. Charter fishing trips are an especially good bet for visitors to the coast, making an ocean fishing experience easy and enjoyable with expert crews to help provide and rig gear and find good fishing locations.

There are separate daily limits of two lingcod and flatfish other than Pacific halibut.

Remember: Yelloweye rockfish and canary rockfish may not be retained.

**CRAB:**

Ocean-caught crabs are big and full of meat this year, although crabbers might have to pay their dues in patience — many crabbers are reporting slow catch rates, but excellent quality crabs.

Bay crabbing can also be very good this time of year.

Keep in mind that major rain events can dramatically lower the salinity in some bays and prompt crab to move lower in the bay or out to the ocean.

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