Fishing

artificial flies and lures, May 2 - Aug 31.

MID COAST LAKES:

Mid coast lakes stocking schedule for this year is posted online. Stocking of mid coast lakes began in February. Siltcoos Lagoon will not be stocked this year due to continued low dissolved oxygen. Trout scheduled to be released in Siltcoos Lagoon will be diverted to Cleawox Lake.

ALSEA RIVER: *Cutthroat trout*

Trout fishing in streams and river opened in May. Fishing is restricted to artificial flies and lures through Aug 31.

SALMON RIVER: *Cutthroat trout*

Trout fishing in streams and river opened May 22. Fishing is restricted to artificial flies and lures through Aug 31.

SILETZ RIVER: *Steelhead, spring Chinook, cutthroat trout*

Summer steelhead are in the river. Fishing is slow but will improve over the coming weeks. The river is in good condition. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

Spring Chinook are available in the Siletz. Be aware of the regulations for the Siletz, 1 wild Chinook per day and two for the season from April 1 – July 31.

Trout fishing in streams and river is open.

Note: The 3.5 mile bridge (aka Steel Bridge) in the Siletz gorge is now open to motorized vehicles, but is only open to public vehicles on the weekend. Anglers can walk/bike in the road during the weekdays. If anglers do walk in they can park at the one mile gate and start from there.)

WILSON RIVER: *Steelhead, spring Chinook, trout*

Summer steelhead are starting to show up on the Wilson River, and the run will continue to improve over the next month or more. Low clear water can make fishing for summer steelhead challenging, but there can be some good action. Drift fishing, spinners, and flies are good choices. Light line, small presentations, and fishing the riffles and deep pools at first and last light can increase success.

There are still a few spring Chinook available in the Wilson River, although numbers will be low. Bobber and eggs or sand shrimp, drift fishing, back bouncing, and divers and bait are all good techniques for springers; these fish can be finicky but are worth the effort.

There are some nice cutthroat around, and these aggressive fish can be fun to catch. Most of the rivers are restricted to artificial lures and flies above tidewater until Aug. 31, so check the regulations before you go.

YAQUINA RIVER: *Cutthroat trout*

Trout fishing in streams and river opened May 22. Fishing is restricted to artificial flies and lures through Aug 31.

COOS COUNTY LAKES/ PONDS: *Trout*

These lakes and ponds are now listed individually in the alphabetical listing. Spring trout stocking begins around March 1 (see stocking schedule).

COOS RIVER BASIN: *Dungeness crab, bay clams, rockfish, trout*

Anglers can only use artificial flies and lures in streams above tidewater. The daily limit for trout in streams is 2 fish per day and they must be 8-inches or longer.

Recreational fishing for bottomfish is open in the ocean along with bays and estuaries. The daily bag limit will be 5 marine fish plus 2 lingcod. There will be no retention of cabezon until July 1. Anglers have reported catching rockfish, greenling and striped surfperch inside Coos Bay near the north jetty and other submerged rock structures.

Crabbing and clamming updates can now be found in the Crabbing and Clamming section of the Recreation Report.

TENMILE CREEK: *Trout, steelhead*

Streams and rivers opened to trout fishing May 22. Anglers can use only artificial flies and lures in streams above tidewater. The daily limit for trout in streams is 2 fish per day and they must be 8-inches or longer.

TENMILE LAKES: *Trout, warmwater species, largemouth bass*

Legal-size rainbow trout are scheduled to be stocked in Tenmile Lakes this week. Trout anglers trolling spinners and wedding rings in the main part of the lake are still catching holdover hatchery rainbow trout in Tenmile Lakes. As water temperatures warm, trout fishing will be best in the early mornings. Trout fishing is open all year in Tenmile Lakes.

Fishing for largemouth bass is picking up with the warm, sunny days. Water temperatures are in the low-60s and bass will become very active in shallow water near weed lines and submerged logs.

Located 10 miles north of North Bend alongside Highway 101, at the town of Lakeside. County Park with camping, boat ramp and a fishing dock.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: *Trout, bass*

The South Umpqua and Cow Creek opened to fishing May 22. Catch-and-release only.

WINCHESTER BAY: *Bottomfish, perch*

Fishing in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful.

PACIFIC OCEAN AND BEACHES: *Bottomfish, crab, surfperch*

Now through Sept. 30, bottomfish anglers will need to fish inside the 30-fathom curve. The daily bag limit will be 5 marine fish plus 2 lingcod.

There will be no retention of cabezon until July 1.

Anglers are reporting catching black rockfish feeding near the surface. This is a great time to catch rockfish on light tackle.

Anglers may also choose to fish the offshore longleader fishery outside of the 40-fathom regulatory line which is open year round. The longleader fishery has a daily bag limit of 10 fish made of yellowtail, widow, canary, redstripe, greenstripe, silvergray, and bocaccio rockfish. No other groundfish are allowed and offshore longleader fishing trips cannot be combined with traditional bottomfish, flatfish or halibut trips. More information about a longleader setup can be found here.

Salmon fishing is open from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain with a limit of two salmon per day and no retention of coho. The fin-clipped coho season will open on June 30.

From Humbug Mountain to the OR/CA border, salmon fishing opened in May with a limit of two salmon per day but no retention of coho.

For the Central Coast Subarea, the All-Depth Halibut fishery will be open June 7-9.

The Nearshore halibut season began June 1.

For the Southern Oregon Subarea, halibut is open 7 days a week through Oct. 31 or attaining the quota of 8,982 lbs.

Surfperch fishing has been good when the ocean swells have been small. Anglers are having the best luck fishing the beaches with sand shrimp or Berkley Gulp sand worms. Anglers need to be careful of rough ocean conditions and sneaker waves.

BOTTOM FISHING

Reports from the Central Coast last week were that rockfish were off the bite. Those that were caught had stomachs full of crab larvae. Lingcod success is marginal, limits are being caught but it takes a lot of time and work. Reminder that as of Sunday, April 1, the bottomfish fishery is restricted to inside of the 30 fathom regulatory line.

The longleader gear fishery outside of the 40 fathom regulatory line has been authorized to continue through September. Recent catches from the offshore longleader trips often consist of a nice grade of yellowtail, widow and canary rockfishes. Reminder that the Stonewall Bank Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area is closed to all bottomfish trips, including longleader trips.

PACIFIC HALIBUT

Recreational Pacific halibut fisheries began opening on May 1. Reminder that similar to the bottomfish fishery listed above, descending devices are mandatory when fishing for or retaining Pacific halibut.

The Columbia River Subarea nearshore fishery open days per week expands to seven days starting in May 24. In the Central Oregon Coast Subarea, the next fixed all-depth dates are June 7-9 and June 21-23.

The Southern Oregon Subarea remains open seven days per week.

OCEAN SALMON

Sport salmon fishing for Chinook is open in ocean waters from Cape Falcon (just North of Nehalem Bay) to the Oregon/California border for two salmon per day (all salmon except coho). Minimum sizes are 24-inches for Chinook and 20-inches for steelhead.

Anglers are also reminded that within the 15-fathom depth contour off Tillamook Bay (Twin Rocks to Pyramid Rock) that all Chinook salmon must have a healed fin clip.

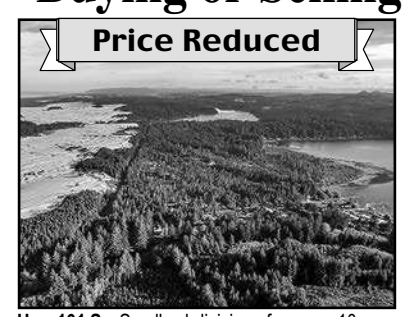
Salmon fishing has generally been slow to date. Most open areas are seeing one Chinook landed for every four angler trips.

Details for the Ocean Salmon season are available at www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/salmon/regulations/regindex.asp

DUNGENESS CRAB

- The entire Oregon coast is now open for recreational crabbing.
- It is still always recommended that crab be eviscerated and the guts or butter discarded prior to cooking. When whole crab are cooked in liquid, domoic acid may leach into the cooking liquid. It is recommended to discard the cooking liquid, and do not use it in other dishes, such as sauces, broths, soups, roux, etc.
- The consumption of crab viscera is also not recommended.

Buying or Selling? I can help.



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- Meet the staff and get questions answered.
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