## Fishing

Switch your fishing focus to bass and warmwater

from 1B

As water temperatures heat up and trout become lethargic, it's time to focus on some bass, walleye, bluegill, yellow perch and other warmwater species. Check out the zone reports for all the opportunities. **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.

In addition, fishing for warmwater species such as bass and other panfish should improve through June as water temperatures warm and these fish get more active.

Ollala Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Siltcoos Lake and Tahkenitch Lake have warm water species available.

ALSEA **RIVER:** Cutthroat trout

Trout fishing in streams and river opened May 22. 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 good in the lower gorge. 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 through July 31.

Trout fishing in streams and river opened May 22.

• 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.

### **SIUSLAW RIVER**: Cutthroat trout

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

**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 at first and last light, or on those drizzly overcast days. Concentrate on deep pools and deeper riffles.

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 very low, especially considering the low runs we are seeing on other basins.

The North Coast Rivers opened for trout fishing May 22. 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

Streams and rivers are open to trout fishing. Trout anglers are having success using small spinners or flies. 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.

Recreational fishing for bottomfish is open in the ocean along with bays and estuaries. Beginning July 1, the daily bag limit for marine fish will reduced from 5 to 4 plus 2 lingcod. The retention of cabezon starts on July 1 with a 1-fish sub-bag limit. Anglers have reported catching rockfish, greenling and striped surfperch inside Coos Bay near the north jetty and other submerged rock structures.

COQUILLE RIVER **BASIN:** Crab, trout

Streams and rivers are open to trout fishing. Trout anglers are having success using small spinners or flies. Anglers can use only artificial flies and lures in streams above tidewater, except the use of bait is allowed on the South Fork Coquille up to the Forest Service boundary upstream of Powers. The daily limit for trout in streams is 2 fish per day and they must be 8-inches or longer.

Smallmouth bass have started to bite in the mainstem Coquille River. Smallmouth are hitting on crankbaits, jigs and bait in the mainstem and South Fork Coquille river. There is no size limit or daily bag limit on the number of smallmouth bass you can keep in the Coquille River Basin.

### TENMILE LAKES:

Trout, warmwater species, large*mouth bass* 

Legal-size rainbow trout were stocked in Tenmile Lakes in early June. Trout anglers trolling spinners and wedding rings in the main part of the lake are catching lots of trout, some over 20-inches. 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 has been good. Water temperatures are in the upper 60s and bass will be found in the shallow water near weed lines and submerged logs in the mornings and evenings.

Yellow perch fishing is good in water depths of 10-15 feet and along weedlines. Anglers are using small jigs or a worm on a hook fished near the bottom.

UMPQUA RIVER, **SOUTH:** Trout, bass

The South Umpqua and Cow Creek opened to trout fishing May 22. Catch-andrelease only. Bass fishing should be good throughout.

WINCHESTER BAY: Bottomfish, perch

Fishing in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful. **OCEAN** PACIFIC **BEACHES:** AND Bottomfish, crab, surfperch

Through Sept. 30, bottomfish anglers will need to fish inside the 30-fathom curve. Beginning July 1, the daily bag

limit for marine fish will go from 5 to 4 plus 2 lingcod. The retention of cabezon will be allowed starting July 1 with a sub-bag of 1-fish.

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. Salmon anglers out of Charleston are reporting some success catching Chinook salmon.

From Humbug Mountain to the OR/CA border, salmon fishing opened May 19 with a limit of two salmon per day but no retention of coho.

For the Central Coast Subarea, if enough quota is available the All-Depth Halibut fishery will be open on July 5-7. As of June 9 there was 52 percent of the quota remaining. The Nearshore halibut season is open seven days a week and

as of June 17 there is 84 percent of the quota remaining.

For the Southern Oregon Subarea, halibut is open 7 days a week through Oct. 31 or attaining the quota of 8,982 lbs. As of June 17 there is 92 percent of the quota remain-

Surfperch fishing has been good when the ocean swells have been small. The best fishing has been on the beaches near the estuaries. Pink fin perch fishing has been good in the Umpqua estuary. 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.

And beginning July 1, the general marine bag limit (rockfish, greenlings, etc.) will be reduced from 5 fish per day to 4 fish. This is necessary to keep total catches within annual quotas, and reduce the chance of an early closure of the recreational bottomfish fishery.

• BOTTOM FISHING: Anglers reported having trouble finding fish at their usual spots, although some days seemed to have picked up some. Boats/anglers that put in the time have been able to come home with limits. Lingcod catches have been hit and miss. Reminder that as of April 1, the bottomfish fishery is restricted to inside of the 30 fathom regulatory line.



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