

## Zeballos BC fishing report

With 2005 being another banner year for Zeballos BC, one can only get excited for what's to come in **2006** ! Daily retention limits of two Chinook and two Coho Salmon are in the forecast for area 25 of Vancouver Island once again. Bringing plenty of table fare for all anglers to enjoy!

The first runs of migrating Chinook Salmon we should see in early May. These fish will be found in the offshore waters of Esperanza Inlet off Vancouver Island in water depths of 70m-120m. Try trolling at depths of 30m-75m using spoons, hoochies or plugs. Some of the best Halibut fishing on Vancouver Island is experienced during this time of the year, with fish being found in as shallow as 15m of water, but generally 30m-80m. Try bouncing your favorite jig or spreader bar setup 2 miles off Tatchu Point to the outside of Esperanza reef 8 miles off. Limits of two fish per day are not a problem during this time, but the weather can be. Always listen to the local weather reports (VHF wx channel 08), for at this time you may not be within miles of any other boat on the open north west coast of Vancouver Island.

The month of June not only brings the sunshine but also means the first runs of Salmon for the inside waters of Nootka Sound. Ferrer point seems to be the place! Try trolling from 7m - 15m watching your fish finder for bait. If you're not seeing the bait or getting the strikes, the fish probably aren't there. Give the ledge that runs from Catala to High Rock a try. Offshore fishing remains excellent with Coho showing up in the mix.

Prime time is July and August, leaving the waters surrounding Zeballos BC buzzing with anxious anglers. This is when the calm waters off Rosa Island become prime staging ground for mature Chinook Salmon. Pin Rock, Catala Island and Ferrer point are also fantastic at this time. This is when bait becomes the preferred tactic. Anchovies and Herring with or without a flasher produce most fish, but cut plug also has its place. Coho are everywhere by now and can become quite the nuisance if you're looking for that slab...nice problem. Halibut fishing remains hot throughout the summer. In the last 2 years we have seen our biggest fish show up in the month of August with some being over 200 lbs.

With west coast Vancouver Island salmon stocks on the rise and Halibut numbers at a peak in years, Zeballos waters remain a world class fishing charter destination for all. For information on this second to none fishery or to book your 2006 Vancouver Island fishing charter, give us a call toll free or check us out online.

Adrian O'Connor  
Reel Obsession Sport Fishing  
1-888-855-7335  
[www.reelobsession.ca](http://www.reelobsession.ca)