

September 2006 Zeballos, BC, Vancouver Island fishing report

Zeballos BC once again lived up to its reputation of being a first class fishing charter destination. With the summer season slowly winding down now is the time when I can reflect back on what a fantastic fishing charter season it was.

Halibut fishing was the main focus throughout the start of the spring season, and what a start it was! Great numbers of fish showed up inshore and in the offshore waters of Vancouver Island. Limits came fast and furious with many double headers and even the odd triple-header. This seems to be the one fishery that DFO has been able to manage, let's hope it keeps up.

Chinook and Coho Salmon fishing turned on in early June with good numbers of fish showing up inside the surf line. This is a little early for this area, but there was lots of bait (herring, needle fish and Sardines) around to keep them there.

July and August speak for themselves with the number of boats and fish that show up to this area. Great Chinook and Coho Salmon fishing is what keeps anglers returning year after year to fish these waters of Vancouver Island. Halibut, Lingcod and a wide variety of bottom fish are always plentiful throughout the entire fishing charter season as well.

Although the number of boats on the water decreases in September, the fishing opportunities are as abundant as ever. The first week of September produces some of the largest Chinook of the year. Coho Salmon fishing is as good as it gets in September with lots of fish up to 20lbs being caught. The retention limit of Coho also increases to four fish at this time. Buck tailing and trolling spoons is the best method to target these fantastic fighters. Chum salmon start to show up in mid September and stay strong until the end of October. These fish are very powerful and can be a lot of fun to catch. Hoochies in pink and purple trolled behind a flasher at depths of 7-20m take most fish.

If you were unable to get on the water in the summer months, give this fall fishery a try, as we also get great weather through September. I guarantee you that Zeballos BC has some of the best Salmon and Halibut charter fishing on Vancouver Island.

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