

August 07 report for Zeballos/Nootka Sound on Vancouver Island BC

Salmon fishing doesn't get any better around Zeballos BC and area 25 than during August. Area 25 is expecting good returns of three to five year old Chinook this year, meaning we should see a lot of big fish showing up at the docks.

Ferrer Point produces great numbers of Chinook salmon at this time. Expect to see a lot of boats working from the donut down into the back bay. Trolling at depths of 7-15m will produce the most fish, but don't be afraid to get off the kelp a bit and drop down 16-20m if shallower is not producing. Anchovies and herring trolled in a teaser head is the preferred method. I like leader lengths of 5.5-7 ft at this time. If there is a lot of fish around try fishing without a flasher on one side. This can be a lot of fun with some light tackle. Teaser heads in chartreuse, clear, clear blue and green and Betsy are some of my favorite colors. I always run one gold flasher at this time as some of the fish are starting to turn a bit. Green, red, purple and Betsy are my preferred flasher colors. Pin Rock, Catala Island and Rosa Island are your other best bets if hunting for big Chinook.

Offshore Vancouver Island fishing is as good as it gets as well. Numerous migratory runs are passing along the fish highway. Trolling at depths of 17-50m will produce the most fish. When the bite is on Spoons plugs and Hoochies will keep you in consistent fishing action. If the fish are not feeding aggressively try switching to some bait.

Coho fishing should be picking up at this time. We should see good catches coming off Catala Island and along the surf line. If you can find some concentrated fish, a fun way to catch these silver bullets is drift jigging. Try using Buzz Bombs, Stingers and Sting Zeldas.

Halibut and bottom fishing is good around Esperanza throughout the summer. August is when we usually see our largest barn doors show up on the docks. Lets remember that these fish are biggest egg producers and although they make a great photo, they aren't the best of table fair. Zeballos and Nootka Sound consistently proves to be some of the best fishing on Vancouver Island. If you are interested in a Vancouver Island fishing charter, I can guarantee Reel Obsession Charters will hook you up.