

September 2007 Vancouver Island fishing report for Zeballos/Esperanza BC

September is a great time to enjoy Zeballos BC and the waters of Esperanza. The crowds have left and the charter fishing is still great. We generally see some of the largest Salmon of the year at this time. The first couple weeks of September always prove to be a fantastic time to hunt for trophy Chinook heading for the spawning grounds of Vancouver Island.

Ferrer point is the place to be at this time, but not the only place. Pin Rock and Rosa harbor will also see large mature springs passing through on their last leg to there home rivers. Larger baits are the preferred choice now with giant schools of pilchards boiling throughout the sound. Its not hard to tell when you pass through a school of this bait as the rods vibrate violently. To the untrained eye you will think you have a small fish on. You need to check your bait a few minutes after this occurs as a lot of the time it gets banged up from this. If you keep a herring jig on a spinning outfit you can easily catch some fresh bait even as you are trolling. The pilchards are somewhat delicate and can loose there scales quit easily if not handled right. After I catch them I put then in a bucket of water to die naturally and this way they don't loose to many scales or get bruised from flopping around. . I have fished these pilchards a couple of different ways and had great success. My favorite is using a large herring teaser head with a piece of wire running off it. I insert the wire behind the gill and run it through the body until just behind the dorsal fin. With the wire in place you are able to get your desired roll as these fish are quit soft. My largest fish (46lbs) of 2006 was caught this way.

Large northern Coho will be showing up throughout September and into October. Rosa Harbor and Double Island are good spots. Run your favorite spoons twice as fast as you would for Chinook. For information on an unforgettable Vancouver Island Fishing Charter give us a call.

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