

Vancouver Island Fishing Report for Zeballos BC June 2008

The last couple of years we have started to see migratory Chinook salmon showing up along Vancouver Island earlier than normal. By the middle of June last year we had huge runs passing through Ferrer Point and around Catala and Twin Islands. With the Chinook came the Coho, and we saw some of the best action of the season. This is a great time of year to be fishing Vancouver Island and Zeballos BC because there is not a lot of pressure on these fish yet.

Anchovies or herring trolled in a teaser head is my favorite set up. Teaser heads in purple haze, chartreuse, Betsy, and red chrome are all a good choice. At this time of the year a lot of the bait around is quite small. Remember this when choosing your bait or lure size. I had some great success with 3.5-4 inch Coyote spoons in half and half silver/green and silver blue. I fished these with a dummie flasher off the cannon ball and some days they definitely out produced the bait. As I said before the Coho salmon showed up with the Chinook. There were such good numbers that we had multiple hook ups daily dragging flies in the prop wash. Good numbers of Salmon can be found along the 50-fathom edge. Trolling at depths of 30-80m with your favorite hardware or hoochies should see good fishing action.

June is prime time for Halibut fishing around Esperanza. The last few years have consistently produced limits for all my guests. . Esperanza reef is a good spot to try. Fishing the south side and surrounding structure is your best bet. There are plenty of rockfish and ling cod around here to keep you busy if the halibut bite is slow. Octopus, herring and mackerel will all work fished off a spreader bar or on a slip weight. A variety of jigs in white, glow and black are a good choice when there are dogfish around or when bait is fishing slowly. I definitely have certain days where jigs out produce bait.

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Adrian O'Connor
Reel Obsession Charters
www.reelobsession.ca
1 888 855 7335