

Northwest Oregon and Washington's most complete and accurate fishing forecast

Forecasting for the fishing week of **July 21st, – July 27th, 2006**

Oregon Fisheries Update:

As we celebrate our 8th year bringing our readers the most updated and detailed information on our Oregon sportfisheries, we wanted to take a moment to thank our subscribers for being a part of our fishing community and for helping make The Guide's Forecast what it is today. Of course we would like to continue to serve you and improve our product and welcome any input our readers provide. We also hope you will encourage your fellow fishing partners into subscribing to the full length version of our newsletter (so we can quit our day jobs and work full time on TGF) if you feel it has met your expectations. We also look forward to continue advocating for our sportfishing interests and hope you will join us in our quest for better NW opportunities. Thank you for all you do and please contact us if you wish to contribute fishing information, have any suggestions for improvement or if there is any way we can help you enjoy The Guide's Forecast even more.

In Gratitude,

Bob Rees, editor, contributing writer brees@pacifier.com

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Willamette Valley/Metro - Despite dropping numbers of summer Chinook at Bonneville, catches remain fair for anglers from the mouth of the Sandy River, into the Gorge. Salmon anglers averaged nearly a fish for every 3 boats and steelhead are streaming over Bonneville at nearly 2,000 per day. Steelhead action in the gorge is spotty but boat anglers anchored in the right spot are witnessing consistent action using small spinners.

Pro guide Brandon McGavran (360-607-1327) reports the mouth of the Cowlitz is picking up for summer steelhead.

Sturgeon fishing in the gorge is slow for keepers but anglers in the Portland to Longview stretch are taking a keeper for every 10 rods. Experienced anglers in the area have the option for a salmon or steelhead trip coupled with keeper sturgeon in the Thursday through Saturday season.

Bonneville Pool anglers are still taking a few keepers and oversized sturgeon but the last day for a retention option will be Sunday, July 23rd. It will not reopen until January 1st.

Willamette Falls counts indicate an average of well over 100 Chinook per day are crossing for a total as of July 13th of 36,128. Tempting a strike in the tepid water is unlikely, however. Daily steelhead counts are similar with a total of 17,382 as of that same date. Flows are less than 8,000 CFS as the water temps approach the mid-70s.

The lower Willamette is open Thursdays through Saturdays for sturgeon but hooking a keeper is unlikely. Shad season is on its last leg. Bass fishing is fair to good.

Nearly 400 hatchery summer steelhead have returned to the Clackamas hatchery facility. In addition, 345 wild and 187 hatchery Chinook had returned through July 10th. A handful of steelhead were taken over the weekend, but high water temps have put off the Chinook bite. The water is low and clear.

Sandy levels are also declining with the water turning milky. Chinook and steelhead are being recycled

from the hatchery but catch rates are low. Bait is recommended in the off-color water.

Despite good numbers of steelhead and springers present in the Santiam system, catch rates are only fair.

Trout will be planted this week in Breitenbush River, Detroit Reservoir, Upper McKenzie River, Middle Fork Willamette River, Salt Creek and the North Fork Santiam River.

Northwest – Ocean salmon fishing has picked up a bit out of the lower Columbia River. Consistent action has been best north of the river entrance with coho making up the bulk of the catch. A few Chinook to 20 pounds were reported in the catch and anglers starting in 190 feet of water are finding fair results. Although the swell is tolerable, northwest winds are making for uncomfortable seas.

The catch and release sturgeon fishery is excellent out of the lower Columbia. Quality fish are falling to fresh and frozen herring as well as fresh anchovies. Good action is still coming from the shallower sand flats but the weaker tide series will allow anglers to fish the deeper water without the use of heavy lead. Effort has been very low which contributes to high success rates.

Beach anglers downstream of the Longview Bridge have witnessed increased catches of summer steelhead. The run through the lower river will peak over the next 4 weeks but anglers will find more challenging conditions until we enter into another minus tide series next week.

Anglers targeting ocean salmon out of Garibaldi are taking fish but limits are not the rule. Ocean conditions have not been conducive for productive trips and anglers have only harvested 30% of the quota through July 16th.

The Nehalem Bay fishery is underway but catches are light. The softer tide series over the weekend will allow herring trollers at the mouth a fair opportunity for summer Chinook.

Southwest – The spring all-depth halibut season off the central Oregon coast is closed. Summer season opens for halibut beyond the 40-fathom line August 4th through 6th with additional dates following.

A minus tide series will allow for early-morning clamming. Agate Beach on the central coast and Bailey Beach further South are the best bets for razors. Bay clams are abundant.

It was mid-day before boats could launch out of Winchester Bay over the weekend. Most anglers hooked up although salmon limits were rare. Only hatchery coho may be retained and the majority of silvers hooked recently have been wild. Chinook results have been fair to good.

Shad fishing is holding up well as the run winds down on the Coos River.

Rogue Bay opened for the retention of Chinook, fin-clipped or not, on Saturday, July 15th. Since most fish hooked prior to that were wild, the catch rates increased although it's slow this early in the season. This fishery will be decent by mid-August. High water temperatures in the Rogue River will keep these fish concentrated in the estuary until the rains of Fall. Start early and expect increasing effort.

Tuna have been taken only 15 to 20 miles offshore out of Brookings. Central and Northern anglers are traveling up to 50 miles or more to find ideal, warmer ocean temperatures. One day last week a charter took 70 tuna within 13 miles of port in 63-degree water.

Limits of rockfish and ling cod are common off the Southern coast. Ocean crabbing continues to result in good catches with the majority of the Dungeness in hard-shell condition.

Fish Lake, Cole Rivers and Section 5 of the Rogue River will be stocked with trout.

Eastern - Bead-head nymphs are taking trout to 20 inches from the Willowa River despite the water getting skinny.

Trout fishing remains good on the Grande Ronde with a few Bull Trout and big Rainbow surprising anglers. Bass fishing is holding up well in the lower stretches.

Steelhead prospects are improving in the lower Deschutes as numbers of fish stream over the dams. This section opens for Chinook on August 1st.

Rainbow trout have been planted at Devils Lake, Spring Creek and Walton Lake this week.

Southwest Washington- Hatchery returns of steelhead to all SW Washington streams are ahead of last years counts and the Cowlitz remains top billing. Catches were great from Mission Bar to Blue Creek.

Steelheaders on Drano Lake were doing well with increased counts over Bonneville an easy indicator. Temperatures are warming however, which could effect angler success in upcoming weeks.

Soapbox Update – Advisories:

Oregon health officials are warning against eating raw oysters. Over the past week, 14 cases of Vibrio parahaemolyticus infections, characterized by diarrhea, cramps, vomiting and fever. While the infection generally goes away on its own, sufferers are advised to visit their physicians and let them know about the consumption of these uncooked (and yummy) bivalves. Doctors can hasten recovery.

In another health advisory, Lemolo Lake East of Roseburg has reportedly suffering a bloom of toxic algae. Contact with anabaena flos-aquae by mouth or even inhalation can be harmful or fatal. A similar advisory was recently lifted from Lost Creek Lake. Give Lemelo wide berth until the algae runs its course and dies off in a couple of weeks.

Closures:

The bridge over Fall Creek will be replaced on the trail to Green Lakes in the Three Sisters Wilderness. This route will consequently be closed Monday through Friday next week. The alternate Soda Creek Trail will take hikers to the same destination.

Resurfacing of the road will close the Rogue River Bridge on Forest Road No. 6210 on the Upper Rogue River five miles north of Prospect for three weeks beginning Monday.

Columbia River Fishing Report – Oversized fishing remains a great option for those wishing to experience some great sportfishing. Floater shad continue to be the best bait but plan on working hard to find some before heading to the sturgeon grounds. The lower deadline remains at Marker 85 but the sanctuary will open up on August 1st. Flows have slowed so serious anglers will find it necessary to use a kicker motor to hold your position in order to keep your baits in place. **Pro guide Dan Ponciano (360-607-8511)** reports effort on the catch and release days is low and success is good. Keepers are a rare catch however and will likely stay that way until it reopens in the fall.

Summer Chinook fishing has certainly slowed down as the dam passage may indicate. Dan Ponciano mentioned that anglers fishing the deeper water near the Oak Tree Hole are taking an occasional quality fish. Flows have subsided so the steelhead fishing is beginning to pick up as well. Steelheaders need to be in finite slots to witness consistent results and small spinners are working the best. The Deschutes and Wind River fisheries are beginning to get underway but warm water temperatures will

keep anglers from seeing tremendous results. The numbers are certainly present.

Pro guide Brandon McGavran (360-607-1327) reports, "The mouth of the Cowlitz is picking up for summer Steelhead.

"I have been getting 3 to 5 fish per day now, but fishing will improve with this next set of big minus tides. Fish are being caught while anchored in 10 to 25 feet of water on the outgoing tide.

"Red or orange U-20, X-4 & X-5 Flatfish are the standby lures here. These work especially well at the beginning and end of the outgoing tide. I like to switch to spinners during the middle of the tide when it is really pumping out. Size # 5, 6, and 7 spinner blades all work with red, red/white, brass/red, and brass/green being some of my favorites.

"A few nice summer Chinook are being caught each day as well.

Here's McGavran's client, Dwain Buck, showing off a chrome eight-pounder:



Anglers working the ocean out of the mouth of the Columbia are finding fair results. **Pro guide Val Perry (503-440-5281)** reported a 4 fish limit for his 2 customers targeting fish in 190 to 220 feet of water NW of the mouth of the Columbia River. Val stated the bulk of the catch consisted of coho but he did get one Chinook in the 20 pound range. Herring and anchovies took most of his fish at 10 to 20 strips and the early morning produced the best results.

Val has also been conducting some catch and release sturgeon trips and reported the fishing as "lights out". Of course, effort is low and fish are present in both shallow and deep areas with shrimp producing best in the shallow areas. Frozen herring were producing great results but of course fresh herring and anchovies will produce too. Lower Desdemona Sands is putting out the best catches but fish are scattered above Tongue Point for those needing to get out of the wind.

Bottomfishing is best for ling cod but seas have not been all that friendly for ocean goers. Fresh, large herring will produce the best results.

The Guide's Forecast – The oversized sturgeon show may begin to slow as flows subside in the gorge. Winds will hamper success until the sanctuary opens up on August 1st but shad, mostly in the "floater" stage, will continue to be the bait producing the best results. Although we are still a week

away from the opening of the sanctuary, a few keepers may be present in the water that hasn't been touched for quite some time.

Shad fishing has slowed and so has the salmon fishing. Anglers still wishing to target salmon should seek out the deeper water and steelhead anglers will be searching for well defined slots and gravel bars in 8 to 15 feet of water. Small spinners will work the best for both species but salmon will continue to dwindle while steelhead action picks up. The mouths of the Wind and Deschutes Rivers should begin to produce fair results with cooler times of the day producing the best results. Water temperatures will dictate angler success rates.

Ocean salmon seekers should continue to find better success but it may be challenging to find concentrated numbers of keeper coho until later in the season. Hatchery fish seem to be making their way up the Oregon coast and the south of Cape Falcon fishery is scheduled to close on July 31st. With only 30% of the quota at this writing, good numbers of hatchery fish will certainly be left on the table. A stiff NW wind is forecasted for most of the week which will again keep many angler from participating in the fishery. Trolled herring just under the surface will account for a good bite early in the morning but anglers will find higher concentrations of fish deeper as the sun rises into the sky.

The estuary sturgeon catch and release fishery will be a great option for those lucky enough for an early limit or if the seas are too rough to comfortably fish in. The best thing about this fishery is you can effectively use your salmon bait to catch quality fish just out of Hammond. This fishery won't open again until January 1st as the quota of 16,000 keepers was nearly attained in the spring/summer fishery.

If NW winds were not an issue, bottomfishing out of the mouth of the Columbia would be a great option. The softer tides are key to a calm bar and productive fishing but it may be a while until we see these conditions again.

Willamette, McKenzie & Santiam Rivers Fishing Report – Willamette Falls counts indicate averages of well over 100 Chinook per day are crossing for a total as of July 16th of 36,395. Tempting a strike in the tepid water is unlikely, however. Daily steelhead counts are similar with a total of 17,703 as of that same date. Flows are less than 8,000 CFS with the water temps in the mid-70s. It ain't gonna get any cooler this weekend.

The lower Willamette remains open for sturgeon retention Thursdays through Sundays. No keepers have been reported and even fishing for "shorts" has fallen off.

Most of the salmon and steelhead crossing at Willamette Falls enter the Sanriam system. With the river stable, if low, currently, there's a better chance here than elsewhere in the Valley for action.

The Guide's Forecast – The lower Willamette is open Thursdays through Saturdays for sturgeon but hooking a keeper is unlikely. Shad season is on its last leg. Bass fishing is fair to good. Bank angling should be fair to good but drift boaters will spend plenty of time on the wrong side of the gunwale, dragging their craft over skinny water.

North Santiam steelheaders working the middle and upper stretches of the river stand a good chance of hooking up this weekend, Try very early in the day. Evening temperatures won't provide much of a respite for late-day angling.

Clackamas and Sandy River Fishing Reports – Over 600 hatchery summer steelhead had returned to the Clackamas hatchery facility as of July 18th. In addition, 365 wild and 218 hatchery Chinook had

been counted at Faraday Dam. A handful of steelhead were taken over last weekend, but high water temps combined with low, clear conditions have put off the Chinook bite.

Water level on the Sandy River is also declining although the milky, glacial color has cleared. Many of the 700 or so Chinook and 200 summer steelhead have been recycled from the hatchery but catch rates are low.

The Guide's Forecast – Although all steelhead returning to the Clack are fin-clipped keepers, finding one and getting it to hit in the scorching temperatures forecast for this weekend will be a challenge. It would be tempting to bag the fishing and join the swimmers who will be heading to the Clackamas River en masse to beat the heat. This is a bad idea. Parents should discourage youngsters and teens from doing so. It's a dangerous place for water play where lives are lost every year.

Returns to the Hatchery facility on the Sandy have slowed to a trickle recently with the river suffering from lack of rainfall. Try the smallest baits and lures fished on long, light leaders, but don't expect much for your efforts. Despite good numbers of steelhead and springers present in the Santiam system, catch rates will remain very low in these challenging conditions. Either fish high on the system or troll around the mouth.

North Coast District Fishing Report – Ocean salmon fishing remains the best option on tap for North Coast anglers. Sporadic catches of coho and a few Chinook are coming out of the Port of Garibaldi. Anglers were finding challenging conditions to get over the bar and then facing NW winds in the late morning. All these factors make for challenging fishing conditions not to mention the fact a safety issue. As is standard, starting shallow for both coho and Chinook salmon using frozen herring for bait is common practice in this fishery. Drop the baits down deeper or use downriggers if you have them as the day progresses. Common sense would have anglers using larger herring to target deeper running Chinook but the coho seem quite willing to take these too. Anglers will have a hard time meeting the quota before the July 31st closing date as we have only attained 30% of the quota. The ratio of wild to hatchery is almost exactly a 1:1 since the opening of the season.

Crabbing is improving in Tillamook Bay but the best crabbing remains in the ocean. There is a mix of both hard and softshell crab available and with fewer people fishing the rougher ocean, those properly equipped to do battle with the NW wind should score good numbers of keeper crab. Fresher bait is always better.

Chinook catches on Nehalem Bay have yet to show any signs of improving. The summer run should be building as we move into August but this fishery typically peaks in the middle of August. Many are anticipating a good return given the lack of commercial troll effort in near shore waters but it's certainly too early to be calling that one. Early season trollers take fair numbers of fish closer to the town of Wheeler but fish should be available from the mouth to the town of Nehalem. Herring work best but algae could become an issue in the warming waters. The further upstream you go into the tidewater section, hardware becomes a viable option. Bobber and egg tossers will dominate upstream of Nehalem but that season seems more productive when the fall run gets underway. Many of these fish are mainstem spawners in the Vernonia area.

Subscriber and avid angler Rich r. sends this, "As I approached Wheeler this a.m. for what I had hoped would be the early morning (first light bite) I saw, for the first time this summer, that the parking lot was full at the launch, lots of boats between Wheeler and the Kahrs Dock. I scurried down to my boat, moored at the Wheeler Marina to Participate . I counted 32 boats between Wheeler and Kahrs, 2 guide boats (another first for the year) and 2 seals...which, as you know, are the best "fish-in" indicators.

Since I had not fished since Friday July 14th I thought to myself "They are finally in"... 2 hrs. later, yet

to see a fish caught , even though I heard that a couple were caught at first light...I moored my boat and collected my tackle for the trip back to Rockaway Beach.

"So what was it that caused the excitement ? The boat traffic, the guides ? On the Braggers Board at Wheeler Marina I learned the secret... 2 fish checked in 7-17, 1 fish checked in 7-16 and 1 on 7-15. At the Wheeler area mind you.

"I started fishing the Wheeler area on July 5th, and with the exception of the weekends, I have been out there most mornings from about 6:30 a.m. til about 8:30 a.m...normally with two other boats...locals "Sea Gull" Al, and Newt. In the time between July 5th and July 14th, I saw 1 fish caught in the Wheeler area... Newt got a 11# native chinook on July 9th and that was about it.

"As I was leaving, I saw one of the top fisherman in that area, local "Sea Gull" Al. Since I had not been out the past 4 days , I asked Al...What have I missed. and he said "You didn't miss a darn thing"...

"Wish I could tell you more positive things but other than a lot of boats, two guide boats, 2 seals, lots of bait fish and some fish on my fish finder...everything was just about status quo. Guess those two fish caught Monday started the rumor ": they are in now"...

"Anytime you want to know the "facts" about the fishing in the wheeler area, just call Jim at the Wheeler Marina.. he tells it like it is."

TGF readers - the number for Wheeler Marina us 503-368-5780.

No need to consider Tillamook spring Chinook at this point. Most of the fish are beginning to turn color and should be left alone to reach their spawning beds. The excess number of people using the Wilson and Trask Rivers to swim or snag in certainly stresses these fragile fish more than they can handle. Remember to report any suspicious activity to the Oregon State Police as we just can't tolerate poaching activity for this unique species. Summer steelhead are certainly an option for anglers on the upper Wilson and Nestucca Rivers and **pro guide Jesse Zalonis (503-392-5808)** has this to report: "The Nestucca is getting quite low and clear. Stealthy tactics are the rule. The Chinooks are there, but are in the lay down mode, so it's not really worth the effort. However, Steelhead are plentiful, and are responding well to small drifted baits of eggs and peeled crawdad tails. Bank fishing on the middle stretch of river has been really good above first bridge. Fishing most of the heavy water has been best, and spinner guys have been doing well too. We are going to fish the rest of the week, and then call it quits, other than a couple of fun days. Crabbing in the bay has been sporadic, but should be good here with a little different tide series."

The Guide's Forecast – The ocean forecast does not seem all that good for salmon fishers. NW winds are likely to make late mornings a bit uncomfortable so anglers may want to consider heading NW out of Garibaldi to seek salmon. That way, if the NW does kick up, you can travel back to port with the wind versus against it. Most of the salmon action has been taking place NW of the bay entrance anyway but it's always good to check the ocean forecast prior to departure so you know what you are in for. Frozen herring are really the only option for anglers in this region and thankfully, the salmon respond well to these quality baits. There is just over one week left in this season and hatchery fish are due to make a stronger showing in this fishery as they make their way north to the Columbia River entrance.

Chinook anglers looking to Nehalem Bay have nothing to get too excited about. This fishery is due to improve but catches are likely to remain light until mid-August. Anglers are optimistic that returns will be good but this fishery hasn't produced excellent results for quite some time. Herring trollers should seek the lower bay at Brighton as the weaker tide series should produce some results for seasoned veterans. Keep those baits on the bottom and bouncing during the entire outgoing tide. The most productive time to fish should be the first part of outgoing and the last half as well. Persistent fishers

will score the best results and since you'll be competing with several others, scent may play a valuable role in your success.

Motivated summer steelhead anglers should find fair numbers of fish holding in the upper watershed of the Wilson and Nestucca Rivers. Pocket water will hold biters and the early bird will get the worm. Small drift bobbers and shrimp tails will take fish in the tailouts in the early morning and swifter water as the morning progresses. Light line will be a requirement as the sun shines higher in the sky. Evening time may provide some additional, but short-lived opportunities.

Central & South Coast Reports – High temperatures inland results in wind and rough seas along the coastline. This situation combined with challenging morning tides doesn't bode well for the first Oregon Tuna Classic fishing derby scheduled for this weekend in Newport. Additional derbies are scheduled for August in Astoria and September in Garibaldi. Go to www.oregontunaclassic.com or Email cbeatty@auctionpay.com for information.

According to Ocean Salmon Management statistics, boaters launching out of Winchester Bay have had the best results, the 541 Chinook and 1,244 coho taken the week ending July 16th eclipsed other ports many times over. At 660, Newport was second for coho catches, Charelston reported 133 Chinook taken. As of July 16th, nearly 4,200 Chinook have been bonked coast wide this season. About 6,100 hatchery coho have been landed, nearly 3,000 of which were caught over that last week.

It appears the selective (finclipped) offshore coho fishery, scheduled to close on August 1st, will go the distance. From Garibaldi to the California border, only 27.3% of the coho quota had been taken as of July 16th. Rough ocean conditions and high winds had come up afternoons through Wednesday, and while South coast predictions this week aren't as hairy than those for the North coast, anglers should be certain to check the latest forecast before making the trip.

As late as Wednesday this week, boaters launching early out of Winchester Bay were having no problem scoring quick coho limits and scooting back into port before the afternoon winds became problematic.

The Umpqua smallmouth bass fishery is the hot ticket on that system. Springer fishing, which never took off anyway, remains lousy and the curtain is closing on the shad run. Summer steelhead prospects are improving as high air temperature warms the water.

Hope springs eternal in the angler's heart, but the spring all-depth halibut season off the central Oregon coast has closed. Anglers actually exceeded the generous 175,474-pound spring quota by 8,400 pounds. No additional three-day openers will be scheduled.

On a brighter note, boaters equipped to chase deep-water flatties have a series of opportunities with the summer season opens August 4th through 6th for a quota of a little over 50,000 pounds. Offshore waters are open for halibut inside the 40-fathom line seven days a week.

Rogue Bay opened for the retention of wild as well as fin-clipped Chinook, on Saturday, July 15th. Since most fish hooked prior to that were wild, hopes were high but catches were low for the opener.

It's early for the Rogue Bay Chinook fishery but the appearance the first week of July of over 100 pelicans diving for baitfish in the estuary, which activity is normally associated with late July or early August, got anglers excited. Early-arriving Chinook are often larger than those arriving with the bulk of the run later in the year. At least three fish 40 pounds or better have been boated recently with many running 30 pounds or better. Reports of strong coho numbers holding just offshore will add to the Fall run component.

High water temperatures combined with a 20% drop in water level this week will prevent incoming Chinook from running upstream. This situation is to the bay trollers advantage as salmon will remain keged in the estuary. Troll bait for Chinook in Rogue Bay for the best shot at a hookup. Anchovies are most popular, but large schools of sardines have also been spotted and are worth a try. The majority of boats are getting hookups now. After that, it's between the angler and the fish.

As of June 15th, 9,036 spring Chinook had been counted at Gold Ray Dam on the upper Rogue, an estimated 90% of the 2006 run. As of the same date, at about 30% of the run, nearly 3,200 summer steelhead had hit the trap, a strong number for this early in the year.

Summer steelheaders continue to find decent fishing on the upper Rogue and springer hopefuls are still hooking up at the Hatchery Hole as the run winds down. While a few summers are being taken in the Grants Pass stretch, the fishing is better elsewhere.

Tuna have been taken only 15 to 20 miles offshore out of Brookings. Central and Northern anglers are traveling up to 50 miles or more to find ideal, warmer ocean temperatures. One day last week a charter took 70 tuna within 13 miles of port in 63-degree water.

Limits of rockfish and ling cod are common off the Southern coast. Ocean crabbing continues to result in good catches with the majority of the Dungeness in hard-shell condition.

Central and Eastern Oregon – With a few steelhead reported taken from the lower Deschutes and counts mounting at the dams, look for boats to start stacking up at the mouth of the river. It'll be worthwhile around the 1st of August.

Caddis Flies are active early and late in the day along the middle Deschutes. Nymphs will hook trout right through the heat of the day in this stretch.

Northwest Trout - Deep trolling is taking kokanee at Odell. Kokanee fishing has improved over the last week at Paulina. Lake Simtustus is producing decent catches of both kokes and rainbows. Green Peter remains slow for kokanee.

Trout will be planted this week in the Willamette Zone at Breitenbush River, Detroit Reservoir, Upper McKenzie River, Middle Fork Willamette River, Salt Creek and the North Fork Santiam River. Trout planting in the Northwest Zone resumes in September.

Reader Email

So, what does a top Oregon fishing guide do on vacation? If he's in Alaska on the Kenai River, he foes fishing, of course! Here's a picture of TGF's own **pro guide Bob Rees** with his friend and avid Oregon angler **Stan Lintner** with a 63 pound King landed on July 18th on a backrolled diver and eggs.



Pro guide Bill Kremers (541 754 6411) wrote to Bob Rees on July 17th, "I am up on the Kenai this week returning Saturday evening, red fishing is slow, but its appears to be improving a little. Hoping to get in some king action tomorrow evening and Wednesday and halibut fishing on Thursday.

Last week I had a good salmon trip out of Winchester. The only problem was getting across the bar, with a large minus tide creating a large standing wave across the bar. We were able to limit out on coho in a couple of hours. We saw some nice chinook caught, one was close to 40 pounds. Salmon fishing is still slow off out Depoe, amazing how salmon fishing can be so hot off one port and only about 60 miles away it is so poor."

Bob Rees replied, "How funny is that? I am up there too Bill! We had 11 king chances from 10 pm to 10 am today. Landed 5 but 3 were jacks. Got a 35 and a 25. Give a call on my cell to see if I can take you to dinner this week before you go. Good luck fishing and thanks for the report!"

Write to the TGF staff:

Bob Rees: brees@pacifier.com
Doug Rees: drees@TheGuidesForecast.com
Michael Teague: SailCat@SailCat.com

Random Links

Sign up for the Seventh Annual Buoy 10 Salmon Challenge August 14th and 25th benefiting the Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association. Over a quarter-million coho and 470,000 Fall Chinook are forecast to return. You should be able to catch a couple of them and maybe win a prize. Information is online at <http://www.nsiafishing.org/Events.htm> or call toll-free 1-866-315-NSIA.

The latest prognostication - Columbia River Mouth Fish Returns Actual and Forecasts:

http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/salmon_columbia_returns06.htm

While the favorite public (non-subscription) offshore temperature reading at Terrafin.com lags a day behind for those of use who don't pay for the service, the ocean is giving tuna anglers hope for a relatively near-shore foray: <http://www.terrafin.com/sstview/samples/freeoregon.htm>

Weekly Quote – "The fun comes, I think, as it does with just about any other act of skill, when you are properly challenged, when you are fascinated by what's difficult. I guess I fish not because it's easy but because it's not; I guess I fish because there's really no end to what you can learn, no reason to think that you'll exhaust the complexity of the sport in a lifetime." - Nick Lyons

GOOD LUCK!