

The Guide's Forecast - volume 16 issue number 34

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

Forecasting for the fishing week of **August 22<sup>nd</sup> – August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

### **Oregon Fisheries Update:**

**NOW IS THE TIME** to prep yourself for a RECORD return of salmon on the lower Columbia. Don't go into this fishery thinking it's still going to be easy! Go to our tech report page at: <http://www.theguidesforecast.com/techrpt.shtml> and order your Buoy 10 tech report for home study. You'll need every advantage you can to outshine the competition you'll have this year. Good luck!

**Willamette Valley/Metro** – Although early, chinook counts at Bonneville are far behind last year's total to date. It's too early to call the run under-predicted but anchor anglers in the Portland to Longview stretch haven't begun to show positive results just yet. Summer steelhead are still pouring through but not very responsive to angler's offerings.

Catch-and release sturgeon fishing is poor in the lower Willamette at this time of year and Multnomah Channel walleye catches are slow in warm water. That leaves smallmouth bass fishing as the activity of choice for anglers, and it has been good.

Boaters are urged to exercise caution in drifting the North Santiam. Most channels are clear on the upper river but there are the occasional obstacles to avoid. Fishing has been slow. Water level and flow has settled down a little but is still exhibiting minor irregularities every day.

Sandy anglers are used to glacial conditions but over the past week, the water color has turned opaque. It's difficult to imagine a fish finding a lure in the murky water until there's some improvement.

Steelheaders on the Clackamas are spotting fish but they seem to be lock-jawed with in the low, clear water. NOAA forecasts indicate only a gradual decline in level and flow over the next 10 days. This time of year, most anglers are waiting for rain and coho.

**Northwest** – Although chinook are starting to show with more regularity, anglers fishing the Buoy 10 region are largely disappointed with early season results. Some large upriver brights are beginning to show however and coho are being caught with more regularity. Fatal Flash spinners in size 5 and 6, with white/red on cloudy days and brass/red on sunny days are going down with regularity.

The ocean fishery just outside of Astoria continues to be productive for trollers working Long Beach. Bobby Keerins of Portland hoisted a 41-pounder on Friday, fishing a trolled anchovy in about 34 feet of water. Former Oregonian outdoors writer Tom McAllister came in shy one fish from the ocean on Saturday but instantly hooked up a 24-pounder on the last trickle of outgoing tide on a whole herring by Buoy 20 to finish out the boat limit of 12 salmon. The ocean will once again be an excellent option on Thursday and Friday if the weather prediction holds. Salmon should be plentiful and the lower Columbia should be producing very well too.

All is quiet south of Cape Falcon as ocean coho season is closed. Bottomfish and tuna remain a strong option this week however.

Nehalem summer chinook trollers are taking fair numbers of fish along the jetty but the crowds are intense. The weak tide series should continue to produce good catches and some coho are showing as well. Check the ODF&W web site for what's legal to take as there will be a wild coho fishery here this fall.

Albacore chasers should do well this week and weekend as we near peak season for those looking for canning opportunities.

Ocean crabbing is productive but gear in the lower Columbia only frustrates Buoy 10 trollers. The better crabbing will start mid-September anyway.

**Southwest**- Warmer water and with it, albacore tuna finally moved closer to shore over the past week. Sport and charter vessels were quick to respond. Charters report each client taking four or five large fish. Wind early this week shut down efforts, unfortunately.

Bottom fishing out of Newport and Depoe Bay is still a good bet for limits of rockfish and lingcod as well as good catches of large ocean Dungeness.

Since the closure of ocean coho on August 10th, chinook fishing has taken a hit. It has been challenging for offshore anglers to keep coho off the hook. This problem will solve itself come August 30th when all coho, fin-clipped or not, may be kept. An additional 15,000 coho will be added for a total quota of 35,000 fish according to the ODFW. In the interim, silvers are gaining about a pound of body weight each week.

Ocean chinook fishing has been spotty for boats out of Winchester Bay. Salmon trollers around Reedsport are experiencing marginal results but fishing will improve in coming weeks.

Offshore fishers found tuna out of Florence over the past weekend. Fishing was a little spotty but numbers ended up being good.

Boats launching out of Charleston found spotty results with tuna but returned with limits or near-limits of lingcod and rockfish. Crabbing has been good offshore as well as inside Coos Bay.

Fishing around Gold Beach has been remarkable over the past week. Offshore bottom fishing on a calm ocean has rewarded boats with good catches of bottomfish, lingcod, the occasional halibut and pots loaded with ocean crab. Inside the bay, trollers have continued to score chinook, which have been awaiting cool water and more of it. Fishing for steelhead and half-pounders has been good on the lower Rogue. Release of water from Lost Creek Lake began Tuesday this week which will cause chinook to high-tail it upstream. While this is bad news for bay trollers, chinook fishers in Grants Pass will get the salmon they have been hoping for. Passage of summer steelhead into the upper Rogue has slowed and results for steelheaders have similarly declined.

Offshore boaters saw an improvement in chinook catches occur the past week out of the Port of Brookings. Trolling anchovies near the whistler buoy has been producing well. In addition, about one-fourth of the southern Oregon halibut quota remains to be taken.

Trout fishing has been best early in the day at Diamond Lake. Bait is the best bet although catches are only fair at best.

**Eastern** – Steelhead are being caught as pods of fish move through various sections of the lower Deschutes. August fishing can be a challenge here but at least the water is not too warm as it has been the past few years. Chinook and steelhead are represented in counts daily at Sherars Falls. This data is considered indicative of fish movement rather than an accurate count.

Access to eastside fisheries is being periodically limited by wildfires. Be sure to check with local ranger stations before making the trip.

Light-colored hoochies trolled behind a flasher have been taking good numbers of kokanee at Odell. Anglers are reminded of the tournament taking place on Saturday, August 23rd.

**SW Washington-** Cowlitz River anglers are still catching some summer steelhead but most district anglers are awaiting what will likely be a large return of hatchery coho. Chinook are available in the Kalama although we're still weeks away from peak fishing.

Drano Lake and Wind River trollers are taking large numbers of steelhead although the vast majority of fish are wild. Chinook catches on Drano Lake are improving but will likely peak in early to mid-September.

**Columbia River Fishing Report** – This week was going to tell the story of the lost chinook or not; well, the chinook are lost or grossly over-predicted as chinook catch rates in the Buoy 10 fishery continue to largely disappoint. At this point, observers are largely fearful that given the fact we've seen much better results in years when there has been far fewer fish, we're in for a very big mis-calculation. Most recently, those targeting chinook have had to spend their mornings upstream of Tongue Point where maybe a fish per pass is falling to fresh bait (mostly herring). Anchovies were working well here too but spinners were not a staple of Tongue Point chinook although I've had good luck with them downstream lately. Most anglers are starting their day off down low; from Buoy 14 to Buoy 10 in the first part of the incoming tide. The bite there has predictably been largely coho salmon on the first 1.5 hours of the flood. There have been a few chinook mixed in but it's clear by now that if the numbers are coming, they are going to be uncharacteristically late. I'm guessing they're not coming. More on the Tongue Point bite; oddly, these fish are biting best on the first half of incoming tide when historically, it's been the top of the tide and the entire outgoing tide, on the soft tide series. Well, we're on the soft tide series but they're not biting on the outgoing tide very well at all. Granted, this fishery will perform much better in early September but if there were a good slug of chinook coming this year, this would have been an excellent tide to take advantage of.

The incoming tide bite through high slack and especially the first part of outgoing tide has also been good, depending on how strong the tide is. Not this week however, the best part of the tide for me was the last 1.5 hours of outgoing tide, fishing the drop off on what I call the lower Desdemona Tongue. That "tongue" is right in the middle of the river, due north of Buoy 20. Starting in about 28 feet of water, troll off of the tongue into the 45 to 50 foot stuff, often taking fish right on the bottom between 34 and 44 foot. Fresh, whole rigged herring, anchovies and spinners were all working well this week but fresh herring for chinook and anchovies for coho seemed especially effective. After talking with Fatal Flash founder Andy Betnar about what spinners he has been catching his fish on (he's been using Fatal Flash spinners exclusively the last several days), he stated he had a hard time catching fish during the coho bite on his larger size 6 spinners. So, he downsized to the smaller size 5 and starting catching Chinook! I too have caught some of my larger chinook on the smaller size 5 spinners, silver in particular, with red beads and a pink hoochie. The size 6 Fatal Flash spinner in orange with the brass diamond in the middle also produced several chinook and larger coho in the river for me this week. The greens don't seem to be all that popular right now but that may just be in my boat.

The anchorage, right in front of Astoria, has also produced some chinook catches this week (remember, this is a productive option on the small tide exchanges). The few trollers that worked this reach largely had it to themselves. It has not been consistent day to day however.

The above the bridge bite on the Washington side has not been all that great on these softer tides either; that's no surprise however, the fish simply don't wash upstream that high on these softer tides. With warm water temperatures and low saline levels, the fish, if they are there at all, won't be all that motivated to bite.

The ocean fishery continues to produce high effort and good catches and both chinook and coho are available out there. Most recently, I fished outside on an ocean that had a few days rest from the small boat fleet. A stronger NW wind kept the small boat fleet inside for much of the early part of the week.

Finally, with the winds letting up on Thursday, a soft tide and a tolerable swell, the fleet was back at it, fishing the Long Beach Peninsula in 25 to 55 foot of water, taking mostly coho but some nice chinook as well. I started out my day just north of the river entrance, about 1 mile north of the jetty but well south of the lighthouse. Our first fish was about a 25 pound chinook, followed by a coho and another chinook at about 13 pounds. We continued our troll NW only to fall out of a more consistent bite until we picked up our 6<sup>th</sup> fish going about 10 minutes between bites by the time we got out to 55 feet of water. Continually seeing boat after boat headed back in with their limits, we decided to head further north where I had heard about good fishing well north of the condo's. After passing most of the fleet, we dropped them in about 28 feet of water and instantly got hooked up. A hot bite ensued and we put another 6 coho in the box so quick, we didn't know what hit us, including a triple. We were in a huge school of anchovies and a large school of coho were having their way with them, taking them from below at will. No chinook in the pack but there were a nice grade of coho and they were falling quick. We could visibly see the huge schools of anchovies from the boat, those in of itself were impressive. Then, our bite died even though we could still see plenty of larger fish on the fish finder. We were plugged with a dozen salmon but still short 2 for the guide. I decided we'd go back to our original destination near the lighthouse and see if there were a couple more dumb ones there. It wasn't long after a quick (but long) ride back to the area between the lighthouse and the north jetty in about 30 feet of water that we dropped them back in and soon afterwards had tallied another chinook and coho for the guide. We scooted back into the river with no issues at Peacock Spit or the bar, a nice ride home. One thing is for sure, if you do plan on fishing this area (and I do recommend it), you'll have to pay close attention to all the commercial crab gear in there. It's a sea of crab pots and you're likely to get stuck in some if you're not paying attention to where you're going.

Still no word from the south in what is typically a staple limit out destination. It's a lot more unlikely to intercept chinook at the CR Buoy however but the ocean to the north has been a consistent producer all summer.

Upriver, with counts still relatively low, anchor anglers are not pursuing upriver brights in the channel in any great numbers. This fishery is bound to take off soon but catch rates in the estuary have to really start taking off much better than they are now. We only have about 2/3 of the fish over Bonneville that we did last year at this time. It's almost as if someone shut a switch as we started to see some momentum build at the rivers lowest passage point. This upriver fishery will take off, typically about 3 days after a hot Buoy 10 bite. Hopefully, that comes soon!

Bonneville anglers have nothing to write home about. Steelhead numbers continue to impress at the dam but catch rates are dismal for gorge anglers. Boaters working the Portland to Longview stretch however are doing well with better than half of the fish caught being able to be taken home. Boaters have the advantage on these softer tide exchanges. Beach anglers didn't have an impressive week of plunking.

Not many crabbers or sturgeon anglers in the lower Columbia now. Crab gear should not be left alone with all the boats trolling around. It's no telling what frustrated trollers would do to your gear once they got snagged in it.

**The Guide's Forecast** – It's hard to continue to say the chinook action is going to get better when I'm not so sure that it will. We're coming into a stronger tide series this weekend, which lessens the "touch-down" time frame where these fish will bite. As a general rule, when you end up trolling faster than 3.8 or 4 miles per hour (speed over ground), the fish will simply not chase your baits down and take them. You're moving too fast. We're coming into that scenario over the coming weekend with a minus tide in the morning and a strong flood tide in the afternoon which will limit our window of opportunity. That will make the tide changes even more important, especially if our chinook numbers continue to be limited.

Noting that, as I've said numerous times before, don't waste your time pursuing these fish on a screaming outgoing tide. Fortunately, the majority of anglers out there are NOT TGF subscribers so they'll

continue to launch at day-break, fish effective for part of the day and take off the water just when the fishing will get good. Naturally, I look forward to this scenario as I get to sleep in and fish when the crowds are exiting. The line to the fuel dock is even shorter! If the bar crossing isn't going to be fun or safe and you're restricted to the river, don't bother starting early, wait until at least a ½ hour before low slack and catch the last trickle of outgoing tide when chinook will start crossing the bar and into the river.

Action on the first part of the incoming tide will once again likely produce good coho catches at Buoy 10 and upstream. With few chinook in the system, this may be one of the better options this week. Hold on the incoming tide with anchovies or small Fatal Flash spinners, preferably silver with red beads and wait for the schools to wash underneath you. Don't be afraid to fish well north of the buoy where the traffic is much more tolerable and the fish wash through there in good numbers. From there, you can troll your way upstream to the bridge or consider a bridge hover (Washington side is best), on the strong part of the incoming tide. A Hammond hover is a strong option as well; be sure to be there at least 2 hours after low slack to take the most advantage of chinook and coho washing through.

Be most prepared for high slack but especially the first part of outgoing tide above the bridge. The Blind Channel and what we call the south channel, which breaks off towards the East End Mooring Basin can be productive, very productive fishing on the first part of outgoing tide. This is the time of year when this area produces the best but the bite will be short lived. As I stated earlier, once that outgoing tide troll takes you above 4 miles an hour, it's almost a waste of time. That will happen about 1 hour after high tide.

If you're going to fish the river and targeting chinook, take herring (I prefer fresh) and the spinner bite should only get better from here. If you're targeting coho, bring anchovies or jig your own as there are plenty in the river. Small spinners will work well for these coho as well.

If it's the ocean that calls you, pay attention to the bar conditions (available from our home page) and ocean forecast. Here is the ocean forecast:

**FRI** N WIND TO 5 KT...BECOMING NW WITH GUSTS TO 15 KT IN THE AFTERNOON. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 4 FT AT 9 SECONDS. PERIODS OF DRIZZLE IN THE MORNING.

**FRI NIGHT** NW WIND 10 TO 15 KT...BECOMING N 5 TO 10 KT AFTER MIDNIGHT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 4 FT AT 8 SECONDS.

**SAT** N WIND 5 TO 10 KT...BACKING TO NW IN THE AFTERNOON. WIND WAVES 2 FT. NW SWELL 4 FT AT 7 SECONDS.

**SAT NIGHT** NW WIND 10 TO 15 KT...BECOMING N 5 TO 10 KT AFTER MIDNIGHT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. NW SWELL 5 FT AT 7 SECONDS.

**SUN** NW WIND 5 TO 10 KT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. NW SWELL 5 FT.

**SUN NIGHT** NW WIND 10 TO 15 KT...BECOMING N 5 TO 10 KT AFTER MIDNIGHT. WIND WAVES 3 FT. NW SWELL 5 FT.

**MON** N WIND 5 TO 10 KT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. NW SWELL 5 FT.

**TUE** N WIND 10 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 3 FT. NW SWELL 5 FT.

Stick to the north country and expect good fishing. Don't overshoot the action, you might as well drop them in just to the north of the jetty to see if there are biters available there. We've had good luck doing this but you do have to watch out for crab pots in your path. It seems chinook are more readily available

for the troller and coho are present too. If you get desperate, head north of the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of condo's and there, you're likely find ample numbers of coho, especially if you get there early in the morning. The fish clearly seem to go off the bite as the morning wears on.

Don't bother with crabbing, the tides are too extreme to have good action and if you're in the river, you likely won't have a pleasant experience pulling up your crab lines with all the mooching leaders still stuck in the line.

**Willamette, McKenzie & Santiam Rivers Fishing Report** – Lower Willamette mid-70 degree is attracting plenty of ski boats and jet-skiers but few anglers.

McKenzie level and flow is stable and is expected only to drop gradually over the next 10 days or so. At least the water temperature has been below the 60-degree mark for the most part.

Water level is seas ably low but is not suffering from extremes as are many other Oregon river. It has sufficient flow to fish although is hazardous in many places for boaters.

**The Guide's Forecast** – Bass fishing is about all the entertainment available on the lower Willamette and it has been quite good for those who have been getting up really early in the morning to take advantage of it before the go-fast boats take over. Upper Willamette smallmouth fishing is reported a good on the St. Paul stretch as well.

Despite fishable water on the North Santiam, steelheading has remained painfully slow all season. There's really no accounting for it as there are decent numbers of fish available. Reports from the South Santiam reflect a similar lament.

There are a surprising number of anglers on the North Santiam considering how slow fishing has been here. Less surprising is the number of inner-tube floaters who are making it difficult for the former group. It's best to take a shot at it early.

**Clackamas and Sandy River Fishing Reports** – Water levels at the Clackamas, currently at the lowest of the year, are forecast to get even lower through the end of August which will only increase the difficulty rating for anglers on this river.

While the Sandy River is predicted to remain more or less stable in the coming weeks, that mans summer level lows are forecast to endure. In addition, the normally gray-green water indicative of its glacial origin has periodically turned murky brown over the past week.

**The Guide's Forecast** – The story for the Clackamas and Sandy are similar given that they are both for too low to fish productively. Steelhead are available with the only chance of fooling one upriver at first light. Spring Chinook are around but should be left alone. They're nasty, anyway. Valley fishers are biding their time, for the most part, awaiting the first of the fall rains which will bring in coho and create a worthwhile fisher for these rivers. Historically and arguably, coho bite better on the Sandy than on the Clack.

**North Coast Fishing Report** – Ocean salmon season is closed until the end of this month. Although chinook season is open, they are hard to target out of mid and north coast ports. Offshore crabbing and albacore tuna trips remain the best option; check the offshore weather from our home page for your best options to travel the distance to the tuna grounds.

Strong tides will make estuary crabbing challenging.

The Nehalem Bay is likely the best option for freshwater fishing with summer chinook peaking about now. The strong tides will make the jaws a poor choice but Wheeler and Nehalem should produce fair to good results using spinners or herring for bait.

The ODF&W just determined we're too close to the quota for additional time for the all-depth halibut fishery. Here is the official press release from the agency:

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Contact: Lynn Mattes or Patrick Mirick (542) 867-4741

Aug. 21, 2014

### **All-depth halibut fishing on central coast ends**

NEWPORT, Ore. – Thanks to excellent fishing, anglers have caught the remaining 2014 Pacific halibut summer all-depth season quota for the Central Oregon coast thus ending the season in Oregon's most popular halibut fishery.

Fishery managers determined today that not enough quota remains for any additional openings in the area between Cape Falcon just north of Manzanita to Humbug Mountain near Port Orford. The Central Oregon coast nearshore (inside 40 fathoms) remains open seven days per week until Oct.31, or the quota is attained.

"The summer all-depth season was once again very popular and successful for many anglers," said Lynn Mattes, ODFW's project leader for halibut. "In addition, many anglers reported a nice grade of fish with several reports of fish over 60 pounds being landed."

Halibut fishing also remains open in the Columbia River and Southern Oregon Subareas.

The Columbia River Area from Leadbetter Point, Wash., to Cape Falcon, Ore all-depth season is open Thursdays through Sundays and nearshore season (inside 40 fathoms) Mondays through Wednesdays until Sept. 30, and the Southern Oregon Area south of Humbug Mountain remains open seven days a week until Oct. 31. Both fisheries could close earlier if the harvest quota is reached

More details on seasons and regulations can be found at:

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/finfish/halibut/>.

Summer steelhead remain an option, albeit a poor one, with the low, clear water conditions currently existing on the Wilson, Nestucca and Three Rivers systems. Early mornings with small baits will be the best bet but small spinners will often draw strikes shortly after sunrise.

**The Guide's Forecast** – Nehalem chinook will remain the best bet on the north coast. Trollers should work the Wheeler and Nehalem reaches although this year's run doesn't seem to be up to par compared to last years. None-the-less, the Nehalem will be the best north coast option besides the obvious lower Columbia River.

As we mentioned earlier, bay crabbing will be challenging with the more extreme tide exchange. Ocean crabbing however will be good although we're still a few weeks away from a higher quality crab.

Anglers will anxiously be awaiting the re-opener of the ocean towards the end of the month. It's a rare opportunity to have an "any-salmon" option for a month during this time period. Hopefully, the north coast returning adults don't mimic what looks to be an over-prediction of Columbia River chinook.

**Central & South Coast Reports** – Mild offshore conditions are in the forecast for the most part, allowing boats to take advantage of decent bottom fishing and crabbing out of mid-coast ports.

Good sized Chinook are being taken out of Depoe Bay when trollers can get their offerings past myriad coho. Ocean Chinook may be taken through the last day in October.

According to the ODFW, "This past week, excellent albacore fishing occurred from Astoria to Newport with average catch rates approaching 7 tuna per angler. Many of the albacore being landed have been larger fish in the 25-35 lb. class. Some central coast anglers reported tuna around 30 miles offshore. Albacore are typically in areas where sea surface temperatures (SST) are warmer than 58 degrees and in areas where chlorophyll concentrations are close to 0.25 milligrams per cubic meter. Both of these conditions can change very quickly due to weather and upwelling."

Tuna boats launching out of Newport have been doing well over the past week, often returning to port with all the albacore they can carry and keep cold. A trip of 28 to 30 miles from shore is required. A couple of large bluefin were brought back to the port of Depoe Bay earlier this week.

Ocean crabbing has been excellent and is producing some very large specimens. Get yours while you can as it will close on October 15th.

The selective (hatchery) ocean coho season off the central Oregon coast netted just shy of 61% of the 80,000-fish quota. Due to this shortfall, an additional 15,000 coho will be added to the non-selective (finclipped or wild) coho fishery opening August 30th. Originally scheduled to have a quota of 20,000, these additional coho will bring the quota of to 35,000. As eager as coho have been to take baits and lures intended for Chinook recently, the next opening should be gangbusters. The fishery is scheduled to continue through September 30th is the quota doesn't fill prior to that date.

Many coastal rivers will open to the taking of wild coho starting September 15th. For a list of rivers which allow this fishery, check here:

[http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/fishing/docs/2014\\_coho\\_fisheries.pdf](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/fishing/docs/2014_coho_fisheries.pdf)

Sea-run cutthroat have started entering most coastal tributaries. They are best fish at this time of year at the top of tidewater with flies or spinners.

Despite a flurry of activity a week ago, Siletz salmon fishers are having a tough go of it this week. A few Chinook are being taken daily.

Salmon fishing in the Alsea River won't get underway for a while. It can be quite good but it'll be late September or October.

Trolled herring behind flashers have been taking limits of Chinook out of Florence. Returning boats picking up pots on the way back to port are topping of their day with Dungeness limits. Crabbing has been quite rewarding on the lower Siuslaw. While large Chinook may be seen, with water temperatures ranging from the lower to middle 60s in the river, they have been unwilling to bite. In a few weeks, the action will pick up inside on the Siuslaw and is expected to be good.

Tuna have been caught at roughly 40 miles out of Winchester Bay. Chinook are in the bay just below Highway 101 Bridge near Reedsport but have been off the bite for the most part. There has been lots of pressure for spotty results. With water temperature dropping a little this week, Chinook moved into the lower Umpqua and a few were taken as far upriver as Elkton.

Chinook are inside Coos Bay now with the train trestle area productive and a few being taken daily from the boardwalk. Crabbing has been worthwhile from the docks with boaters scoring limits.

The annual water release from Lost Creek Lake on the upper Rogue was delayed until Tuesday this week. Catches of half-pounders in the Agness stretch has been good for anglers using spinners or throwing flies. The purpose is to encourage Chinook to move upstream. This also helps to reduce disease which can occur if salmon linger in warm water. This man-made freshet has lowered water temperatures and moved some Chinook out of the estuary. A few have been taken on the lower river but no catch reports have been forthcoming from Grants Pass where anglers are due to reap the greatest benefit. Summer steelhead catches have slowed on the upper Rogue.

The annual Slam'n Salmon Ocean Derby will take place out of the Port of Brookings over Labor Day weekend. For details, visit <http://www.slamnsalmon.com/>

Some nice-sized trout are being caught from the deeper areas of Diamond Lake, just not very many. Power Bait and worms have been most effective.

### **Central Coast Summer All-Depth Season is now CLOSED Central Oregon Coast Subarea**

**Summer All-Depth Season**—During the Aug 15-16 opening, 24,574 pounds were landed. This leaves 4,043 pounds remaining on the summer all-depth quota, which is not enough for any additional days. Therefore, the summer all-depth season is closed. The remaining quota will be transferred to other Oregon fisheries. The average weight from the summer all-depth season was 20.1 pounds, up from 17.8 last year.

**Nearshore Season**— Opened July 1, seven days per week through October 31, or catching the quota. Through August 17, 11,436 pounds have been landed, leaving 10,838 pounds (49%) of the quota remaining. The average weight so far has been 18.2 pounds/fish.

**Central and Eastern Oregon** – There's no reason to be hiking upstream for summer steelhead on the Deschutes as most of the action recently has been right near the mouth. The majority of fish landed have been wild.

Crane Prairies has been slow for catches of the rainbows for which it is so well-known but has been producing good-sized brook trout.

East lake is fishing well for fly anglers, producing decent numbers of brown trout amongst which are often a couple 18 inches or better.

Wickiup has been producing kokanee on trolled hoochies tipped with corn. They're starting to exhibit spawning colors here.

Kokanee are being taken in fair to good number by trollers at Green Peter with best results coming early in the day. Experience jig fishers are limiting my mid-morning.

**Write to the TGF staff:**

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**Random Links**

Check for wildfires before you go: <http://firerestrictions.us/>

Track wildfires online:

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3973/>

<http://www.fishinfo.com.php5-15.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/>

Grouper eats 4ft shark in one bite: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O37HI\\_AX9nY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O37HI_AX9nY)

While we're at it, Orca VS. Sea Lion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2QgNKO02uWI>

THANK YOU INTERNET - Sewer fishing:

<http://www.sportsgrid.com/animal-shenanigans/thank-you-internet-guy-catches-sizeable-large-mouth-bass-in-storm-drain/>

**GOOD LUCK!**