

[The Guide's Forecast - volume 16 issue number 40](#)

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

Forecasting for the fishing week of **October 3rd – October 9th, 2014**

Willamette Valley/Metro – Bonneville anglers are producing less than stellar results for chinook; success is directly linked to how the administration operates the flow and spill routine upstream. As water temperatures cool, coho action in the gorge may improve into November. Anchor anglers below the mouth of the Sandy are losing interest and the gillnet fleet will be on the water intensively targeting chinook this week.

Fish counts at Willamette Falls demonstrate the seasonal urge of anadromous fish which are pushing their way upstream. Moderating water temperatures are prime factor. Over 1,000 fall Chinook have been counted and coho numbers are skyrocketing.

McKenzie water levels have been impacted by showers this week but only enough to barely move the gauge. It remains to be seen what effect the beginning of fall rain ultimately has on the river.

North Santiam water level and flow increased significantly with rain over the past weekend, It's forecast to remain stable for the coming week. South Umpqua summer steelhead have been recycled.

Northwest – With a warm offshore influence, chinook trollers are finding it to be a tough go in the ocean and lower Tillamook Bay. Upper bay spinner trollers are having fair to good success however and action for coho is picking up. The lower Trask has a good number of chinook present but they aren't biting all that well.

The Nehalem remains a good option for coho but chinook are fairly absent from the catches. The Nestucca is also a bit slow and the Salmon is slowing almost daily.

The lower Columbia continues to be a great option for coho trollers, even with the gillnet fleet working the area. Fresh bait is hard to come by but frozen green label herring is producing great results. Spinners aren't working so well. Crabbing is picking up out of Hammond.

A good set of minus tides starts mid-week (next week) and razor clam diggers should find good success if the surf doesn't kick up.

Tuna anglers launching out of Winchester bay have been doing well with an average of five tuna per angler. A red-hot spinner bite attracted a crowd of lure flingers over the past week as scores of Chinook and coho were landed by anglers fishing from Osprey Point and Half Moon Bay. Some landed as many as 10 salmon, most or all of which had to be released. Trollers have been doing well on the lower Umpqua as well.

Southwest- Tuna fishing is not over, at least not for the Oregon sport fleet who, following good catches over the past weekends, are planning additional forays this week.

Bottom fishing has been fairly good. Rockfish numbers have been rewarding while the Ling Cod bite has been slow. The deep water season for Lings and Rockfish opened October 1st. Fishing is expected to be excellent as anglers will be accessing areas which have not been fished for six months.

Most bays and estuaries are producing good numbers of legal Dungeness crab in fairly good condition. Catches will only improve over the coming weeks along with the quality of the crab.

Tuna anglers launching out of Winchester bay have been doing well with and average

of five tuna per angler. A red-hot spinner bite attracted a crowd of lure flingers over the past week as scores of Chinook and coho were landed by bank anglers. Trollers have been doing well on the lower Umpqua as well.

Sport tuna boats launching out of Charleston have found albacore within 16 miles of port over the past week and results were good with most anglers taking a half-dozen large fish. Salmon fishing has been good in Coos Bay.

Fishing for fall Chinook in the Rogue Bay has been quite good. Despite low water in the Agness stretch, fishing for adult summer steelhead a and half-pounder has been holding up well. Fishing is slow on the middle Rogue. The upper Rogue has been fishing well for summer steelhead over the past week.

Chetco Ocean Terminal fishery (also called the Chetco hawg season by the locals) opens from October 1-12.

Eastern – Fishing on the lower Deschutes has been good over the last few weeks. Thanks to lower water temperatures coming out of the dam and overcast weather days, good numbers of summer steelhead are steadily moving upstream

Fly anglers using Chromonid imitations are experiencing fair to good results for rout at Crane Prairie.

The Challenging Metolius has been rewarding stealthy fly fisher with some large trout this week.

SW Washington- the Cowlitz is a good option for chinook and coho anglers, especially downstream of the mouth of the Toutle River. Some cutthroat and summer steelhead are also available.

The Kalama and Lewis are improving for coho and should only get better as October rolls on.

Drano Lake and the Klickitat River mouth are fair to good for chinook; coho should start to show in good numbers by mid-month.

Columbia River Fishing Report – Only a skeleton crew remains on the lower Columbia River in pursuit of coho, where coho continue to fall in good number. The gillnet season was underway on October 1st and the fleet was out in force. Although we yarded in some coho with net marks, it didn't seem to impede the bite too terribly much as we took our 14 fish limit by 9:30 a.m. Limits have been the norm in the Astoria area but one unfortunate matter, new regulations starting October 1st, reduced the daily bag limit from 3 coho to any 2 salmonids (chinook or coho). Unfortunately, with chinook absent in this reach, we only have coho to work over.

UPDATE: ODF&W and WDF&W realized the silliness of such a regulation and reverted back to the 3 fish bag limit. Here is the official press release:

NEWS RELEASE

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Oct. 1, 2014

Buoy 10 bonus coho back in effect beginning Friday

CLACKAMAS, Ore. – Beginning Friday, Oct. 3 Buoy 10 anglers will be able to add an additional fin-clipped coho to their daily bag limit.

“Catch rates for coho at Buoy 10 are still good, and we wanted to extend anglers’ opportunity to keep an additional hatchery coho,” said Chris Kern, ODFW administrator for marine and Columbia River programs.

Anglers had been able to keep an additional fin-clipped coho from September 2-30 under a temporary rule, which reverted back to the permanent “two salmon/steelhead per day” rule on October

1. Managers took action today to restore the temporary rule for a bonus fin-clipped coho.

Beginning Friday, Oct. 3 through Dec. 31 the daily bag limit from Buoy 10 to Tongue Point/Rocky Point is three adult salmon or steelhead in combination but at least one of those must be an adipose fin-clipped coho. All steelhead and coho must be fin-clipped.

Buoy 10 re-opened to the retention of marked and unmarked adult Chinook and jacks on Oct. 1 and this is unchanged by today’s action.

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How ironic is it however, that with this whopper return, the gillnets go in on the same day that our daily bag limit gets reduced? The action is pretty consistent estuary-wide but we continue to target coho on the Washington side, both above and below the bridge. Wednesday’s limit took place above the bridge, targeting 16 to 28 foot of water. With fresh anchovies largely unavailable for this fishery, green label herring was a fine second choice. One outstanding difference has been stratifying the baits with some of our most successful rods getting the most bites just 20 feet on the line counter with 12 ounces of lead. We could actually see fish moving 8 to 9 feet off the bottom to hit a bait far above them. Action on spinners was far from what we witnessed on bait. Although the Oregon side has had good recent history, both the commercial and sport fleet were utilizing the Washington side of the river. The weak tide series this week certainly benefitted trollers estuary-wide. The 1 good thing about the commercial fleet fishing was that the sea lions were more focused on the commercial fleet than the sport fleet.

Crabbing in the estuary was quite productive this week with the soft tide series producing numerous limits. Crabbers working the buoy 20 to 22 stretch didn’t have much competition and yielded rather easy limits. It helps when there isn’t much competition out there. Fresh salmon carcasses are also rather available.

The ocean was a poor choice this week as rough conditions kept tuna chasers at bay. The offshore coho season is now closed. Crabbing remains open until mid-month but may not be worth the trip out there as river crabbing will produce the same, if not better results.

Upriver, wobbler anglers and trollers in the Portland to Longview stretch are seeing a strong decline in success rates. Tis the season when chinook numbers are waning and ample numbers of coho aren’t biting. Interest is waning as anglers look to tributary fisheries to satisfy their needs.

The Bonneville fishery is mediocre right now. Anchor anglers and backtrollers have seen a few tough days recently but overall, guide boats are producing between 3 and 5 chinook a day for double that number of opportunities. The morning often produces the best results but depending on how dam operations go, the bite could last throughout the day. K-16’s with wraps of either tuna bellies or sardines, is producing for those using jumbo jet divers or anchor anglers using 8 to 12 ounces of lead. Be cautious as you approach boat ramps as low water levels are taking out aluminum props on occasion. Dam passage, as is expected is tapering significantly; we just hit the 800k mark. The run has been significantly downgraded.

The Guide's Forecast – Coho anglers should still expect good results into the 3rd week of October but you'll be in competition with the gillnet fleet. Here is the next set of open periods:

Season:

6:00 AM to 6:00 PM Thursday October 2, 2014	(12 hrs)
6:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday October 6, 2014	(12 hrs)
6:00 AM to 6:00 PM Tuesday October 7, 2014	(12 hrs)
6:00 AM to 6:00 PM Wednesday October 8, 2014	(12 hrs)

Despite an intensive effort, anglers should still have plenty of room and opportunity in the estuary. We will be transitioning from weak to stronger tides, which should allow anglers to target the last trickle of incoming tide and a strong outgoing push in the morning hours. Stronger tides should push ample numbers of biters above the bridge so target coho in the shallows above the bridge as you near high slack. One or 2 passes in the 14 to 16 foot stuff on the first part of outgoing tide should also be productive. Sadly, you can bank on gobs of seaweed fouling your gear as the tide begins to roll out. Stick to bait for best results but if you can't get fresh anchovies or green label herring, put spinners on EVERY rod instead of just one or two; given a choice, the fish will almost always take the bait option. Social Security Beach out of Fort Stevens State Park has also been yielding good numbers of fish and should only get better on the strong outgoing tide series.

Upriver, only a select few will remain diligent in the mainstem fishery, where an occasional chinook will be taken on hardware. Most anglers will continue to anchor fish using wobblers but some spinner/herring trollers produce quite consistent results around the Kalama and Cowlitz areas. It can be pretty special fishing this time of year for the few that do it. Bonneville anglers should continue to see consistent results for quality upriver brights continuing into October. Anchor anglers continue to rival backtrollers as plugs have consistently produced all season. The quality of fish will soon degrade after mid-month but expect the best results during the 1st two hours of daylight.

Crabbing will remain productive but the window of opportunity will shrink on the stronger tide series. Be mindful of tide velocities because if you don't rig properly, you only will be able to retrieve your buoy's around tide change. Effort will gradually increase but now, you largely have the estuary to yourself. A fishing and crabbing combo trip would be worth your effort.

You won't see much effort in the ocean although crabbing and albacore fishing remain a fair to good option. The weather often gets volatile and crabbing season closes October 15th.

Willamette, McKenzie & Santiam Rivers Fishing Report – Fish counts at Willamette Falls demonstrate the seasonal urge of anadromous fish which are pushing their way upstream. Moderating water temperatures are prime factor. Over 1,000 fall Chinook have been tallied although at the rate coho are crossing, their numbers will eclipse the Chinook counts shortly. Steelhead are ticking align at roughly 25 a day with over 22,000 upstream as of September 29th. Coho are charging up the Willamette now. While daily numbers are lagging behind, 517 were counted on September 2nd while nearly 770 passed the Falls on September 29th. Suffice to say, there are thousands of coho above Willamette Falls now.

McKenzie water levels have been impacted by showers this week but only enough to barely move the gauge. It remains to be seen what effect the beginning of fall rain ultimately has on the river.

North Santiam water level and flow increased significantly with rain over the past weekend, It's forecast to remain stable for the coming week.

The Guide's Forecast – **ODFW sez**, "Coho season is now open on the Willamette and fish are moving

in. However, in light of the blue-green algae health advisory, some precautions are in order for anglers venturing out on the Willamette. The Oregon health Authority is informing anglers that coho salmon caught from this the Willamette below Willamette Falls are safe to eat since they only pass through these waters, limiting their exposure to cyan toxins.

OHA advises anglers to:

Minimize water contact in the advisory area, and wash hands and fish with fresh water.
Remove all fat, skin and organs before cooking fish."

Target coho on the Willamette above the Falls at the mouth of tributaries. There will be salmon gathering at the confluence of the Tualatin and Yamhill rivers right now. These fish are traditionally approached quietly from the main river by boats where hardware anglers will toss spinners to the fish.

For steelhead on the McKenzie, try below Leaburg Dam with baits of cured eggs, shrimp or nightcrawlers or drift corkies or bobber and jig. for trout, try above Leaburg Dam up by McKenzie bridge where there are good numbers which are susceptible to Caddis or Pale Morning Dun patterns

On the North Santiam, the Mehama to Packsaddle stretch is most likely to hold steelhead. Don't target Chinook now; it's illegal to do so. They should be left alone to spawn anyway. Summer steelhead are available on the South Santiam as nearly 2,500 of them were recycled downstream in the fourth week of September to give anglers another shot at them.

Clackamas and Sandy River Fishing Reports – ODFW sez, "On the heels of outstanding coho fishing in the ocean and Columbia River, metro-area anglers will get their chance at excellent coho fishing as the run enters the Sandy, Clackamas and lower Willamette rivers over the next few weeks. In anticipation of strong returns, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife announced today that the daily coho bag limit in these areas will increase to three fish effective Sept. 26."

According to Todd Alsbury, ODFW fish biologist, the increase from two to three hatchery coho per day was prompted by surveys and trap counts indicating strong returns to Portland area rivers. "We were expecting a strong return of coho this year," Alsbury said. "However, we're excited to see a return that should far exceed our expectations."

While Clackamas River water levels remain low, cooler overnight weather has reduced water temperatures to a point that this is no longer considered a detriment to fishing.

Expect to see some color in the Sandy but that won't keep coho from biting,

The Guide's Forecast – Results for coho have improved over the past week. If you're looking for hatchery coho, your best bet is going to be from the mouth of Eagle Creek down Results have been good recently & Bonnie Lure Park is a good place to try. There are lots of fish at the mouth along with plenty of anglers. Cooler weather and more precipitation will move coho up Eagle Creek. Until then, it has little to offer anglers.

The sandy is good through October through early November. Cedar Creek gets will stack with coho with the next precipitation. Fishing has been reported as slow to fair this week for coho and steelhead. A good coho run is expected this season so catches could turn on at any time. This is the month for coho so go get 'em.

North Coast Fishing Report – Tillamook remains on tap for chinook anglers but results since mid-month have been less than impressive. As is typically the case, we do experience lulls in activity

throughout the September/October fishery but for the number of fish predicted back to the system this year, it's slower than we had anticipated. As I feared, the over-prediction of the Columbia River chinook may certainly be bleeding down to the coastal returns.

Most recently, upper Tillamook Bay anglers have been scoring decent catches of chinook, far better than what we're seeing on the lower bay and in the ocean for that matter. From the Oyster House at Memaloose to the middle bay, just north of Ray's Place Piling, spinner trollers have been taking good numbers of fish in the morning hours. The metallic green Fatal Flash blades have been working quite well and some guides are doing well on the chartreuse/green dot and copper/red tip blades as well. Herring are taking a few fish but with persistently warm water, it seems spinners are out producing baits, at least in the upper bay.

Again, lower bay anglers are struggling with few fish being taken in the Ghost Hole, along the jetties or at Bay City. The fish finder makes the place look like a biological desert. Seaweed hasn't been too terribly bad on these weak tides but that will change back again soon. West channel trollers are finding ample numbers of fish for catch and release fishing but Friday's and Saturday's are a much better option when you can keep a single coho per person on Tillamook Bay. Red/white spinners will likely produce the best and wild coho numbers will continue to build. The jetty should be producing great catches on this weak tide series and it is; the problem being, it's a wild coho show. One guide reported landing 17 coho for a single hatchery fish at the jaws on Wednesday, we're in desperate need of a Friday/Saturday opener here.

Ocean trollers have been sorely disappointed lately with the results, even at first light. For this time of year, we should be seeing ample numbers of chinook taken but coho far outnumber the chinook here. There's a whole slew of fish yet to come but it should still be more consistent than what we're seeing now. Anglers should be fishing bigger baits in an attempt to target chinook over coho.

Tidewater of the Trask has a lot of fish in it. Although bobber tossers are reporting mixed results, most are reporting a lot of activity for these reaches. Those fishing the extreme lower reaches are reporting some of the better catches but bring lots of bait as the sculpin are reported as "an epidemic." There are several that are turning color as well; not surprising since a good batch of these fish showed in late August.

The Nehalem continues to fish well.....for coho. Chinook here are oddly absent but those seeking wild coho are finding fairly consistent success. Chinook were present in fair numbers last week but coho are now making up the bulk of the catch. Anglers are allowed one wild coho per day, one per season and herring are taking a fair number of fish from Fisher's Point near Nehalem Bay State Park to Wheeler. That's where most of the effort is taking place. Spinners are taking a few fish as well. Not much activity for trollers working above the Highway 101 Bridge near the town of Nehalem. The jaws has been fishing fairly well for wild coho with only a few chinook in recent days.

Although reports are spotty from the Nestucca and Salmon Rivers, they are following similar paths to other north coast basins; they are under-performing for what we all had higher expectations for. The lower tide exchanges should have gone well for bobber tossers but one angler from the Alsea River reported lots of rolling fish but little interest from the fish. The Salmon River fishery should wane quickly.

Crabbing remains mediocre and some would say that bay crabbing is as good as ocean crabbing. That doesn't happen very often but it's a testament to how poorly the ocean is performing compared to previous years. This particular weak tide series however produced fair to good catches for Tillamook, Nehalem and to a lesser degree, Netarts Bay crabbers. That will change by this weekend although the tides still aren't too bad until the middle of next week.

The Guide's Forecast – It's too hard to call as to whether Tillamook Bay will once again heat up for chinook. October is definitely peak month but it seems likely that we'll continue to see disappointment compared to our expectations for this year's coastal basin chinook. Those targeting coho should continue to harbor smiles however, especially if it's a Friday or Saturday. For chinook anglers, it's hard to believe the upper bay will continue to put out fish for much longer. It's not common for the upper reaches of the bay to produce better catches than the lower but that's what has been going on in recent days. These chinook are not using the west channel (but wild coho are) so it's a bit unexplainable why we're not getting them in the lower bay. It was dead slow for chinook on the lower bay on Wednesday and the ocean was darn-right pathetic. Let's just say, it can't get any worse so action is due to change. Last year at this time, fishing in the west channel was EPIC, but that was following a significant rain event that briefly took out all the river systems. No sign of that in the near future. The increasing tide series may provide some more fish however but with it, comes the seaweed. If we do see another good batch of fish show, follow them up-bay as the tide progresses. It's likely that chinook returning prior to the middle of the month, will still be destined for the Trask and Tillamook River systems. The Wilson and Kilchis fish begin to show in better numbers around mid-October. The ocean should continue to be an option although the weather becomes more volatile as we enter deeper into fall. Here is the offshore forecast through the weekend:

THU

N WIND 10 KT...RISING TO 10 TO 15 KT. GUSTS TO 20 KT S OF NEWPORT IN THE AFTERNOON. WIND WAVES 3 FT. NW SWELL 4 FT AT 9 SECONDS.

THU NIGHT

NE WIND 10 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 3 FT. W SWELL 4 FT AT 10 SECONDS.

FRI

NE WIND 10 TO 15 KT...BECOMING N 10 KT IN THE AFTERNOON. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 4 TO 5 FT AT 10 SECONDS.

FRI NIGHT

N WIND 10 KT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 6 FT AT 11 SECONDS.

SAT

N WIND 10 KT...BECOMING W 10 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 3 FT. W SWELL 6 FT.

SUN

N WIND 10 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 3 FT. W SWELL 6 FT.

MON

N WIND 10 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 3 FT. W SWELL 4 FT.

Offshore crabbing will also remain an option until mid-month and may be the better bet as the tide exchange increases by early next week.

Albacore chasers will have just a few more weeks of opportunity and may find fish not too far offshore. One boat reported hooking an albacore at the green can out of Garibaldi. How fun would that be? It's a testament however as to why the salmon aren't showing. The water is simply too warm, about 62 degrees in the nearshore.

The Nehalem should remain a good option for coho but chinook may remain elusive and the run somewhat over for the season. There can still be good numbers come into Nehalem but the run typically tapers as we get into October. The real test of time will come when we see ocean temperatures cool once again; then we should see better numbers enter our north coast estuaries.

The Nestucca, like the other north coast systems, will remain on "stand-by" for a while longer, waiting for cooler offshore temperatures to draw the fish in. The Salmon River should continue to slow.

Central & South Coast Reports – Tuna fishing is not over, at least not for the Oregon sport fleet who, following good catches over the past weekends, are planning additional forays this week out of Newport, Winchester Bay and Charleston. Warm water remains nearshore, it's just a matter of offshore conditions allowing boats to make the trip.

Bottom fishing has been fairly good. Rockfish numbers have been declining while the Ling Cod bite has been slow. The deep water season for Lings and Rockfish opened October 1st. Fishing is expected to be excellent as anglers will be accessing areas which have not been fished for six months. The marine aggregate limit in Oregon is seven rockfish a day. The lingcod limit is two a day with a 22-inch minimum. Anglers can keep one cabezon as part of that limit.

Halibut fishing remains open in selected areas. "At this point, I'm expecting both the Southern Oregon Subarea as well as the Central Coast Nearshore Fishery both to go through to the regulatory closure of Oct. 31," said Lynn Mattes, halibut project leader for ODFW on Tuesday of last week. It also looks like the Pacific halibut fishery is going to remain open for the Southern Oregon Subarea until the season ends on Oct. 31."

Most bays and estuaries are producing good numbers of legal Dungeness crab in fairly good condition. Catches will only improve over the coming weeks along with the quality of the crab.

ODFW REPORT

ROSEBURG, Ore. -- The wild coho season on the Umpqua River will close at the end of the day Wednesday, Oct. 1. ODFW fish biologist are projecting the wild coho quota of 2,000 will have been met by the end of Wednesday.

Laura Jackson, ODFW fish biologist in Roseburg, credits a more conservative quota, a strong early run and good fishing for both bank and boat anglers for the closure. The quota was reduced from 3,000 fish to 2,000 this year due to lower numbers of wild spawners in 2012 and 2013.

"It's nice that we are having a strong run to help keep the population healthy, while at the same time providing a great recreational opportunity for anglers," Jackson said.

The river will remain open to chinook and adipose fin-clipped hatchery coho under permanent regulations.

Tuna anglers launching out of Winchester bay have been doing well with an average of five tuna per angler. A red-hot spinner bite attracted a crowd of lure flingers over the past week as scores of Chinook and coho were landed by anglers fishing from Osprey Point and Half Moon Bay. Some landed as many as 10 salmon, most or all of which had to be released. Trollers have been doing well on the lower Umpqua as well. On the Umpqua mainstem Chinook are starting to move upriver although catches have been slow although several have come from Sawyers Rapids. Any steelhead caught are likely to be natives, requiring release. Smallmouth bass fishing remains good despite low water. Fishing in the flies-only

stretch of the North Umpqua has been fair but chances are good that steelhead hooked here will be hatchery keepers. Smallmouth bass fishing is holding up well on the South Umpqua.

Sport tuna boats launching out of Charleston have found albacore within 16 miles of port over the past week and results were good with most anglers taking a half-dozen large fish. at Coos Bay, one report indicated landing 11 Chinook for 17 chances. That's a good day. Most every boat is bringing a few over the gunwale in the form of both adults and jacks. cut-plug herring in the bay from the Highway 101 bridge upstream to the mouth of the Millicoma River. Coho catches have also been good with pink spinners the top producer. The wild coho season opened in the Coos Basin on September 15th. There are lots of coho but remember the daily bag limit for wild (unclipped) coho is 1 per day and 2 for the season.

Fishing for fall Chinook in the Rogue Bay has been quite good. The Curry Anadromous Fishermen in Gold Beach raise at least 75,000 smolts every year, which are later timed to return in October, which extends the fall Chinook fishery. So if a lot of Chinook book upriver should a fall freshet occur, the Indian Creek kings will still be mulling around between the Highway 101 Bridge and Indian Creek.

Put a good spin on that anchovy so it's doing an impression of a baitfish in its dying throes.

Despite low water in the Agness stretch, fishing for adult summer steelhead and half-pounder has been holding up well. Flows had dropped below 1,600 cfs at this writing on the morning of October 2nd. With most Chinook dark, fishing is slow on the middle Rogue. The upper Rogue has been fishing well for summer steelhead over the past week. Fly anglers are using nymph and egg patterns to take fish. Results would improve with better flows as few fresh fish are moving upstream.

It's a pretty big deal. Chetco Ocean Terminal fishery (also called the Chetco hawg season by the locals opens from October 1st through 12th. Anglers will be able to keep two Chinook daily with certain stipulations. Only one fish a day may be wild, and only five wild fish may be kept for the October fishery 0 to 3 miles from shore), with the boundary being from Twin Rocks to the Oregon/California border. The minimum size is 24 inches. Sporthaven Marina Bar and Grill still have some tickets left for their very popular Chetco Ocean Hawg Derby which takes place during the same time period as the ocean hawg fishery. \$40 per entrant gets you a chance to win cash awards and also entitles you to a ticket at the awards barbeque.

Special anti-snagging rules for the Chetco River are as follows:

Anti-snagging bobber rule in effect - From the power line crossing at RM 2.2 upstream to Nook Creek (RM 14) from September 1 through November 3 angling is restricted to fly angling and bobber angling only with 1 single point hook. Fly angling gear must include a strike indicator. Bobber angling gear must include a bobber and a leader no longer than 36 inches in length. Any weight (except the bobber or strike indicator) may be no more than 36 inches from the hook when suspended vertically. The leader below the bobber or strike indicator must remain suspended in the water column and not resting on the river bottom. Two Chinook may be kept daily, only one may be unclipped/20 seasonal, no more than 5 may be unclipped.

Central and Eastern Oregon – Boats fishing the moth of the Deschutes are making mixed reports it seems expectations are far higher than catch rates. Fish can be seen all around the area but only a small percentage of them are being hooked. Fishing on the Lower Deschutes has been good recently thanks to lower water temperatures coming out of the dam and plenty of overcast weather days good numbers of our summer steelhead are steadily moving upstream. Counts at Sherars Falls, an indicator of fish movement rather than an accurate assessment of the number of fish passing at that point, have ramped up dramatically over the past 10 days or so. On September 25th alone, over 90 summer steelhead were

counted, two-thirds of which were hatchery fish, along with 45 Chinook. The actual numbers of fish passing the Falls was far higher.

Fly anglers using Chromonid imitations are experiencing fair to good results for trout at Crane Prairie. The bobber and bait crowd are holding their own so there's something for everyone. Fishing should hold up here through October unless the weather turns cold early.

A report from the Williamson River near Klamath Falls indicates good catches of trout to 20 inches are falling for Mayfly and Caddis imitations. Best results are coming from below the mouth of the Sprague River. A boat is required as there is little back access. The ODFW recommends catch and release here to maintain this quality of fishing.

The Challenging Metolius has been rewarding stealthy fly fisher with some large trout this week. Drake patterns have been the fish's downfall. Visitors to the area are advised that the popular Wizard Falls Hatchery near Camp Sherman will be closed to public access from Oct. 1-10 due to construction.

Trollers at Odell have the place nearly to themselves and have been taking 250fish limits of bright kokanee in remarkably good shape considering the time of year.

Reader Emails: The Inbox

Sharp eyed readers Mr. H. and Daniel O. both spotted the gaff TGF South Coast Editor Michael Teague made regarding the opener of Siltcoos, Tahkenitch and Tenmile lakes, which were listed with an incorrect opening date in last week's newsletter. It was corrected the next day but still, readers should expect better from a publication which prides itself in accuracy. Michael offers his sincere apologies for this error and hopes he never has to write about himself in third person ever again.

Write to the TGF staff:

Bob Rees: brees@pacifier.com

Michael Teague: TGFMichael@gmail.com

Doug Rees: doug@TheGuidesForecast.com

Random Links

Fishing Isn't Peaceful | Astoria Salmon Fishing Takedowns:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1B04ySmsMKs#t=73>

Fly Fishing Video - Trout is all: <http://vimeo.com/33337585>

Need a new hobby? How about Reel-smithing:

<http://reelsmithing.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=10&t=396>

GOOD LUCK!