

August 17, 2020

SOME BIG FISH AND GOOD FISHING

While the most unusual of summers continues for us all, August is bringing some excellent fishing along the BC coast. Long famous for big Chinook and aided by efforts of the [Percy Walkus Hatchery](#) to enhance stocks on the Wannock River, the summer of 2020 has already seen some remarkable fishing in the Rivers Inlet area. Reports of many huge Chinook caught and then released are coming in from the area. Duncanby Lodge guests measured and released a 76lb Chinook and, later in the same week in early August, an even larger fish estimated to have measured out at around 105 lbs. was released too! Many other Chinook have been caught and kept in the area as well but an unforgettable and remarkable experience for the anglers who encountered those two huge Chinook. That both of these fish were released to hopefully go on to spawn in nearby rivers this fall is quite a testament to the respect and admiration anglers have for the species and for hopes to maintain the genetics of the monster Chinook that continue to swim in our waters.

While those two huge Chinook are notable and exceptional, fishing all along the coast has been very productive this summer. All around Vancouver Island, whether it is from east coast beaches casting to plentiful Pink salmon or excellent and lively Chinook and Coho salmon fishing from from Victoria to Campbell River to Port Hardy around to Kyuquot and down to Bamfield and Sooke on the west coast, its been a memorable summer for angling in more ways than one.

Although fishing is good this summer, Covid related travels restrictions have reduced effort and therefore catch throughout the public fishery and especially in more remote regions typically serviced by lodges. One outcome of this unfortunate set of circumstances is that as of the end of June 2020, the coast wide recreational halibut catch was only just over half what it was at the same time in 2019. As a result, the SFAB recommended a change in daily limits from 1 to 2/day for halibut under 90 cm. The change was approved and came into effect August 14th. This is good news for those who may not be able to get out on multiple days or who like the chance to keep two halibut under 90cm in one day rather than only one up to 126cm.

COVID CAUTION

As we head towards September and many are venturing out and around BC for planned or unique, spontaneous summer adventures, its imperative to be mindful and follow guidance of the BCHO to do your part in reduction or elimination of spread of the virus. Get out in BC, fishing and outdoor activities are amongst the best and safest as they limit contact and encounters with others, but be careful and take precautions whenever necessary and wherever you go.

SFI'S SUMMER RUN RAFFLE

And, last but not least, if you haven't checked out our [Summer Run Raffle](#) please do before the early bird prize draw on **August 22nd**. Not only will you be entered for the Grand Prize, a Kingfisher boat, Yamaha power and Scotty downrigger package valued at \$55,000.00 and trips to Langara Fishing Adventures, Vancouver Island Lodge and Nootka Marine Adventures in 2021, you'll also be entered to win one of two early bird prizes, an Islander TR3 reel donated by Duncanby Lodge and a Stanley camping and beverage package. All that for just \$20.00/ticket. Funds will be used to help secure a better future for our fishery and the resources it depends upon. Supporting the activities of the SFI will assist Canadians in accessing and enjoying public fisheries in BC.

Get your tickets before the early bird draw on August 22nd.

Good luck and tight lines!

The SFI Team