

Information provided by Reel-Lentless Guide Service. We provide guided fishing trips for Salmon, Steelhead, and Trout fishing from Brewster Wa.

September 27, 2011

Another two weeks closer to the end of the 2011 Salmon season has passed. As usual the catching has turned up noticeably like it always has. Not only as the number of fish being caught increased the number of boats has decreased. To me the increase matches the rest of the season. As many of you know the season was very difficult to get those multiple fish days. A great day for the previous two months was four or more adults from what we caught and others caught. We had numerous great days during July and August, but the norm for us was 1-3 adults a with a Jack or two also.

The last two weeks we have been consistently been getting multiple adults each trip. Our average of just under four adults per trip has held for the last three weeks. We are also getting several jacks a trip that we have not been getting previously. The quality of meat is holding very well with the summers, and when we can pick up a fall fish it is noticeably better. Other than the Jacks almost every fish was dark orange to red in meat color. I have been unable to get a double digit day like years previously during this time of year. I would be surprised if it will happen based on what I am seeing. Again, we are right in line with how the year has played out.

I did take a trip down river to below Chelan near the Beebe park. We just decided to fish this area to remember a great man, angler, conservationist, Irv Conner. This was the first year for Summer Chinook to return to this area by design. WDFW expects about 2000 to return this year with a expected annual return of 6000 Summer Chinook. This fishery is a perfect example of WDFW creating more sport fishing opportunities. These same fish were being dumped into the main stem Columbia by one of the PUD's as part of their dam mitigation. The survival and returns were not even measurable, so WDFW recognized the lost opportunity to sport anglers. WDFW caused some changes, and now we have another location to target some great King Salmon. This will be a great area to target Salmon in the coming years. We were fortunate to put three adults in the boat, and one was a monster buck that obviously was from Irv. Thanks Irv for all you have done, and I look forward to catching some more fish for you.

Steelhead:

Steelhead will open any day. I have heard some rumors about reduced catch limits, but that is about all I have heard for changed. Will have to wait and see what they actually decide on. Again everyone needs to realize NOAA and the other federal agencies really are the ones who control this. I am sure WDFW will work hard and come up with a season that allows for the best they can get for sport anglers. It will be very interesting to see how the released Triploids will affect this season. I am expecting to catch quite a few of them. Though fun to catch and release the end result could be a serious negative in years to come.

Ron