

Fishing options abound on ocean

August 10, 2019



It has been a good week for sport fishermen on both sides of the California-Oregon border as the tuna have moved in about as close to shore as they ever come, lots of California halibut have been biting on the beaches, and bottomfish has remained consistent as usual.

Surf perch are also plentiful in Northern California and Southern Oregon for anglers who prefer to keep their feet on land. On the ocean The tuna have moved in close out of both Crescent City and Brookings. The fish started being hauled in between 15 and 20 miles from shore early in the week, after being caught between 30 and 40 miles from shore late last week.

There have also been lots of California halibut caught throughout the week, both on the beaches of Southern Oregon, and on South Beach in Crescent City. Anglers fishing from the beaches are still finding lots of surf perch as well through-out the Wild Rivers Coast.

Some of the most consistent fishing in the area is always bottomfishing, and rockfish and lingcod continue to provide relatively easy limits for anglers who are targeting them. Crescent City is still seeing its fair share of

Pacific halibut throughout the week as well. The only fish on the ocean that don't seem to be bit-ing much at the moment are salmon.

The salmon bite has been slow all season out of Crescent City. There have been some strong fishing weeks for ocean salmon out of Brookings this summer, but the catch as slowed up there as well this week with warmer water close to shore. Rivershing With salmon fishing still slow on the ocean, an anglers best bet to nab a salmon right now is the Klamath River. Although fishing on the Upper Klamath is still slow, the Lower Klamath River saw a bit of a surge this week. If that continues, the start of the fall salmon season should get off to a good start on Thursday. This year the spring salmon run has been subject to un-precedented regulation due to concerns about the stock. After the season opened with a full closure, anglers have been allowed to retain a daily bag limit of one salmon per day since.

When the fall run officially kicks off the daily bag limit will expand to two adult salmon, and two jacks (juvenile salmon) per day and will count towards the river's quota for the season.

The only other place to fish for salmon this time of year is in the Rogue Bay, but that has reportedly slowed significantly over the last week.

Fishing contacts: Mike Coopman, of Mike Coopman's Guide Service at 707-218-4501, Andy Martin of Wild Rivers Fishing at 206-388-8988; Jim Mitchell of Gotcha Hooked Fish Trips at 464-8482; Englund Marine Supply Company at 707-464-323.