

Sport Harvest Rates for the Week of April 26-May 2, 2010

The sport fish marine boat creel surveys started up last week at the ports of Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Sitka, Juneau, and Yakutat. The total weekly amount of fishing effort sampled by our creel survey crews last week at each port ranged from low (under 100 rod hours in Ketchikan, Petersburg, Wrangell, and Sitka) to decent amount of fishing effort (667 rod hours in Juneau). The sunny stretch of weather last week brought out the marine boat anglers, although being this early in the season the fishing success tended to be rather slow at most ports. Chinook salmon harvest rates ranged from 3 rod hours per fish in Wrangell to 83 rod hours in Juneau, and no harvested Chinook salmon were encountered in the port of Ketchikan. The harvest rate at Wrangell, Petersburg, and Sitka was better than the recent five-year average, while harvest rates were poorer than the five-year average at the other three sampled ports. Chinook fishing will continue to improve as we head toward the traditional peak around Memorial Day weekend.

Wrangell, Sitka and Yakutat were the only sampled ports that had harvested halibut encountered during last week's creel surveys, with harvest rates of 5 rod hours for each of these ports..

There were no harvested coho, pink, or chum salmon species encountered by our creel personnel at the six sampled ports last week.

The creel surveys in Craig/Klawock and Gustavus start up this week, Elfin Cove and Haines on May 10, and Skagway starts up May 31.

News releases and emergency orders issued thus far for the 2010 sport fisheries can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/EONR/index.cfm/FA/region.R1>

Synopsis of the upcoming 2010 Southeast Alaska Salmon Derbies ***(Unofficial listing of ports and dates)***

The first salmon derby of the season is ongoing in Juneau, with the annual Spring King Derby held each month of May. The unofficial leader of the Juneau Spring King Derby as of May 2 is a 22.3 lb fish. Wrangell's salmon derby starts up May 8 and runs through June 6, and the Ketchikan, Petersburg, Sitka, and Haines salmon derbies all start up on the Memorial Day weekend. Pelican's salmon derby occurs during June 4-6 and June 11-13, while Juneau's Golden North Salmon derby will be during August 13-15. Good luck to all anglers endeavoring to catch the winning fish in the 2010 SE Alaska sport fish salmon derbies.

Chinook Salmon (rod hours of salmon effort per Chinook salmon harvested)

Port	2010	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg. (2005-2009)
Ketchikan	--	--	--	93
Wrangell	3	--	7	10
Petersburg	12	--	14	39
Sitka	7	25	33	13
Juneau	83	133	117	33
Yakutat	33	6	81	9

Halibut (rod hours of bottomfish effort per halibut harvested)

Port	2010	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg. (2005-2009)
Ketchikan	--	55	--	24
Wrangell	5	--	--	10
Petersburg	--	--	--	63
Sitka	5	--	8	8
Juneau	--	--	--	--
Yakutat	5	4	6	5

Coho, Pink and Chum Salmon

--None encountered by our creel survey samplers.