



Pacific Playgrounds (Black Creek)

September 10-12th, 2021

2021 WCKAS Finale

Update will be provided on FB Live Friday at 8 PM

Tips, Tricks and Techniques: Provided by Mike Hindley & Tom Thorson

Overview

We will primarily fish the area of Beecher Bay from the Cheanuh Marina. Any changes to the general fishing area will be made at the captains meeting online Friday night. Generally fishing will take place within 1nm of the

shoreline and caution must be observed for winds and tides.

Updates on all of this will be provided as we get closer to the date.

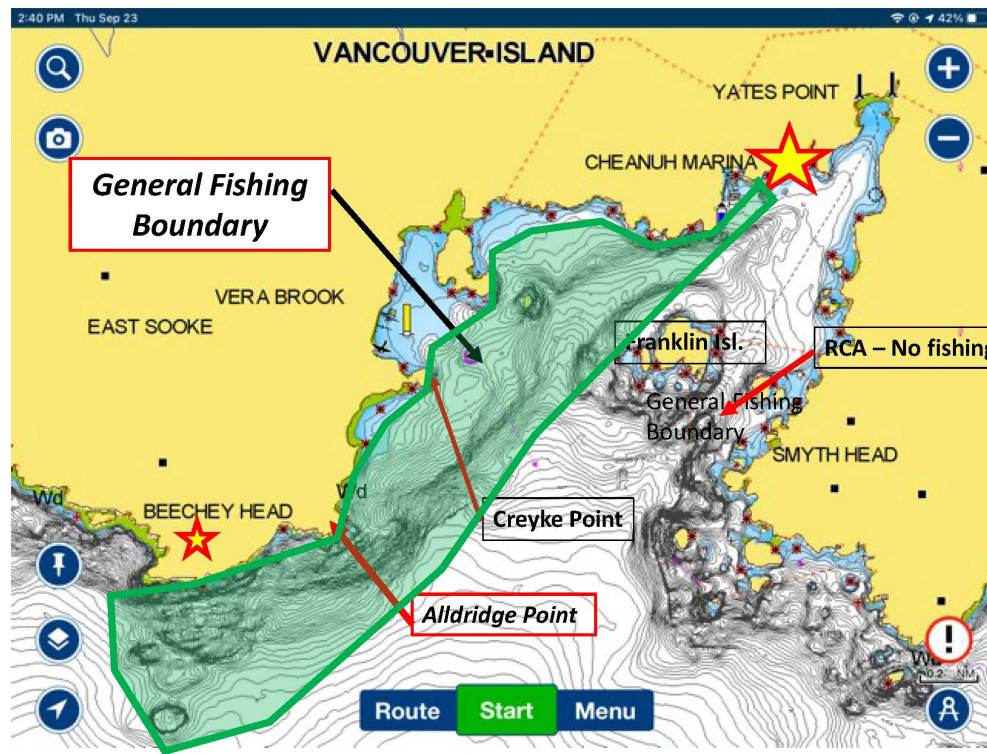


Fishing Regulations:

We are fishing area 20: <https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/tidal-maree/a-s20-eng.html>

Fishing Grounds / Boundary:

As you launch out of Cheanuh and clear the breakwater, due south you will see Fraser Island. Go west of Fraser (to the right on way out) to get further out into Beecher Bay as there is a rockfish conservation area on the east side (see map below) of Fraser that extends south down the east side of Beecher Bay. Once clear of Fraser Island you can head along the west side of the bay, past Creyke point to Aldridge Point. There can be coho in the deep off Aldridge right in tight to the Aldridge reef that you can see on your plotter. If you continue further out past Aldridge, you come to Beechey Head and the coho fishing can be great there. I wouldn't go west of Beechey as currents might prevent you from getting back into Beecher Bay. **Remember to use the Buddy system**



The general fishing area will be from the Marina to Beechey Head (4.5KM)₂

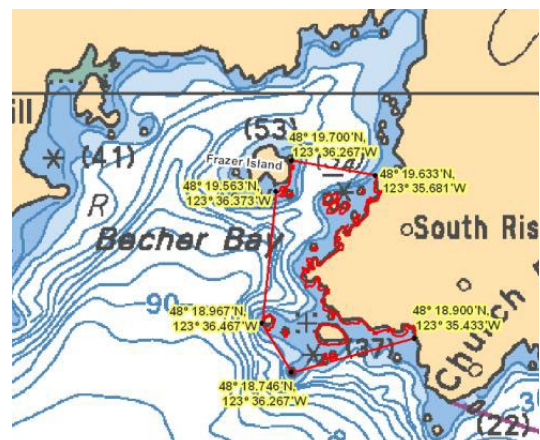
The offshore and Beechey head limit will be subject to weather information closer to the event date.

We will monitor VHF 68 for this event.

Fishing:

Troll fast, and jig hard for coho. They can be hard to find, but once you find a school stay on top of it. Coho do come into the bays, but the bigger schools will be out in 200-500 feet of water. It will be a 4km to 6km trip (one way) to get out to the end of the area and is best to plan your trip with weather and tidal currents in mind. Bait in the area is usually small, so small spoons, hoochies, and bucktails will all work. Rockfish and Ling will be closed, but sablefish can sometimes be caught in this area by jiggling off the bottom at 100ft or more depth

What has been working for coho for me in my power boat are small spoons: 3 and 4 inch trolled fairly fast. I've been using a 3" AP spoon and a 4" herring aid. Mint tulip hoochies behind a flasher have been consistent producers in the past as well as bucktails. This time of year keep an eye out for gulls feeding on bait balls on the surface. For you jiggers this is a great way to get into fish.





Combo Sample Set



Gear:

Make sure your gear is suited and capable of handling a 10+ lb salmon. I generally like 7'-8'6" MH rods that have ample line for the big runs. My personal preference for spin casters or level winds is braided line with mono leaders to provide some shock absorption.

Tips and Tricks:

Ideally you find the bait you find the fish. Having a fish finder out here is helpful. If you do not have one, I encourage you to fish with someone who does. Traditionally we want to fish the edges of the bait balls and depending whether trolling or jigging staying on the bait becomes more critical for the second technique.

If not fishing the primary spots, look for bait and look for small underwater structure where both bottom fish and bait fish will congregate.

Techniques (Salmon)

There are the same two traditional techniques, trolling and jigging. This time of year, we generally see fish from 50 – 200'. For those of us trolling I recommend fishing the 85-100' window as any deeper you create significant drag and more challenges to land the fish.



If fish are plentiful you can troll with strictly a spoon or plug without a flasher or dodger. If the bite is slow, adding a flasher or dodger can increase potential. As always with the kayak I suggest using smaller size flashers and dodgers to reduce the drag. Running anchovy or herring is always an option however the dogfish have shown up and you will be losing a lot of bait to them if this is your approach. Key lures for me are the



3.5" Big Eye Spoon Glow Sample Set

Lighthouse Big Eye spoons, King Kandy cut plug imitations and Gibbs Delta Skinny G's. The tack is generally North South along the 85' or 200' contour.

For trolling, those with downriggers can direct target given depths. For those without downriggers, diving devices (deep six etc) or use of banana or Peetz style (4-10oz) inline weights can be used to get your lines down.



For jigging, pretty straight forward. Find the bait or fish and away you go. I find most success by dropping to bottom and work my way up. A reminder that most fish hit on the drop so if you feel slack in your line reel down on it and set the hook once you feel some weight! A reminder that for Salmon everything must be barbless, and this includes your jigs.

Bottom Fish

This area is not as productive for bottom fish as some others but there are lots out there. Any traditional jig off the bottom will work. Lighthouse Lures and Buzz bombs are some of my go to favorites as well as Point Thompson Jigs and Mac Deeps



When searching for bottom fish I generally find its not as important to jig vigorously but rather to set your lure off the bottom and wait for “hits” before starting the jig.

Another method not widely used is using swim baits like the Lighthouse lure versions pictured here. These lures do not have to be jigged to the same degree and are particularly good slow trolled. I like to use these when transitioning between locations. Moving at a slow speed should attract the bite. Once onto fish it is often worth stopping and jiggling with conventional jigs.

Netting

Do not forget, headfirst into the net. If you plan to release it, get your photo quickly and then get the fish back into the water.

Bottom Fish Release device

Reminder that if you are bottom fishing you need to carry a descending device on board to safely release fish that have their swim bladders affected.