

FISHING

North of the 49th

By Rick Grange

Fishing in the Queen Charlottes continues to improve, even early this season. Chinooks averaging 17 to 24 pounds were caught this past week. Last weekend brought good action to many anglers, producing stronger results, such as a beautiful 135-pound halibut. Catch and release anglers were also seeing larger fish and they were able to release salmon in the 30-pound range, with a 38-pounder being the largest released this week.

All areas from McPherson Point to Gunia Point are producing, with the sheltered bays of Dibrell and Explorer offering fine relief from the mild to strong easterly and south-easterly winds. The herring could also be found in large schools in several locations, primarily at Cohoe Point and Gunia Point. Cut plugs were working well to lure the salmon, however the No. 500 Clendon Stewart spoonseemed to out-produce the herring when the bite was off.

Otherwise, out in the ocean, the humpback whales were extremely active, and a pod of killer whales appeared briefly, delighting all who watched.

To contact Rick Grange, president/owner of the West Coast Fishing Club's three lodges in the Queen Charlottes, call 604-233-9232, or toll free 1-888-432-6666, or visit www.westcoastfishing-club.com