

Eve/Cluxewe report July 30

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Spent last week (from Tuesday afternoon (July 19) to Monday morning (July 25)) up north island. The first 2 1/2 days at the Eve were very poor . . . more fishermen there than fish caught. The village was packed so we camped over near the launch ramp so we could launch and use the dory for accessing the river mouth and environs.



Idyllic campsite at the Eve River



Oops not so idyllic, what with log dump, boom boat and grapple yarder

After landing a grand total of 2 pinks and one 4 lb starry flounder, we decided to act on some rumours we heard about the Cluxewe. It proved to be a smart move since instead of 3 fish Wayne and I caught good numbers of pinks over the 3 1/2 days we fished the Cluxewe. Drove in and managed to get a great campsite at the far north end and were able to keep it for 3

nights.



Campsite at Cluxewe

The fish were still not as numerous as two years ago, but were much more willing to bite than the Eve fish. They also were occurring in two size groups. The usual schools of 3 lb average fish were there, but interspersed with these fish were some "superpinks". These fish looked like they ran into some super food sources on their travels because they were broader and deeper than a pink is normally. We caught numerous fish in the 5 to 7 lb bracket and heard rumours of some 8 lb fish being caught. They were picky at times, requiring changes in techniques as well as colours. At lower tides it was necessary to use a floating line with a longer leader and a

weighted fly.



Quiet afternoon on Cluxewe south beach

At the higher tides, as the water got deeper and the current faster we had to switch to sink tip lines to catch fish. There were loads of spin fishermen there, but I never saw them land a fair hooked fish. Using heavy buzz bombs in water that's only 4 to 12 feet deep seems like a recipe for snagging fish and losing a lot of lures on the bottom. Don't know why they weren't using some lighter lures like wobblers and spinners, but I guess they don't care as long as they get a fish to eat!

Shawn caught his first coho on a fly rod . . . definitely encouraged him to stay away from his

spinning rod and concentrate on the fly rod.



Shawn's coho

Most effective flies were green handlebars with bead head and chartreuse versions of the Glenn's leech on #8 hook. Pink handlebars seemed to be effective at times.

Heard rumours of large numbers of pinks going by Port Hardy so maybe (we hope!) there are some more pinks headed this way. Reports from the Campbell were very discouraging so far as we heard.

The rest stop is the first turn to the right after the Eve River bridge on the main highway. I don't think that road is usable unless they have opened it up. The first time I tried to go to the Eve six years ago, I tried to go in that way (hadn't seen the turnoff on other side of river.) and couldn't find a passable road to use. Ended up going back across the river and finding the correct way in!

Ian