

# Muddling Along Oct 1 2016

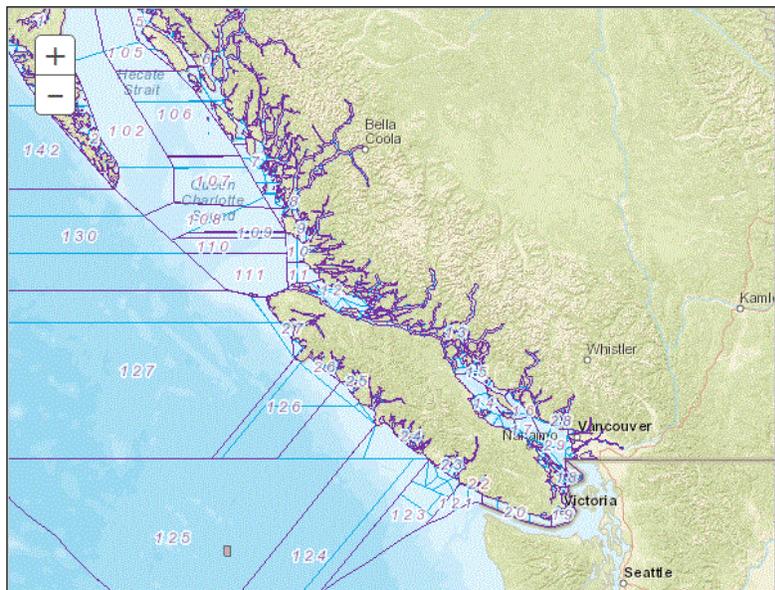
## Navigating the Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide

From: Ian STEWART [iandalestew@shaw.ca]

Finding information about regulations for areas you wish to fish can be frustrating. Maybe I can shed some light on the subject! The tidal regulations are governed in a number of areas and sub-areas along coastal B.C. If you go to the tidal waters regulation page for DOF, you will be able to find a map that looks like what is below. (the URL for the regulations is: (you can copy and paste this in the URL on your browser if the link does not work when you click it.)

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/map-carte-eng.asp>

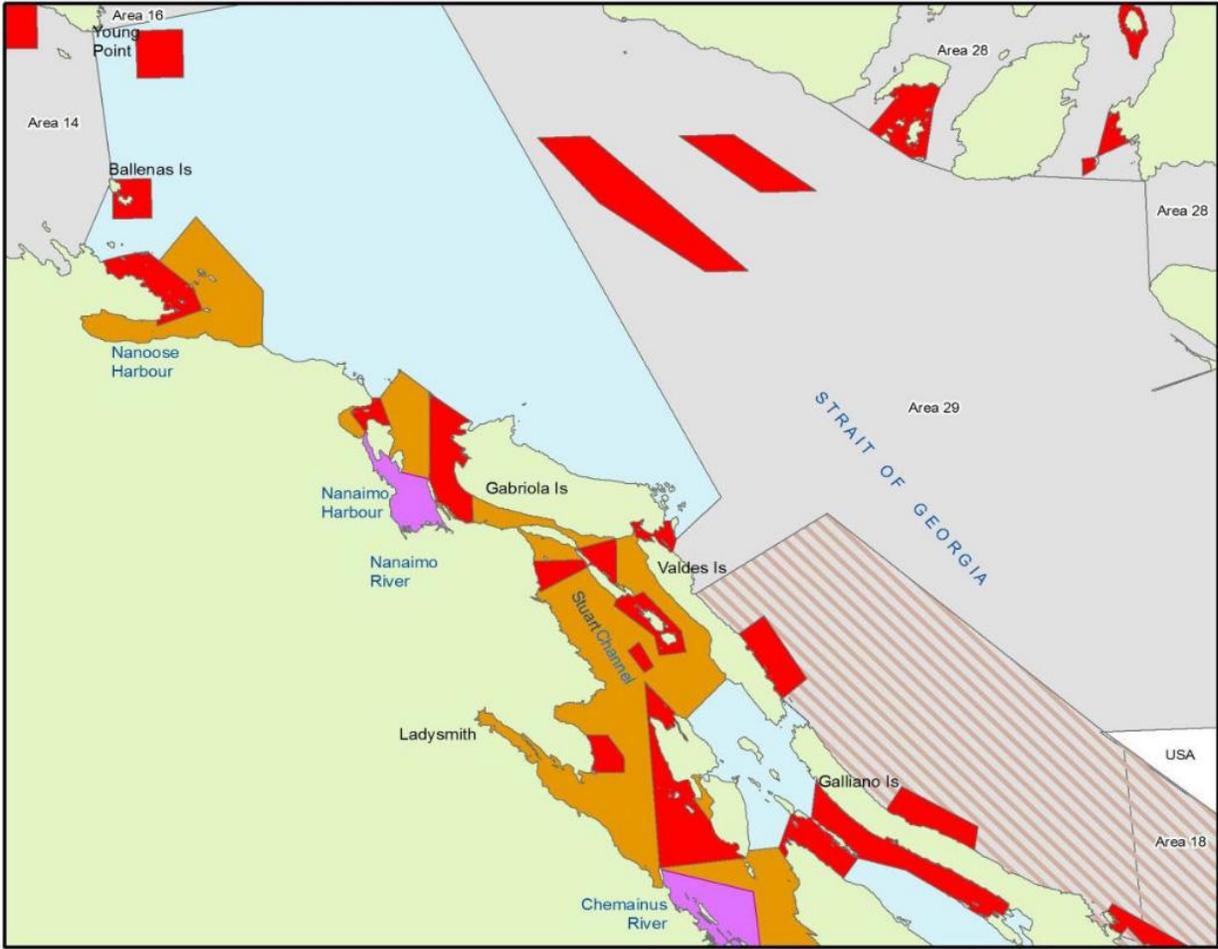
You should find a map that looks like what is shown below:



If you double click your mouse in the general area in which are going to fish, it will enlarge with each double click. This allows you to zero into the area so you can see its number. If you continue double clicking, eventually you will get the largest scale map of the area and in the upper part of the map there will be a box which gives a link to the fishing regulations for the area you are going. If you double click on the map you can read all pertinent regulations. As an example, if you wish to fish in Nanaimo harbour or the estuary, if you keep enlarging the map you will get a view like the map below. Click on the recreational fishing information for area 17 and you will see a document for the fishing regulations for the area. (note that area 17-4 includes Nanaimo Harbour, Departure Bay and the Nanaimo estuary up to the Cedar bridge where Cedar Road crosses the Nanaimo River.

Interpreting the regulations can be a bit of a challenge. I find looking at the map is the easiest (if any of it can be called easy). Trying to define closed and open areas with points of land and islands you don't really recognize is trying!

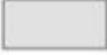
The map included in the regulations for Nanaimo look like the one below. The key for the map is given on the next page. Note that the Nanaimo area 17-4 contains some very detailed regulations.



Area 17 General Info:

Jan 1 - May 31 Coho Non-Retention  
Apr 1 - Mar 31 Two (2) Chinook per day,  
Minimum size 62cm  
(Unless otherwise specified)

---

	May 9 - June 17	Two (2) Chinook per day of which only (1) may be greater than 67cm. The minimum size limit is 62cm.
	June 18 - July 15	Two (2) chinook per day, wild or hatchery, between 62-85 cm.
	June 1 - Dec 31	Two (2) Hatchery marked Coho per day
	Apr 1 - Mar 31	Finfish Closure (Rockfish Conservation Areas)
	Jul 15 - Oct 25	Finfish Closure
	Aug 1 - Oct 15	Chinook Non-Retention
	Areas 14, 16 18, 28 & 29	Refer to Appropriate Public Notices for Area

To be noted:

No retention of Chinook Aug 1 to Oct 15. (means if you caught a Chinook in the estuary below Cedar Bridge, you could keep it from Oct 16 onward . . . wouldn't be very good likelihood of it being in very good shape though!

Hatchery marked coho only may be kept. (this is different from the last two years where you could retain one wild coho.

As always, there is no fishing at all in the Harbour or estuary until October 26.

Hope that sheds some light on the subject.

Ian