

Conuma River Fishing Report Sept 20

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Left Nanaimo this morning at 6 a.m. (20th Sept.) to go to the Conuma River with Ton and Ant. For those who don't know the Conuma is located between Gold River and Tashis, about a 3 & ½ hours from Nanaimo.

We arrived at the Conuma hatchery shortly before 10 a.m. and then walked in full gear almost 3 km.



Trail to Conuma Estuary

to the estuary .



Conuma Estuary

We fished it for about 2 hours with no luck. There was the odd fish jumping as well as a small school of about 30 plus fish that I took to be coho swimming up and down our stretch of the river but they all had “lock jaw”.



Ant and Ton setting up Conuma Estuary

On the way back to the hatchery we took a trail that opened onto a large clear pool that held a huge school (500-1000) of what looked like coho just doing a lazy circle. Unfortunately it was a straight 6 to 8 foot drop to the water which dropped off another 4 to 6 feet. There was also no trail to the left or right though the heavy bush that would allow us to cross the river and cast to this mass of fish.

Another 15 /20 minute of walking lead us to a open area where we did access the river. Here I did managed to beach a “zombie” Chinook



which was quickly released .

On the way back we stopped at Ton's super secret mushroom spot, where I got enough chanterelles



for an omelette or two. Ton got about twice as much as me but then Ant was helping him.

cheers

Basher

p.s. the river was a touch on the low side in spite of the recent rains.