

Stamp River Sept 9

From: Bruce Murray drbm@shaw.ca

Sent: Sat 2016-09-10 @1:30pm

Been waiting around for a Coho report from the Stamp River but my reliable sources are all trying to catch the "last Pink" in front of Nile Beach when Bob called and suggested we go develop our own report and head over to the Stamp on Friday with Jack, which we did. Arrived at Somass Park slightly before 7:30am to find not one parking spot, a good sign that the Coho/Chinook had arrived. I think Jack counted 22 vehicles and the island is 230 m long according to Mr. Google, so that is one person every 5 m based on an average of 2 fishers per vehicle. So we headed to Cedar Mill on the Stamp and had the place to ourselves with the exception of a few bears based on the tracks in the sand beaches and salmon carcasses along the shore. **Fishing** was excellent....you cast and a coho jumps on the other side of the river (shady side), you cast again and another coho jumps (probably laughing). These fish are in lockjaw mode and not biting, so we move over to the Rod and Gun to find the trail has been closed by an unknown government official according to the Keeper of the parking lot....hmmmm....So we head to the very beautiful and spiritual walk through the semi old growth forest along the Anglers Trail. Same report from the fishers we pass, lots of fish jumping but nobodies biting...."Got to floss them if you want one" one guy remarked. Yesterday finally got hold of my buddy Ralph who parks his boat at Bamfield for the summer. Ralph always catches his limit and says only caught three coho on the weekend, but two were 18 pounds, the largest coho he has caught off Bamfield.....Sound familiar... fish larger than expected but fewer in quantity and totally in survival mode.