



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**

2001 WASHINGTON COASTAL SELECTIVE SALMON FISHERY

The following report is a synopsis of enforcement activities by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Officers, for the 2001 Coastal Selective Salmon Fishery. Enforcement presence in the four salmon management areas was accomplished by vessel, dock patrols, special investigations, and joint operations with the United States Coast Guard.

Developing compliance rate estimations for fish and wildlife violations are difficult. Uniformed presence on the water or at the dock provides visible deterrence to violations, thereby altering the behavior of those who may violate natural resource laws or regulations. In some instances, the contact to violation rate may be merely a reflection of the effectiveness of the individual officer at discovering a violation. Therefore, estimated compliance rates compiled from uniformed enforcement activity may not be an accurate measure of the actual compliance rate, but rather, serves best as an index when comparing one area to another, or one season to the next.

Efforts to apprehend intentional violators resulted in some notable prosecutions. Three separate investigations involving illegal charter activities were generated during this salmon season. In each case, WDFW Officers and Detectives, along with the assistance of the United States Coast Guard (USCG), launched in depth investigations and apprehended each suspect in the act of circumventing WDFW and USCG limited entry charter license and safety requirements. Each violator was properly processed through the judicial system. Vessels and associated gear used in the criminal acts were seized under Washington States equipment forfeiture laws. Criminal penalties along with the loss of vessels and equipment amounted to thousands of dollars.

Many have compared Coastal salmon harvest successes in 2001 to the memorable seasons of yesteryear. This exceptional year also provided for the temptation to violate the rules. Once again, with this fishery being elevated to a high priority within WDFW, officers from their local area as well as officers from all over the State of Washington were utilized to meet enforcement commitments. An early and aggressive patrol presence to address a marked increase in angler interest was most certainly responsible for ensuring yet another orderly fishery. The Coast-wide average for estimated compliance with the wild coho release rule was 98.3%.

AREA ONE
(Ilwaco, WA):

Enforcement Hours:

Docks -	437
Vessel -	124
Investigative -	81
Interagency -	<u>17</u>
Total -	659 hours

Contacts: **2778 total**

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 39 arrest citations; 56 warnings.
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 11 arrest citations; 17 warnings.
Possess *Wild* Coho - 32 arrest citations; 2 warnings.
Overlimit salmon - 22 arrest citations; 0 warnings
Season / closed area / species i.e (closed for chinook) - 43 arrest citations; 12 warnings.
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 9 arrest citations
Illegal Chartering - 3 arrest citations; 0 warnings
Undersized Chinook - 4 arrest citations; 2 warnings
Other violations - Fail to submit catch / crab violations / etc. 15 arrest citations; 2 warnings.

Total Citations: 178
Total Warnings: 91

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 91.3 %.*
Estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 98.8 %.**

2000/2001 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: same as 2000.
2000/2001 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: up by 4%.
2000/2001 comparison of enforcement hours: up by 408 hours.
2000/2001 comparison of anglers contacted: up by 1,701 contacts.

AREA TWO
(Westport, WA.):

Enforcement Hours:

Docks - 127
Vessel - 108
Investigative - 2
Interagency - 0
Total - 237 hours

Contacts: 1,475 total

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 56 arrest citations; 25 warnings
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 9 arrest citations; 0 warnings.
Possess *Wild Coho* - 25 arrest citations; 0 warnings.
Over limit salmon - 6 arrest citations; 0 warnings.
Season / closed area / species i.e (closed for chinook) - 2 arrest citations; 0 warnings.
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 3 arrest citations; 1 warning.
Illegal Chartering - 0 arrests.
Undersized Chinook - 2 arrests; 1 warning.
Other violations - Fail to submit catch / crab violations / etc. 5 arrest citations; 0 warnings.

Total Citations: 108
Total Warnings: 27

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 91.5 %.*
Estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 98.4%**
2000/2001 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: up by .3%
2000/2001 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: up by .5% .
2000/2001 comparison of enforcement hours: down by 8 hours.
2000/2001 comparison of anglers contacted: up by 915 contacts.

AREA THREE
(LaPush, WA.):

Enforcement Hours:

Docks - 28
Vessel - 0
Investigative - 0
Interagency - 0
Total - 28 hours

Contacts: 159 total

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 9 arrest citations.
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 0 arrest citations.
Possess *Wild* Coho - 0 arrest citations.
Over limit salmon - 0 arrest citations.
Season / closed area / species i.e (closed for chinook) - 0 arrest citations.
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 0 arrest citations.
Illegal Chartering - 0 arrest citations.
Undersized Chinook - 0 arrest citations..
Other violations - Fail to submit catch / crab violations / etc. 1 arrest citations.

Total Citations: 10
Total Warnings: 0

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 94.4 %.*
The estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 100 %. **
2000/2001 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: up by 1%.
2000/2001 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: down by 2.6%.
2000/2001 comparison of enforcement hours: down by 40 hours.

AREA FOUR
(Neah Bay, WA.):

Enforcement Hours:

Docks -	127
Vessel -	108
Investigative -	2
Interagency -	0
Total -	362 hours

Contacts: 1,001 total

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 36 arrest citations; 47 warnings
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 77 arrest citations; 4 warnings.
Possess *Wild* Coho - 40 arrest citations; 0 warnings.
Over limit salmon - 13 arrest citations; 1 warning.
Season / closed area / species i.e (closed for chinook) - 16 arrest citations; 6 warnings.
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 2 arrest citations; 2 warning.
Illegal Chartering - 0 arrests.
Undersized Chinook - 0 arrests; 0 warnings.
Other violations - Fail to submit catch / crab violations / etc. 3 arrest citations; 0 warnings.

Total Citations: 187
Total Warnings: 60

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 76.1 %.*
The estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 96.1 %**
2000/2001 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: down by 2.8%.
2000/2001 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: down by 14.6%.
2000/2001 comparison of enforcement hours: down by 150 hours.
2000/2001 comparison of anglers contacted: up by 135 contacts.

* % compliance with overall salmon regulations = total rule violations associated with **salmon only** (license, gear, possession, season and area) / total contacts.

** % compliance for possession of unmarked coho = total unmarked fish violations / total contacts.