



**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM  
STATEWIDE MARINE PATROL DIVISION**

**2002 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 2002 Coastal Selective Coho 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. In some instances, the contact to violation ratio 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.

Once again, with this fishery being elevated to a high priority within WDFW, officers from Coastal Stations, along with officers from all over the State of Washington, were utilized to meet enforcement commitments. An early and aggressive patrol presence to address compliance issues had a bearing on our successes in ensuring an orderly fishery. Support by District Court Judges and widely advertised violation penalties also added deterrence from circumventing regulations.

In one case, two subjects at the Ilwaco Launch Ramp had four hatchery coho laid out for an officers inspection. As they began to suspiciously pile anchors, life jackets and other materials on-top of the vessel ski locker, they told the officer that no additional fish were present. A search of the locker resulted in the discovery of ten more salmon, five of which were unmarked or wild coho, one undersized chinook and four chinook of legal size. Both subjects pled guilty to exceeding the limit, possessing wild or unmarked coho, possessing undersized chinook and failure to submit catch for inspection. The South District Court Judge imposed a penalty of three days in jail each, a \$1,500 fine each, and suspended fishing privileges through the 2003 salmon season.

The Coast-wide average for estimated compliance with the wild coho release rule in Salmon Management Areas 1 through 4 was 98.7%, up by 0.4% from the 2001 Coastal Salmon Season.

AREA ONE  
(Ilwaco, WA):

**Enforcement Hours:**

Docks -	278
Vessel -	92
Investigative -	2
Interagency -	<u>6</u>
Total -	<b>378 hours</b>

**Contacts:**                   **1,428 total**

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 7 arrest citations; 19 warnings.  
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 5 arrest citations; 13 warnings.  
Possess *Wild* Coho - 11 arrest citations; 1 warnings.  
Overlimit salmon - 2 arrest citations; 0 warnings  
Season / closed area / species i.e (closed for chinook) - 12 arrest citations; 6 warnings.  
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 2 arrest citations  
Illegal Chartering - 0 arrest citations; 0 warnings  
Undersized Chinook - 4 arrest citations; 2 warnings  
Other violations - Fail to submit catch / crab violations / etc. 18 arrest citations; 4 warnings.

**Total Citations: 61**  
**Total Warnings: 45**

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 94.3 %.\*  
Estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 99.1 %.\*\*

2001/2002 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: up by 0.3%.  
2001/2002 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: up by 3%.  
2001/2002 comparison of enforcement hours: down by 281 hours.  
2001/2002 comparison of anglers contacted: down by 1,350 contacts.

**AREA TWO**  
(Westport, WA.):

**Enforcement Hours:**

Docks - 85  
Vessel - 160  
Investigative - 0  
Interagency - 0  
Total - **245 hours**

**Contacts: 1,247 total**

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 7 arrest citations; 43 warnings  
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 25 arrest citations; 49 warnings.  
Possess *Wild* Coho - 13 arrest citations; 6 warnings.  
Over limit salmon - 4 arrest citations; 1 warnings.  
Season / closed area / species (chinook retention) - 3 arrest citations; 0 warnings.  
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 9 arrest citations; 0 warning.  
Illegal Chartering - 0 arrests.  
Undersized Chinook - 0 arrests; 0 warning.  
Other violations - Fail to submit catch / crab violations / etc. 2 arrest citations; 0 warnings.

**Total Citations: 63**  
**Total Warnings: 99**

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 87.9 %.\*  
Estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 98.4%\*\*  
2001/2002 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: same as 2001  
2001/2002 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: down by 2.7% .  
2001/2002 comparison of enforcement hours: up by 8 hours.  
2001/2002 comparison of anglers contacted: down by 228 contacts.

**AREA THREE**  
(LaPush, WA.):

**Enforcement Hours:**

Docks - 60  
Vessel - 31  
Investigative - 8  
Interagency - 0  
Total - **99 hours**

**Contacts: 437 total**

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 2 arrest citations; 11 warnings.  
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 0 arrest citations; 0 warnings.  
Possess *Wild* Coho - 1 arrest citation; 0 warnings.  
Over-limit - 0 arrest citation; 0 warnings.  
Season / closed area / species - 2 arrest citations; 0 warnings.  
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 0 arrest citations; 0 warnings.  
Illegal Chartering - 0 arrest citations; 0 warnings.  
Undersized Chinook - 0 arrest citations; 0 warnings.  
Other violations - 1 arrest citation for commercial salmon troll violation.

**Total Citations: 6**  
**Total Warnings: 11**

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 96.4 %.\*  
The estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 99.8. \*\*  
2001/2002 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: down by 0.2%.  
2001/2002 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: up by 2%.  
2001/2002 comparison of enforcement hours: up by 72 hours.  
2001/2002 comparison of anglers contacted: up by 278 contacts.

**AREA FOUR**  
(Neah Bay, WA.):

**Enforcement Hours:**

Docks -	59.5
Vessel -	236.5
Investigative -	2
Interagency -	0
Total -	<b>298 hours</b>

**Contacts: 521 total**

License (no license / fail to record salmon catch) - 9 arrest citations; 23 warnings  
Gear (more than one line/ barbed hook) - 25 arrest citations; 11 warnings.  
Possess *Wild* Coho - 7 arrest citations; 0 warnings.  
Over limit salmon - 0 arrest citations; 0 warning.  
Season / closed area / species i.e (closed for chinook) - 3 arrest citations; 1 warnings.  
Vessel safety - gear / registration / PFD's - 1 arrest citations; 2 warning.  
Illegal Chartering - 0 arrests.  
Undersized Chinook - 0 arrests; 0 warnings.  
Other violations - 2 undersized lingcod, 1 mutilated lingcod, 1 commercial trawl closed area.

**Total Citations: 49**  
**Total Warnings: 37**

Estimated compliance regarding overall salmon rules was 85 %.\*  
The estimated compliance regarding the possession of wild coho was 98.6 %\*\*  
2001/2002 comparison of compliance with unmarked coho release rule: up by 2.5%.  
2001/2002 comparison of compliance with overall salmon rules: up by 8.9%.  
2001/2002 comparison of enforcement hours: down by 60 hours.  
2001/2002 comparison of anglers contacted: down by 480 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.