

What you need to know about the 2009 ocean coho salmon fishery!

Oregon anglers are fortunate to have an ocean coho salmon fishery in 2009. In order to stay within the regulations, and help sustain the fishery, anglers must know (1) how to identify a hatchery coho salmon, and (2) how to properly release a salmon in order to minimize harm to it.

Identification of coho vs chinook salmon. Only fin-clipped coho salmon may be harvested.



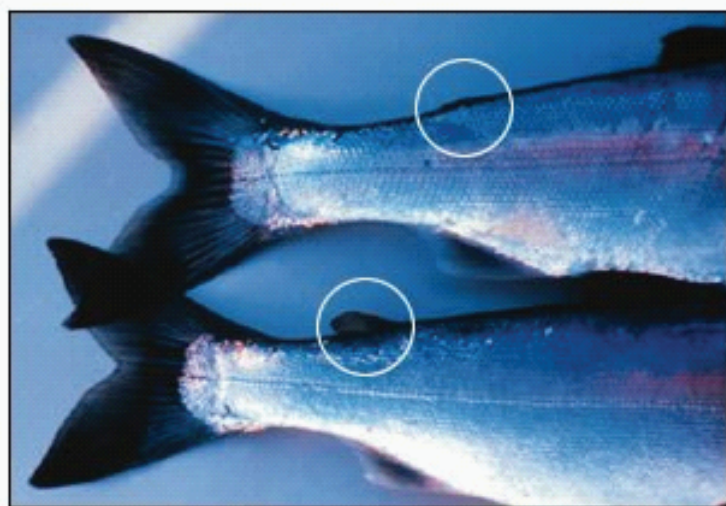
Coho Salmon (silver): Teeth emerge from a white (or light gray) gumline on lower jaw that is bordered by much darker tissue both inside and outside the gumline; spots are usually missing on the tail, but may be lightly spotted on the upper portion of tail.



Chinook Salmon (king): Teeth emerge from a black or dark gumline on lower jaw that is bordered by similarly colored tissue; circular black spots are usually present on the tail.

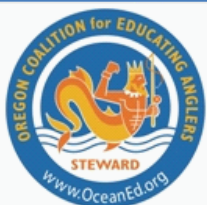
Note (A) **Always** use the gumline on the **LOWER** jaw to identify a salmon. It is the single best feature to use. It is also the characteristic that is most likely to be used by enforcement officers in deciding whether a violation has occurred.

Note (B): Fish should be identified without touching, without netting, and without bringing into boat. Doing so may cause loss of scales and reduce survival.



Only keep coho with a removed adipose fin (top, hatchery salmon); those with an intact adipose fin (bottom) must be released.

See other side for release methods.



This guide is provided by OCEAN, the Oregon Coalition Educating Anglers, a non-profit, all-volunteer organization. Learn more at www.oceaned.org Images & some content courtesy of WDFW, with permission. Some content from ODFW.