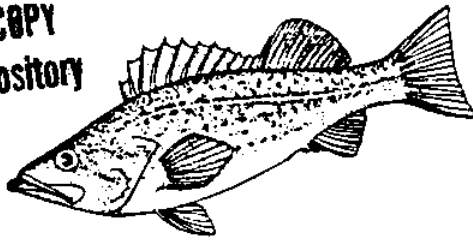




# University of California Cooperative Extension Sea Grant Extension Program Publication

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## SALT WATER ANGLER'S GUIDE TO HUMBOLDT COUNTY

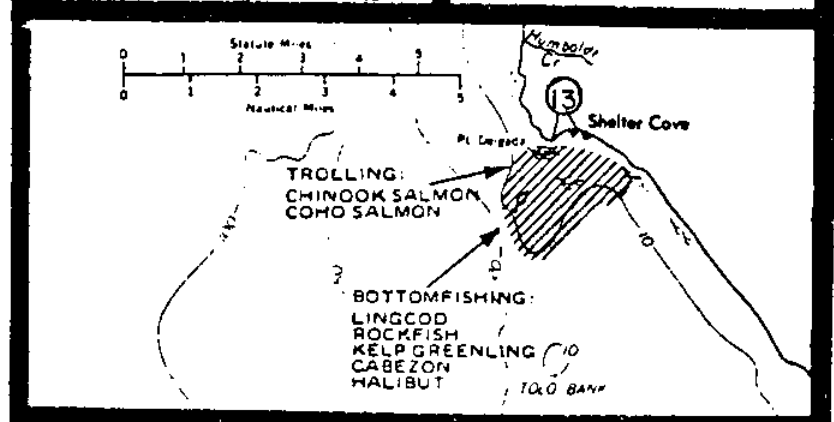
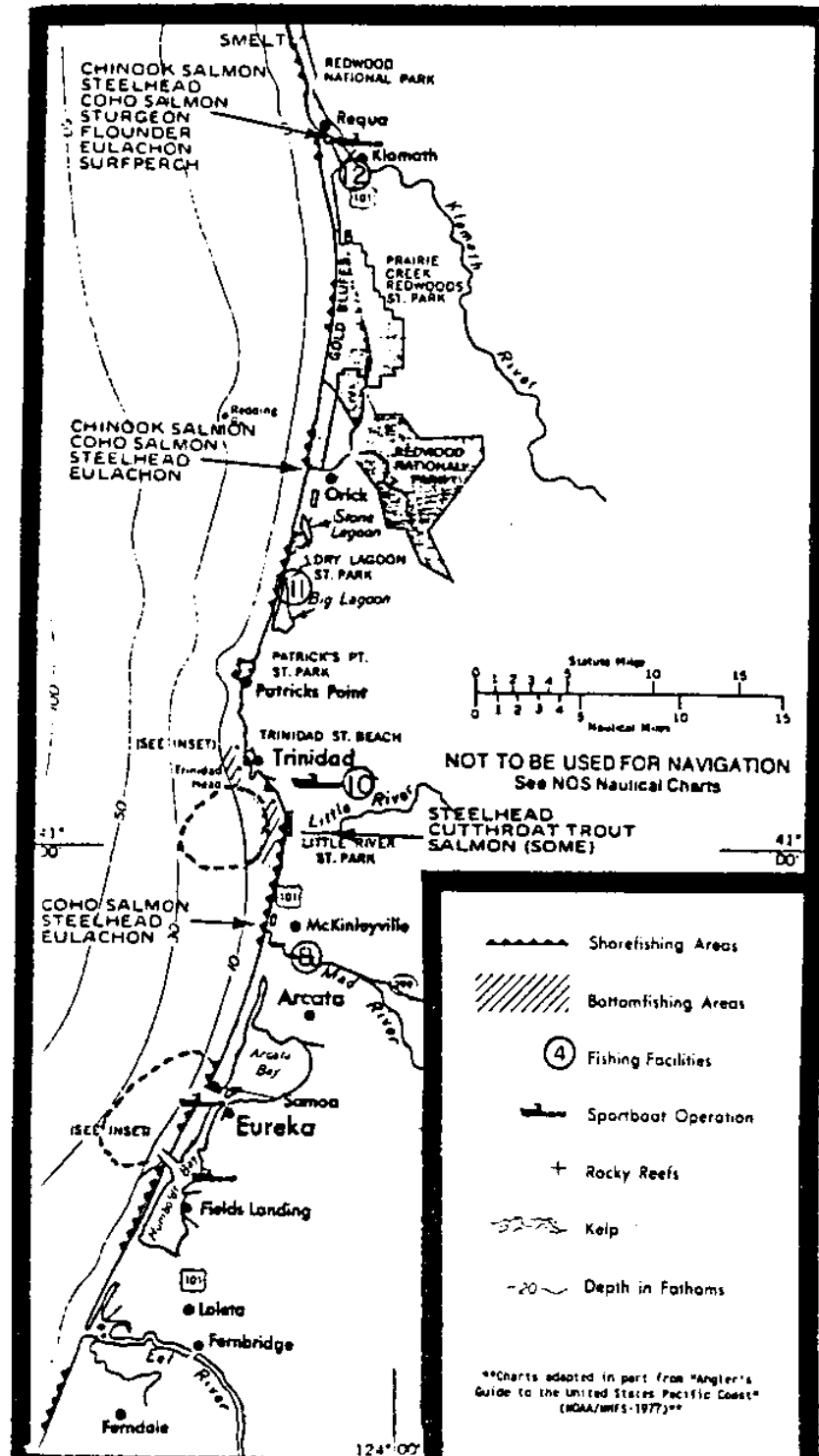
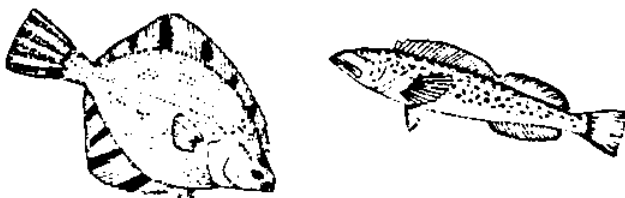
Humboldt County has long been known for its ocean fishing. The coastal and shoreline waters provide memorable challenges for salmon, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, smelt, and surfperch. A prize salmon is everyone's dream, but visitors and locals alike are frequently guaranteed a meal's worth of bottomfish and surfperch. The rugged isolated rocky coast, cool northern summers, and damp winters evoke frontier images where ample opportunity for anglers to catch a fish worthy of any office or school-yard brag session. Fishing supplies can be purchased or rented at many fishing access points. All persons 16 years and older are required to have a fishing license except when fishing from a public pier. For fishing seasons, as well as bag and size limits, refer to current fishing regulations available at sport shops or offices of the Calif. Department of Fish and Game.

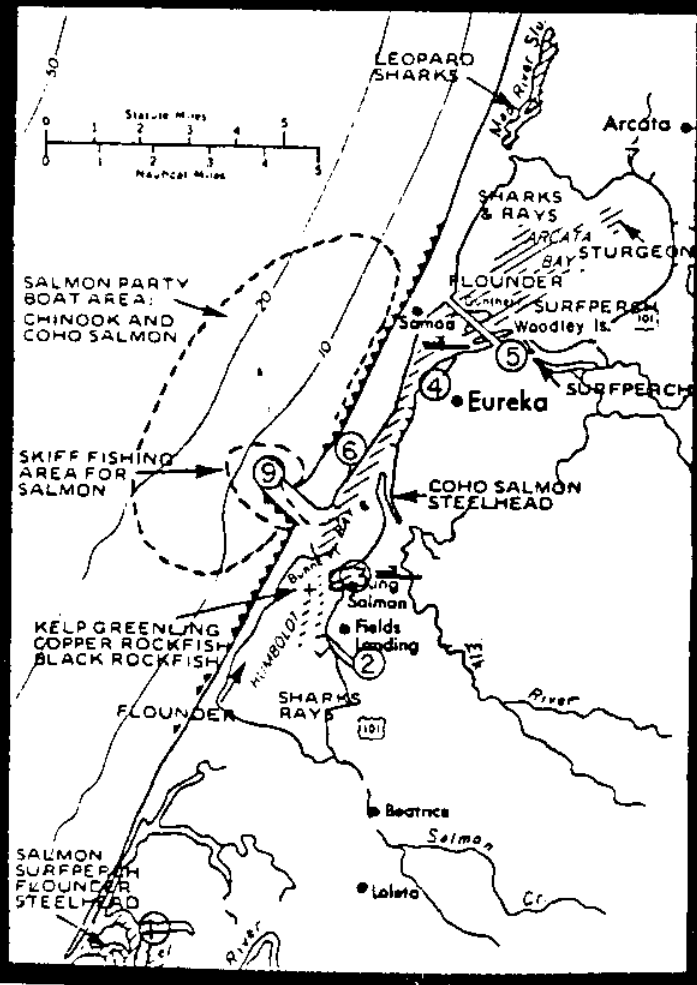
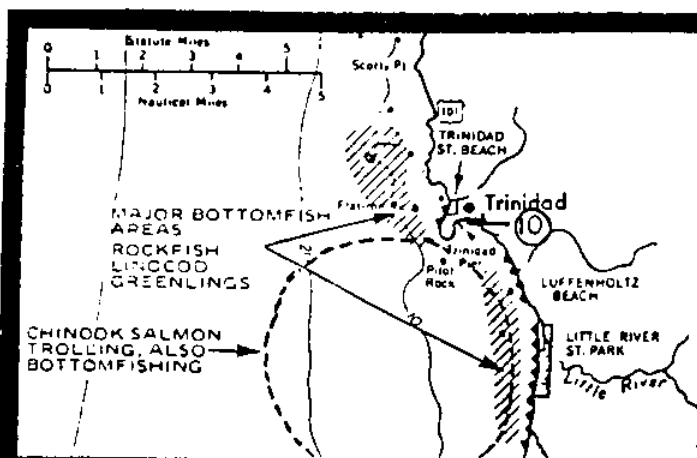
### SHELTER COVE

Located along the southern most coast of the county, Shelter Cove is rather isolated, but the drive through the Kings Range National Conservation Area is quite scenic. Shelter Cove has no docking facilities, but skiff fishing is excellent for bottomfish, and the shore offers ample surf and rock fishing. Abalone can be picked on a minus tide during the season.

### CENTERVILLE BEACH AND MOUTH OF EEL RIVER

Located at the base of Cape Mendocino, this is one of the most dynamic coastlines on the Pacific Ocean. The Cape has commanded respect from mariners since before the days of lumber schooners. With reasonable fishing access, the Eel River mouth can be fished from either the shore or skiffs. Starry flounder and surfperch are available year-round with steelhead and chinook salmon during the summer and fall. Sport crabbing is a favorite winter activity here.





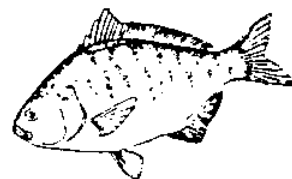
#### INSIDE HUMBOLDT BAY

Eureka is the only deep-water port between San Francisco and Coos Bay, Oregon. The Bay provides a variety of skiff and shore fishing for tidewater species of jacksmelt, sharks, rays, and surf perch. The large sharks and rays are most prevalent in the north bay near the private oyster beds and sloughs. An occasional sturgeon and returning salmon are also caught in these areas. The south bay provides good clamming during low tides and rock fish or surfperch at King Salmon. The entrance jetties offer good greenling, lingcod, rockfish and perch fishing. Pier fishing for surfperch and smelt is allowed at the Samoa and Fields Landing Boat Ramp and at the "K" and "F" street docks. Fishing from the "K" and "F" Street public docks do not require a fishing license.

A	B	C	D	E	F	LOCATION
1				*		Crab Pack, Eel River
2				*		Fields Landing, Eureka
3	*	*	*	*	*	King Salmon, Eureka
4				*		Foot of Commercial St.
5	*					Woodley Island Marina
6				*		Samoa Angling Access
7				*		Arcata
8				*		Mad River
9				*	*	Entrance Humboldt Bay
10	*	*	*	*	*	Trinidad Harbor
11				*	*	Stone Lagoon
12	*	*	*	*	*	Klamath River
13				*	*	Shelter Cove

\* Summer only

A - Facility Number  
B - Sport Boat Operation  
C - Pier Fishing  
D - Skiff Rentals  
E - Launching  
F - Jetty Fishing



#### OUTSIDE HUMBOLDT BAY

Party boat and skiff fishing for salmon and bottomfish are available year-round. Party boats operate out of King Salmon, Woodley Island and Trinidad Marinas. Salmon may be taken only during designated seasons which vary annually. July and August are the best months for coho salmon and the harbor entrance is a favorite spot for chinook salmon. Small boat operators are warned to always respect the harbor entrance and **NOT** to negotiate the bar (entrance) during an outgoing tide.

#### MAD RIVER - LITTLE RIVER - LUFFENHOLTZ

Salmon can be found in the mouth of Mad River during the summer season and steelhead during the winter. The sandy beaches along this area offer good surf casting for perch and netting of surf and night smelt. Little River has winter steelhead and spring cutthroat trout. Clam Beach, off Little River, is one of the best razor clamming areas in the region.

#### TRINIDAD - PATRICK'S POINT

Trinidad offers excellent salmon and bottom fishing in the summer with pier and rock fishing year round. Party boats and launching facilities are also available. The State parks north of Trinidad offer good rocky shore fishing.

#### PATRICK'S POINT - BIG, STONE & FRESHWATER LAGOONS

The sandy beaches have excellent runs of surf smelt and surfperch. Boating access is difficult except at the three major lagoons. Each offers sporadic year-round cutthroat trout, small steelhead, and an occasional salmon fishery resulting from the Prairie Creek Fish Hatchery.

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