

Excellent Fishing at Rogers City

Catch Lake Trout, Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, Walleye, Atlantic Salmon, Pink Salmon and Coho Salmon.



5 Chinook, 2 pinks 2 Steelhead and 2 lake trout

Variety

Fishing in Lake Huron off Rogers City has been excellent because of consistent catches of several species of trout and salmon. Lake trout are caught in good numbers along with steady catches of steelhead, Chinook salmon, walleye and pink salmon. Occasionally in the catches are Coho salmon and Atlantic salmon. The potential of catching a variety of species provides for an exciting fishing trip. Many of these species are 'leapers' and often the first sign of a hit is a fish jumping high in the air!

Why is fishing improving?

Since the alewives crashed in 2003, natural reproduction of several species of trout and salmon has increased greatly. A poison in the alewives known as thiaminase interfered with the health and survival of newly hatched eggs. So the demise of the alewives has resulted in an excellent diverse fishery.

Excellent Fishing Conditions Deep Water and Structure Close to Shore

Besides the many species of fish that are available, fishing is easy because there is deep water near shore that saves gas and concentrates the fish in a narrower band. Fishing occurs most of the season from shore to about a 1.5 miles out in 100 feet of water. Later in the summer when temperatures increase, deeper water over 150 feet can be found between 2 to 3 miles from shore. This band of deep water extends many miles in each direction along the shore from the Harbor. There are reefs known as the humps beginning 2.5 miles east of the Harbor that extend beyond Adam's Point located 5 miles to the southeast. This structure attracts fish and is a favorite location for anglers. See map.



5 Chinook, 3 steelhead and 2 lake trout

Productive Fishing Methods

Since there are so many different types of salmon and trout to catch, many anglers have found that a productive method is to stack the fishing lines from the mid waters to near the surface. Some of the best fishing can be found in water temperatures from about 45 °F to 65 °F and having the trolling lines stacked vertically 5 to 10 feet above each other works very well. Many anglers like to start trolling back and forth at an angle from shore over water depths of 50 feet to around 120 feet of water. Once a productive depth is found, then trolling parallel to shore can result in good catches. Often several fish can be caught in the same location.



Hammond Bay Area Anglers Association



Chinook salmon start appearing in the catch toward the end of June and can be caught until the end of October. About 75% of the Chinook taken are wild so many of the fish harvested even late in the season are silver.

Steelhead fishing begins toward the end of May and often improves through September in most years. As long as the surface temperature remains below 68 F° the steelheas are often caught on or near the surface. A large increase in wild reproduction during the last 5 years is expanding the population.



Lake trout always seem to be available. They are found in 10 to 50 feet of water in early May and as the water warms they move to depths from 50 to about 120 feet and can be caught regularly until the season ends on September 30. The fish are caught in water temperature from 41 to about 51 F°. Fish up to 7 to 10 pounds are common with some approaching 20 pounds. Lake trout are often caught suspended along with the other trout and salmon.

The Atlantic salmon fishery is expanding greatly in Lake Huron and they are the first fish to be caught each year starting in early April where they are taken along the breakwalls and near the mouths of Swan and Trout Rivers. Throughout the summer and fall the Atlantics are caught with the other trout and salmon and are known as tremendous leapers.



Pink salmon are not stocked in the Great Lakes but the fishery has steadily improved as wild reproduction similar to the other species continues to increase. The salmon average 1.5 to 3 pounds but they are exciting to catch because of their jumping displays and they are excellent to eat.



Walleye and Coho numbers have increased steadily because of expanding natural reproduction. Both species are caught from July through September. Walleyes are often caught in the warmer water up to 70 °F above the trout and salmon.

