

A New Spin For Catching Pink Salmon

By Rob Phillips

Every angler in the region knows this is a humpy year. And it won't be long until the millions of pinks will be swimming the waters of Puget Sound, staging for their spawning runs up several rivers in the area.

Sometimes it is easy to catch the feisty little salmon. Other times it takes a little more work.

It is well known that when fishing for humpies, you can fish with a variety of different lures...but it better be pink in color. Pink salmon love pink lures. Go figure.

Over the years anglers have used big flashers and dodgers as attractors when trolling for humpies. Many, including me, have often times felt like the big rotating flashers and other gear is overkill. Not only can the big gear become a giant, tangled mess if you are running several rods, much of the enjoyment of fighting the fish is lost, because of the heavy attractors.

Run a five to six foot leader of 20- to 30-pound test from the Fish Flash to the Kingfisher Lite spoon. Lighter leader allows the spoon to fish better and gives it more action.

To get the rig down to the preferred 20 to 60 foot trolling depths, use a downrigger or a trolling sinker. If you are using a trolling sinker, rig it in the main line about four feet ahead of the Fish Flash.

A couple of hints to improve your humpy success. Scent the Kingfisher Lite spoon with a krill scent. This will mask any human odors and help attract the salmon.

And, to help keep seaweed, grass and other debris off of your lure, tie a ball bearing swivel about half way between the Fish Flash and the spoon. The swivel will catch most of the debris before it gets to and fouls the lure action, and it will be added insurance against annoying line twist.



But, you still need attraction of some kind. And the more the better. Pinks seem to be attracted and agitated into striking when there is plenty of gear in the water, so this year I'm going to be running pink Big Al's Fish Flashes as our attractors. Behind the Fish Flash, I'll have on a pink lure and am looking forward to trying the new Kingfisher Lite Hoochie Hook Spoon from Silver Horde.

Not only does the Kingfisher Lite spoon have all the color and action needed to attract and hook humpies, the pink hoochie adds even more with little tentacles that vibrate through the water.

Rigging for humpies with the Fish Flash is fairly simple. Because the flasher is in-line and offers no drag it takes up very little space in the water as it is being trolled. And it actually sends out more sideways light reflection than any other type of attractor.

Again, more is better when it comes to trolling for pinks. Get as many lines in the water as possible, and while you are never going to totally eliminate gear tangles, running Fish Flashes as your attractors will help considerably because they run straight, in line as they work.

Trolling with the tides when you can will also help with reduced tangles, and it really helps to keep the gear moving at the right speed.

Another little tip to make your pink salmon the best it can be for the table: bleed the fish right away and get them on ice immediately.

So there you have it. A few ideas to make your humpy season more successful. Call your fishing friends, grab your gear and get ready to fish...because this year is definitely going to be a great humpy year!

DEADLY COMBO ADDS A NEW SPIN TO CATCH MORE HUMPIES!



You know what humpies want. They want pink. So give them pink, pink and more pink with a Kingfisher™ Lite Hoochie Hook Spoon from Silver Horde® behind a pink Big Al's Fish Flash® attractor. It's a new spin that is a perfectly deadly combination on humpies.

YAKIMA BAIT®

P.O. BOX 310 | GRANGER, WA 98932 | WWW.YAKIMABAIT.COM

FOLLOW US ON: [facebook.com/yakimabait](https://www.facebook.com/yakimabait)