

Fishing

by Matt Curtis

Reporting

Period: September to October 24, 2015

Note: Missing dates normally mean that the wind contributed to boats not going out to fish.

I have a NEW email if you can send me any fishing news or pictures: lyncurt0@gmail.com

Pre-September: Not many fishermen around, but those that have been out have reported sporadic catches of smaller dorado and bottom fish. LOS COMPADRES reported a nice catch of bottom fish south of Turner in very deep water, 400+ feet. They had one big yellowtail and at least one nice grouper along with the usual bottom fish. There was also a story that the halibut/flounder season was closed due to shrinking catches and heavy pressure on the local stocks.

9/25 PERRYDIZE took family out to south of Turner for a trolling catch of sierra, and a mess of rockies, goldies, salmon, and triggerfish in 300+’.

9/27 PERRYDIZE fished San Pedro Matir and caught one 5# dorado and one 4# yellowtail before switching to bottom fish including limits of goldies and a 4# hawkfish or chino mero. (a small bass like but colorful member of the “hawkfish” family). They also reported lots of dolphins and whales.

9/28 Unusual sighting of a burrowing owl at KBE by NIGHTWINGS.

10/12 NIGHTWINGS, MANANA MAYBE, and GATORBAIT all fished south of Turner and the Deadman areas. Water temperatures were 84-85 degrees. Sierra were plentiful for trollers and even on jigs. Additionally GATORBAIT caught one skipjack and NIGHTWINGS hoked and lost one dorado while jigging (more dorado were seen in the reef area). Bottom fishing brought good catches of goldies and bottom fish. No sign of yellowtail or bonito. There

was a second hand report of a Mexican boat coming in with limits of medium-sized sardinera while trolling and casting near rocky shores towards Willard. Dolphin were plentiful.

10/16 LA DONNA III went to Bahia Los Angeles on an overnigher to look for whale sharks, which they found, and caught one yellowtail and one dorado.

10/17 GATOR BAIT fished Pedro Matir for bottom fish including goldies, triggerfish and one small grouper in 300-500’.

10/22 PERRYDIZE tried Pedro Matir but was hampered by a tough swell and winds so went on back to Turner. They caught the same as before, sierra and one 10# toro or jack crevalle. GATOR BAIT went all of the way to San Lorenzo to troll but did not find much there. On the way back they encountered a huge bait boil “a couple of football fields long”, but it turned out to be skipjack. PERRYDIZE did find some cooler water in the 70s.

On the conservation side, below is a link to the World’s Aquarium site maintained by Vince Radice out of San Carlos on the dorado fishery and the banning of shipping of commercial catches of dorado to the US starting last August.

There are other links to stories on the Sea of Cortez including one on the nearly extinct vaquita, or harbor porpoise (smallest of all). It is interesting reading and reveals the latest efforts to clean up enforcement of illegal, unregistered commercial fishing in the Sea of Cortez. It seems that the Mexican navy is taking over the effort to catch nighttime gill netting by poachers in the protected zone between San Felipe and Puerto Penasco. The poaching is targeting the endangered toatava (for their air bladders) and killing turtles and vaquita as by-catch.

<http://worldsaquarium.com/blog/iuu-presidential-task-force-rules-dorado-from-mexico-illegal-to-import-into-u-s-a/>