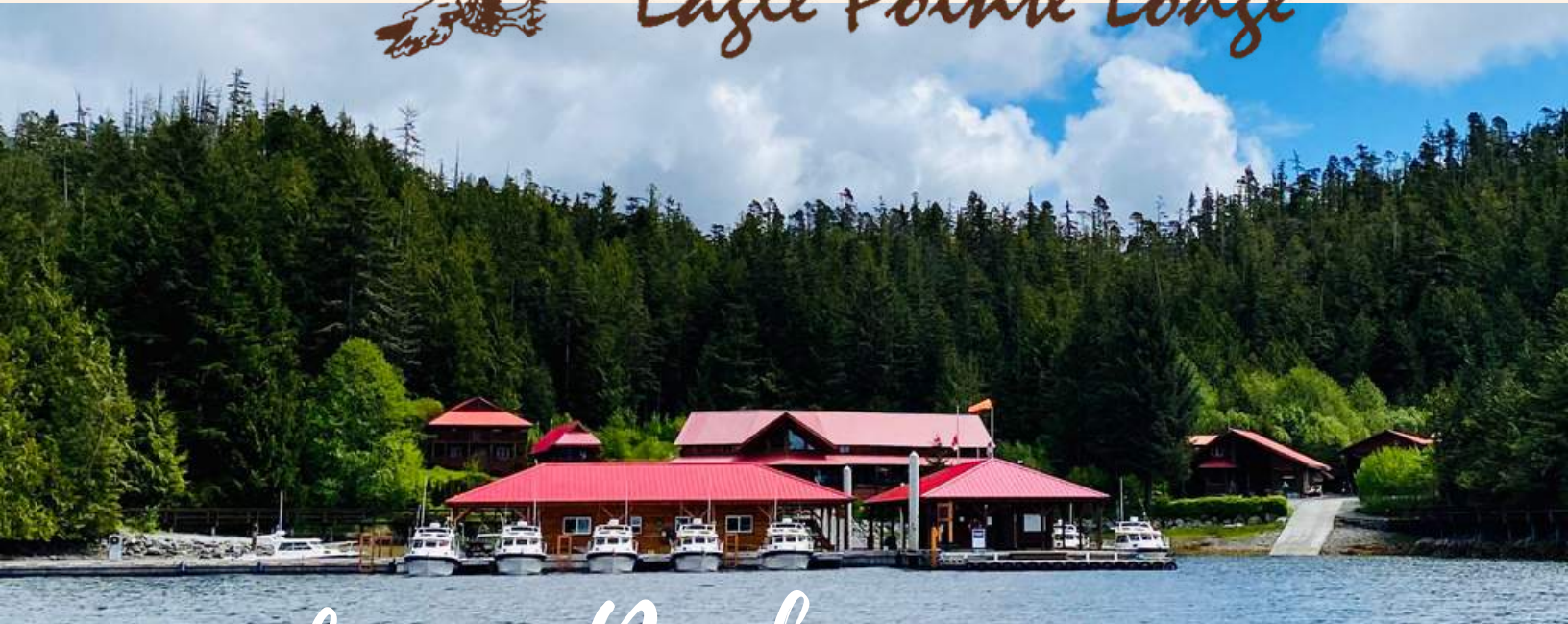


# EPL EXPRESS NEWSLETTER 2021



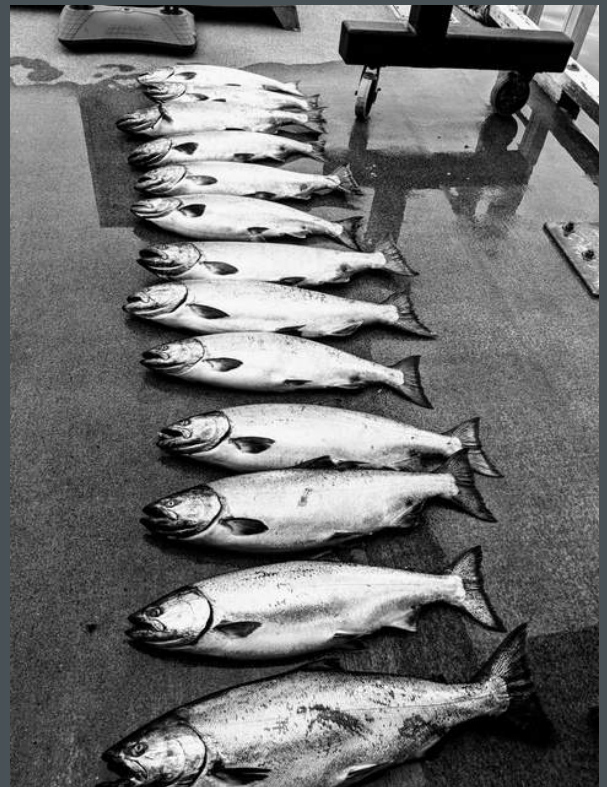
*"where BC's Pacific Coast meets Alaska..."*

## *Eagle Pointe Lodge*



## *Welcome Back*

It was a great feeling to get the boats back in the water and re-open the doors this past season! Due to the pandemic, we did not operate in 2020 however, under provincial guidelines and a strong protocol in place, 2021 was a success. Although we operated at a reduced capacity this year, we were all excited to get things going again. Once we kicked things off in late May, it was steady action for the remainder of the summer. The absolute blessing that fishing provides to many is the ability to relax, reflect and forget for a short time what is happening in the outside world. After a long season away, a few days out on the water with friends, some unwinding at the lodge and indulging in a five-star meal was the medicine we all needed.



Chinook salmon at its finest



## May

May was a somewhat cold month up in the Pacific Northwest, but the fish did not seem to mind. We only had a few trips this month due to travel restrictions, but once we started trolling the Briny Blue, the Chinook were not far off from biting the hooks. The early Chinook run continues to be strong up in our area which we all feel fortunate to be able to partake in. There are no Coho at this time of the season, so all attention is directed at the mighty Chinook and halibut. The average size range for Chinook is from 18 - 30 lbs with the possibility always present for something larger.



Nice Ling cod on a beautiful, flat and calm day



Happy pair of beauty chinooks



Going the distance for great rewards!



## June - July

June 1st started with a Fisheries implemented reduction in the daily and possession limits. It was reduced to one fish a day and two in possession to take home. The changing limits for the Chinook through the remainder of the season are all in effort to help protect the Skeena River stock. Unfortunately, over the last few years, the number of fish that have been recorded entering the Skeena are always fluctuating but generally on a downward trend.

Fisheries decided to implement these regulation changes and it is up to us to do our part and to strictly follow the regulations. These are a year-to-year decision based upon what the sport fishing community will be allowed to retain regarding salmon. The regulations are also placed in the river system itself with the hope that the fish can make it to their spawning grounds. In turn, the result is that there is a prosperous year and many of the offspring will survive and return to the ocean.

The fishing was quite good, and most groups had good success with a Tye or two being part of the group's effort. The weather really turned around and we experienced some beautiful sunny weather with calm seas. Halibut fishing is always welcomed when we are fortunate enough with flat waters. The reef, the inside waters and various other spots were all plentiful with halibut from the start of the season right until the end. The raised limit size on the halibut this year of 133cms allowed fish to be measured up to the mid 60lb range.



It sometimes takes teamwork to rattle in the big halibut!



Day off and one on one time - catching staff dinner



## June 19 - July 11

There was a non-retention on Chinook implemented.

We turned our attention to Coho fishing at this point which gave everyone a chance at taking some salmon home. Luck was on our side and the Coho showed up right when they should have. Once the Coho enter our waters looking for food, they are generally quite aggressive and are willing to hit the lines. The number of Coho that were around was impressive and an improvement over the last couple of years. It is always great being able to report an increase in fish numbers over previous years, so hopefully this trend continues.

Once the Chinook opened again it was time to troll for them and Coho. Good times are always had when you do not know if it is a powerful Chinook biting or a high-flying Coho! Either way, smiles are always on the agenda. Mix in some bottom fishing for halibut and by the end of a trip, there is plenty of premium fish for everyone to enjoy.



Good looking mixed bag of salmon



Catch and release time on this big halibut)



## August

Foggy mornings and sunny afternoons can be expected up in the Dixon Entrance East area. A slower boat ride in the morning fog is an easy trade off as we all know that means a beautiful sunny day once the fog burns off. Steady Coho action all month with the odd Chinook mixed in, was the daily routine this past August. Dinner out at the gazebo is always a special place to take it all in; most groups were able to take advantage of this with the good weather. Limits of salmon and halibut continued right to the last trip of the season.



Perfect sunset following a perfect day at the lodge





All smiles with the largest salmon of the season! 40lbs



Hey now,  
there's a nice legal-sized halibut! (133cm)

## LEADER BOARD FOR THE SEASON

### Chinook



- 1- Jesse Myshak - 40.2lbs
- 2- Jason Boucher - 34lbs
- 3- Brendan Rose - 32lbs
- 4- Connor Mailey - 32lbs
- 5- James McCague - 31.3lbs
- 6- Chris Brett - 31lbs
- 7- Jim Riddell - 30.5lbs
- 8- Damon Harmon - 30.5lbs
- 9- Nicole Waring - 30lbs

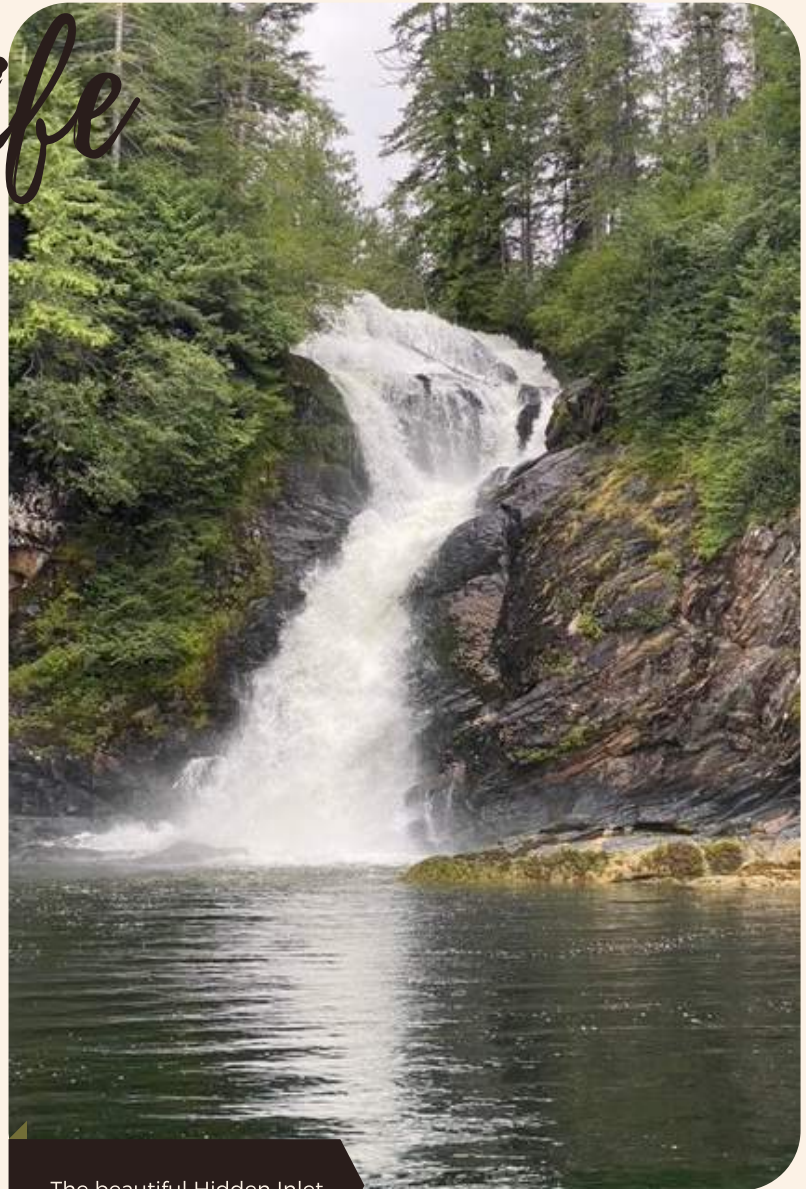
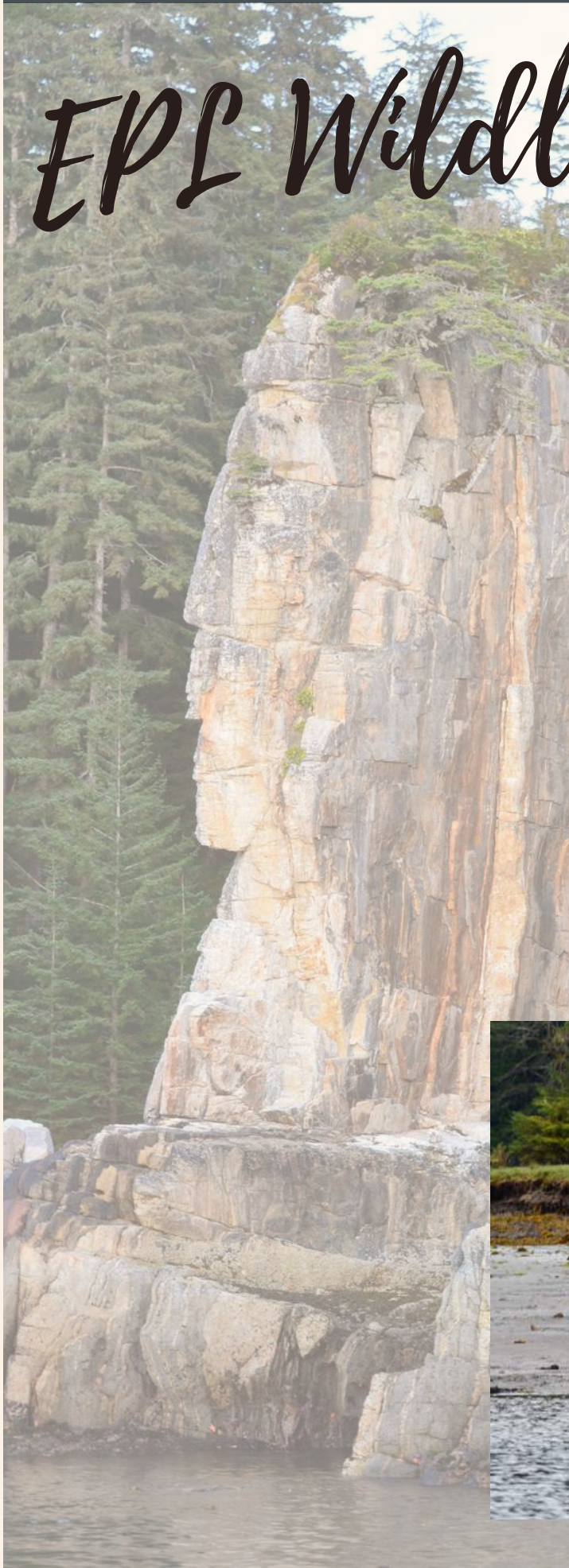
### Halibut



- 1- Scott Shuran - 68.1lbs
- 2- Devon Hanson - 67lbs
- 3- Eric Sommerville - 67lbs
- 4- Barrett Richter - 65.1lbs
- 5- Vanessa Barretto - 64.8lbs



# EPL Wildlife



The beautiful Hidden Inlet



Grizzly digging clams for lunch





Sometimes lucky enough to get some of these!



Mom and her baby killer whale hunting



A little buck out for a swim in the channel



Dock Sea life - So beautiful



Indian Joe - Home of the Tyees





Grizzly mom with her triplets



Mesmerized, looking off the dock



It doesn't get anymore special than that

On behalf of the ownership and staff at Eagle Pointe lodge we would like to sincerely thank each person that joined us this summer. The participation of everyone adhering to protocols and testing that were set in place made for a completely safe environment for all to enjoy. In this theme, we are planning for the same success in 2022 and cannot wait to see familiar and new faces at one of the most beautiful places on earth – Eagle Pointe Lodge.



Tight Lines,

Jonathan Beaty  
Manager, Eagle Pointe Lodge