

Fishing Report – April 2026 to May 23, 2026

I have a **NEW email**. If you can send me any fishing news or pictures, please use: lyncurt0@gmail.com.

Also, please send any pictures of new or impressive catches.



In general, the windy weather continued up to recent days. The mornings often started out flat calm but began to come up around 1000 to 1200 hours, becoming pretty choppy with white caps by afternoon. There were also a few days with heavy fog coming from the south and spreading across to Baja. Navigating in “pea soup” conditions can be very challenging, if not dangerous or expensive. It is certainly no fun, and the only options are to anchor in a safe haven until it burns off — which we have had to do once or twice — or slowly navigate using chart plotter trails to avoid rocks, shallows, and other obstacles. That can also be tricky because the fog can be very disorienting.

Fishing reports have mostly been vague or in the “people are saying” category. There have been a few good catches of Yellowtail either at Dead Man or near the lighthouse on the south end of Turner by trollers. Watch out for the population of “Lobos” there, however, as they have been extracting a toll of hooked fish. Some days, fishermen have done better jigging and fast retrieving heavy jigs.

The biggest “new” catches have been some White Sea Bass, mostly south of Turner. Those came by drifting across the reef there using larger jigs in chrome or white, such as PL 68s. Goldies and Sandies have been the predominant catch overall, with some being very impressive in size. Scorpion fish have also been fairly common, but they require very careful handling. Of course, Suegra (“Mother-in-laws”) and Cochies/Trigger Fish have been easy to find.

Halibut have become pretty scarce lately, as have Corvinas, although a few weeks ago there were reports of big Corvina up to 20 pounds being caught in the narrows past Christmas Tree. Shore fishing there, however, has not produced any for us recently. Paloma Pompano have been getting caught near the point at Santa Rosa Estuary. They are mostly hitting Kastmaster-style lures in chrome or chrome and blue.

Sea water temperatures are getting up into the Dorado zone, especially between Kino and Turner, but I have not heard of any actually being caught yet.

My only other observation has been the fleet of seiners between here and Tiburon. They use large purse seines to encircle large schools of bait fish like sardines and anchovies but often entrap bycatch that is simply shoveled out the scuppers. Most of these other fish do not survive, and sometimes porpoises or turtles get snared as well. There are local groups trying to encourage more care regarding these issues.

Next fall, when reports begin to be written up again, please forward photos of unusual or big catches and send reports to me at the address above, or I will not be able to include detailed information in the monthly report.

Nature Notes



On the “nature” side, I have seen a couple of interesting snakes around the area that I was finally able to identify. Usually, one would only catch a fleeting glimpse of a fairly large snake disappearing from the road or path ahead. The color of the fast-moving reptile was mostly dark, with a definite flash of cream and reddish to pink.

A couple of weeks ago, while walking our dog, we found one run over in the road, so I was finally able to examine one closely. It was definitely covered with large bands of dark and tan, with a lighter cream belly and areas of red to pink. Two weeks later I found a live one just off the road, partly stretched out from a large stand of grass and shrubs. It had its head lifted off the ground in what I would describe as a “cobra” position. In fact, it was so still that I wasn’t sure if it was a snake or a bent piece of rebar.

I approached within three to four feet and could see it was indeed a snake frozen in position so as not to be noticed. I pointed it out to a group of workers in Kino Bay Estates so they would know it was not a venomous snake and not to injure it.

I had earlier identified it as a **Sonoran Red Coachwhip**, also called a **Red Racer**. They are interesting because they, along with their related Black Racers, are notable for their size — reaching over seven feet in length — and incredible speed, making them among the fastest moving snakes in North America.

They mainly feed on smaller lizards and prefer to hide out in dense vegetation to avoid predators, moving quickly between stands of tall grass and shrubs. As mentioned, they are not poisonous and are generally calm unless handled roughly, in which case they may deliver a painful bite.