

TOP FISHING SECRETS

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Seals versus Anglers

Historically known for being a good sign, learn how seals have adapted to find anglers as a good sign for and easy meal.

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This seal is within yards of my boat and completely unafraid. Imbecilic laws overly protect these mongrels of the sea so much so that they're widely regarded as a nuisance. In many coastal regions even State, Provincial, Regional, and Federal branches of governments must intercede on behalf of fisheries and habitat to inhibit in their explosive populations.

It has been long accepted that seals are a good sign for fishermen. Anglers out on the water will watch for these marine mammals and attempt to follow them in the hopes that it will show them where to fish. This idea is so embedded into the culture of fishing that many articles have been written about the validity of the myth.

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If seals ever were a good sign for fishermen I have never seen it in the twenty-seven plus years I've been out on the water. Each and every time I've seen these "dogs of the sea" they ended up following me to find out where fish located and not other way around. Research is something I prefer over all other forms of activities when investigating fishing theories. When out on the water, I do more than just fish; I want to understand the environment of which all fish live, and to do that I must be on alert for what puts fish off the bite as well as on. This kind of thinking has allowed me to "see" things largely unnoticed by others.

Seals are opportunistic feeders. They will take every passing fish they can without expending too much effort in the task. It is the nature of the beast for all living things to do as little as possible for maximum return. We all do it and understanding how to find fish without seals is one thing, but to then fish without seals finding you is another thing entirely.