**2025 Spring Newsletter**

**Intro**

It’s here! The long-awaited Doc Warner’s Spring Newsletter has become a rite of passage for preparation for your next trip to Alaska. We are excited to share what’s new in 2025 and what the forecasts are for this coming season at Doc’s! It is going to be a good one, and we hope to see you “reel” soon at that special place we call Doc’s.

**Fish forecast**

Oh, this is going to be fun… The salmon forecasts for 2025 are above average across the board. While forecasting is difficult to be accurate at best, the amount of juvenile Coho and Kings that we saw last season appear to bolster the credibility of the forecast predictions. We are expecting a solid salmon year. Time to sharpen hooks and get tackle ready for a great summer.

The halibut forecast is a mixed bag. Over the last several years the International Pacific Halibut Commission reported a stabilization of the spawning biomass. So, we expect a continuation of a lot of smaller fish mixed in with a few larger fish. On the horizon, the spawning stock is recording the lowest spawn levels since 2012. What this means for the future is concerning, but it will take a few more years of data to establish a trend. Right now, the only reductions in catch being considered will impact both the commercial and the charter fisheries. The recreational fishery, which we are a part of, is not expected to be impacted at the moment.

**What’s new**

A new season brings new additions to Doc’s. The advance crew is headed up in April to begin preparations for the summer fishing season. The best news this summer is that we are widening the dock walkway to about 10 feet. We will also be enlarging the dock platform somewhat.

The last couple of years we have been blessed with barn swallows nesting in the boat house and keeping the bugs at bay on campus. In an effort to provide them with convenient, “affordable housing”, we are building those little acrobats their own nesting area. Hopefully they will like their new condos and will invite their friends to continue the bug control.

**Blue Kiwi ownership opportunity**

There is a rare opportunity to own your own Stabicraft stored at Doc’s! The owners of Blue Kiwi are looking to transition their beloved 2900 Stabi to the next generation of avid fishermen. The details on the boat can be found [here](https://www.boattrader.com/boat/2015-stabicraft-2900-9683120/). This will be a steal of a deal for the right fisherman.

**Tackle trends**

Just in time for the above average salmon forecast this summer, the tackle offering has been expanded in the Pro Shop. This year, we have brought dipsy divers, mooching lures, and trolling lures to add to the traditional flasher and hoochie set ups. This tackle will add new fishing methods for our anglers. We are also changing the line on the downriggers to minimize lost tackle.

A fun fact, the salmon reels and halibut reels that we have been using have identical gearing and drag capacity. Additionally, the spool capacity is the same for the monofilament and braid on both reels. Finally, the diameter of the monofilament and halibut line that we use is identical. After consultation with Okuma, we are upgrading our fishing line to braided and simplifying our reel selection. This also means that we finally have left-handed halibut reels.

**Availability & pricing**

From fishing licenses to transfers and from fish processing to meals and housing, and everything in between, Doc Warner’s continues to be the best all-inclusive fishing adventure in Alaska. Paired with the best cancellation policy in the industry (100%), there is no risk of booking your next adventure to Doc’s. There are still some opportunities to create memories of a lifetime with you and yours this summer, but space is disappearing fast. Give us a call to reserve your adventure this summer!

The 2025 pricing is on our [website](https://docwarners.com/prices/) and the 2026 pricing will be as follows:

* 2 per boat = $4,590 per person
* 3-4 per boat = $4,390 per person
* Teen Rate (12-15) = $3,390 per person
* Youth rates (9-11 years of age) = $2,890 per person
* Children (8 years and under) are free

The small list of what’s not included: Airfare to/from Juneau, AK, Taxes, King Stamps, Additional artificial Tackle (we will give you some for salmon), Tips, and Souvenirs.

**Research**

Last summer, we had a Brigham Young University research project going on that looked at yield, gender, and size of halibut, salmon and rockfish. Thanks to the abundance of catch from our guests, the researchers are working towards publishing the results and will be collecting more data this summer. One of the immediate benefits at the lodge will be an accurate yield chart for much of your catch. This will allow our guests to better predict how many fish boxes they will be sharing at home.

Doc Warner’s isn’t just about world-class fishing – it’s also a hub for ecological research! This year, we are supporting scientists who are studying how Alaska’s forests and soils are changing.  Projects include tracking shifts in soil nitrogen as salmon runs decline, investigating how land rises and soils warm at Monument Point (in partnership with the [Southeast Alaska Land Trust](https://www.southeastalaskalandtrust.org/)), and examining how forests regrow after logging.

Come visit with us in the evening during fish chat or on the dock to learn more about these research efforts.

**Thank you and invitation**

Thank you for taking the time to see what’s going on at Doc’s this summer. We appreciate you for becoming the best part of Doc’s crew and family. Life can be unpredictable, but one thing is certain, great memories and great fishing can always be found at Doc Warner’s.

Come join us for a “reel” good time.

Doc’s Crew

