

First off, here are two very very informative (and enjoyable) websites with surfperch info. Both are somewhat dated, but the perch don't care if it's 2009 or 2017. JD Richey is a good friend of mine and probably the nicest and most knowledgeable all-around fisherman/guide in Northern California (and Alaska).

The Zen guy, despite being a flyfisher, also is very free with helpful info and has great tips on where to go and what to look for at the beach for good perch fishing. The JD video is from north of the Golden Gate. The perch there look like Barred Surf Perch (BSP's) but are actually redbtail perch. Redtails get bigger than BSP's so you're well-situated to pursue them from the beaches off Marin, Sonoma, Menocino and Humboldt Counties. Dylan Beach, Muir Beach, Jenner, all those spots. Even Ocean Beach Pacifica and San Gregorio can have redbtails, but they are the default fish north of the Golden Gate.

[JD's Gear: Light Tackle Surf Perch](#)

JD's Gear: Light Tackle Surf Perch

While you can toss giant 12-foot rods and sinkers heavier than car batteries, I prefer to fish perch off the bea...

[Glenn Yoshimoto's Zen Fly Fishing](#)

Glenn Yoshimoto's Zen Fly Fishing

A fly fishing web site dedicated to achieving mastery in fishing for inshore, surf and Striped Bass in fresh and...

I will include a photo of my Steelhead/Perch rod, the Carolina rig, and the GULP! sandworm package which has evolved since JD's 2009 video. (He uses the 4-inch sandworms- good for bigger redbtails but we cut them in thirds for BSPs down here, or better, just buy the 2" Sandworms) He also uses a

more complicated carolina rig with bobber stop and bumper bead. All good, but not really necessary as we know from our success the other night. He uses a Palomar knot, while I recommend the "Improved Clinch Knot." Other than that, I fish perch exactly the way that he does. I did not learn directly from him, but share the common knowledge of modern perch fishing.

The only knot I would add that I did not talk about yet is the "Egg Loop" knot for your hook. Sandcrabs work very well as bait, and the best sandcrabs are the soft-shelled crabs that are in the process of molting. If you get a softshell, they slip off the hook in turbulent whitewater. I use the egg loop to secure them to the shank of the hook. Egg loop is mostly used for securing roe to hooks while fishing salmon or steelhead in rivers. It works great for soft sandcrabs as well. Takes a while to get it right, but it's worth it!

<http://www.animatedknots.com/eggloop/index.php>

Photos: carolina rig, alternate slider rig, My perch rod stats, Gulp Sandworms (bloodworms work also), and Penn Spinfisher V my reel recommendation.

Smooth, great drag, sealed against water intrusion. anything from 2500-4500 size. Around \$100.

Enjoy and stay in touch, Stallion!

Bushy









