

Striving to be recognized as the best fishing lodge in Alaska and... as always... Closest to the Fish!



## 2021 OUTLOOK - COVID FEVER BREAKS - BOOKINGS ARE UP!

Greetings!

Back in October, I promised we won't give up on our dreams, we won't lose our sense of humor... and finally, we won't let the bastards get us down!

Who are *those* "bastards"? Well, I'm a bastard.

And the "Enemy within"? Often, we are our own worst enemy.

My agenda has always been to make the Highliner Lodge the best *fishing* lodge in Alaska and to that end... Make Halibut Fishing Great Again! That I have played off the peculiar politics of our time, is undeniable. Do I have a peculiar point of view? Undeniable.

Halibut don't know that they have both a dark side and a white side. All halibut have an *in side*. The flesh is the same.

**COVID!**  
**CANCEL CULTURE!**

# CONSPIRACIES! CLIMATE CHANGE!

Whatever your agenda is... don't forget our time is limited, our knowledge is imperfect and there are limits to our perseverance and understanding. Don't forget to nurture your relationships with your family, friends and fellow human beings.

Yes, maybe it's time to take care of what is really important and book a trip at the Highliner Lodge.

You can always get back to saving the world or making a million dollars. In spite of what we hear on the news... the world will still be there!



In 1976 I came up to Alaska and my step father Dick took me fishing and we caught "my" first halibut. It was 220 pounds!

Back in October, I said that "I am still living my dream! I still have grand ambitions. I acknowledge that I have had a privileged life... I was born in the USA!"



In 1976 my mom invited me to stay with her for the summer in Alaska. The first day we went fishing we caught "my" first king salmon... 52 pounds! My mom was the captain!

What about you? Are you livin' your dream?

If not, what are you waiting for?

Steve Daniels

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  - THE TAXMAN COMETH
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## Complaint Department



**I've been social distancing before it was cool!**

**What's there to complain about? Maybe you be forgotten how good yous have it!**

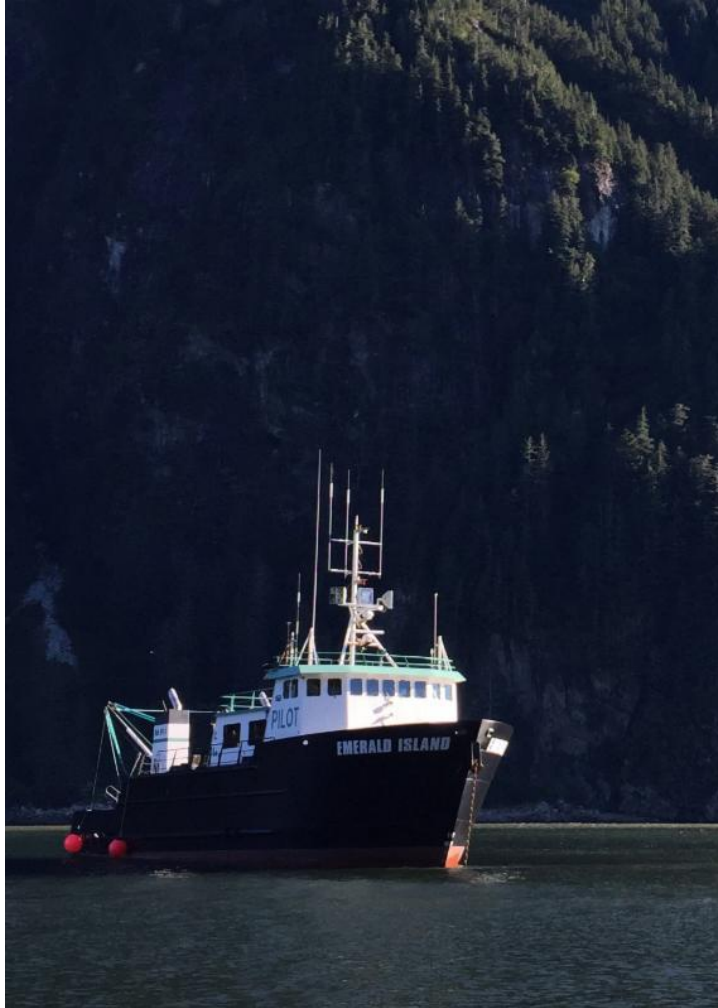
**Got something to say? I dares ya!**

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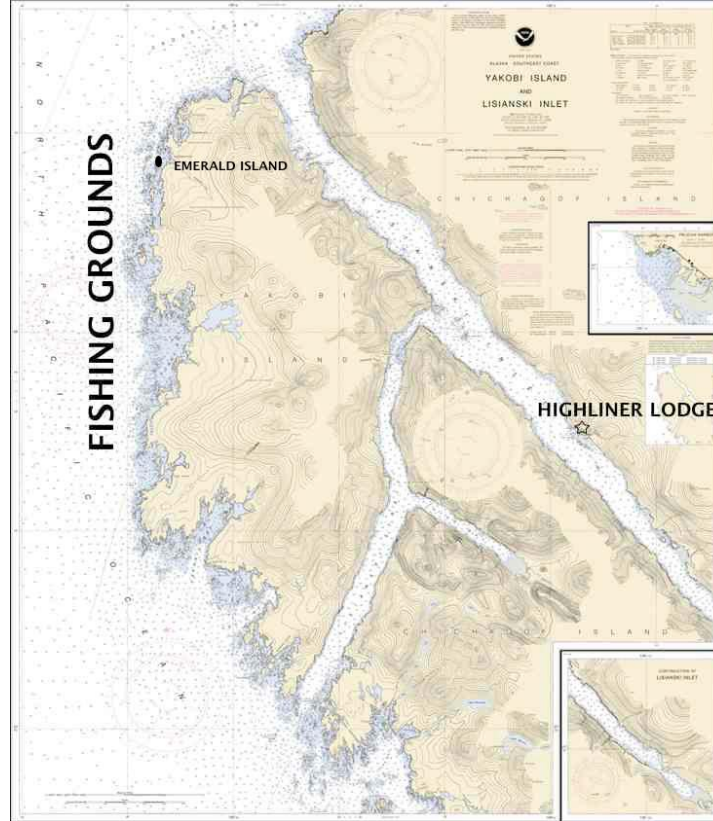
# **EMERALD ISLAND MOTHERSHIP OPERATION IS BACK!**

**Next week I am traveling to Coos Bay, Oregon to study and sit for my 200 ton masters license so that I can operate the Emerald Island with up to 12 guests on board.**

**Wouldn't you like to get 2 or 3 extra hours of fishing every day?**



**Why travel back and forth from the lodge to the fishing grounds every day when you can stay on the Emerald Island?**



**The Emerald Island is anchored in a quiet, gorgeous pristine cove located five minutes from the fishing grounds! We start everyday from the Emerald Island using two charter boats to take you fishing.**



**I've got the biggest boat in Pelican Alaska... and let me tell you, it's lonely at the top!**

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I don't want to oversell it... but this two and a half minute video says it all! Gets your blood pumping better than any little blue pill!

[TO PLAY NEW HIGHLINER LODGE VIDEO CLICK HERE](#)

**CURRENTLY WE ARE OVER 90% BOOKED FOR 2021**



**To insure you get the dates that you want, please don't wait!  
Also booking now for 2022!**

Call toll free (877) 386-0397 or email our operations manager Dylan at [dylan@highlinerlodge.com](mailto:dylan@highlinerlodge.com) for details or click the "BOOK ONLINE NOW!" link:

**[BOOK ONLINE NOW!](#)**

## **NEW FRESHWATER FISHING OPTION AT HIGHLINER LODGE!**



### **Introducing Zack McMahon**

Zack applied for a position at the Highliner Lodge last spring. He became my deckhand while I charter fished and worked closely with me on several construction projects. He is certainly a diligent worker, respectful, resourceful and a pleasure to work and fish with. He spearheaded a two day freshwater fishing adventure for our "Family and Friends" end of season outing. We all had a blast!

Zack opened my eyes to the possibilities of freshwater fly fishing in our area!

From Zack's resume:

"My name is Zack McMahan, I'm currently a duck, goose, and Sandhill crane guide in Texas and Oklahoma. I graduated college in December of 2019 with a four year degree in criminal justice from Midwestern State University where I maintained a 3.3 GPA. I also played 5 years of college football for MSU at the linebacker position calling the defense. I have grown up in the outdoors, hunting and fishing my entire life and am looking to go to Alaska to see some new country. I am specifically interested in starting at the deckhand position and working my way up.

I had my first job at the age of 13 working at a feed store and fabrication shop.

I have worked for Adventure Experiences inc. in Colorado doing fly fishing, mountain climbing, rock climbing, and white water rafting...

I have guided hunters for 8 years during my time away from school for a variety of species including whitetail deer, hog, turkey, dove, duck, goose, and sandhill crane.

I have had my boaters education card since I was 13 and learned how to operate a boat safely and in the correct manner on my personal 21 foot center console.

I shoot deer for meat every winter and process it all myself. I am very familiar with a filet knife and have cleaned and filleted multiple species of fish from both salt and freshwater.

Playing college football has taught me to have a great work ethic. I work extremely well with a team, and understand how a team needs to operate in order to be successful in whatever they are trying to accomplish.

Overall, I am drawn to Alaska for both the experience as well as the opportunities it has to offer. I feel like I would be a great fit for the tasks required, and will always be a hard and diligent worker."



Zack is scheduled to get his USCG captain's license this spring. We are developing our Highliner Lodge freshwater program together.

More from Zack:

"I see two ways to go about catching salmon on the fly. The rivers, and the tidal flats at the mouths of the rivers. The river is best at low tide, the water is lower, so the fly does not have nearly as long to get toward the bottom and does so quicker in the slower current, as compared to high tide. Also, with lower water, you don't need as heavy a fly, which means it will be easier for first time fly fisherman to cast. Don't get me wrong, fishing the river on a high or rising tide is very doable, it just requires a little more skill and technique.

Another factor to consider while fishing the river from land is bears. I think as long as we keep a good distance and arm the guide with either a 45-70 or shotgun with buckshot or slugs we will be okay. I personally think the idea of fishing just above or below a bear is the coolest thing in the world, and is one of the best parts of the experience. The salmon in the rivers are easy to catch (in my opinion) as long as the fly is properly placed, drifted correctly, given time to sink, and hits the salmon on the nose. The salmon are not feeding when they enter the rivers, so placing the fly on their nose is key to triggering their reaction strike.





Fishing the tidal flats at the mouth of the river is my personal favorite. The crystal clear water and sand bottoms remind me of the clear water flats-style fly fishing that most saltwater fly fisherman dream about. There is a certain allure among fly fishermen to clear, shallow water with large schools of fish (which is exactly what I saw in the flats of the inlet). It reminds me of Florida's world renowned bonefishing flats.

There are several spots I have in mind we would fish at. Stag Bay and Lisianski river are proven grounds we fished this summer. Phonograph creek will hold fish as well, although it doesn't have as good flats fishing. There are also some spots I would like to check out that could be very good like Surge Bay and the Goulding lakes. I have read that the Goulding lakes are accessible from the outer coast via kayak and have good trout fishing. Surge Bay and Goulding lake would take some exploration to further understand how to effectively fish them, and how to access them safely.

Overall I am very excited to see how this year goes. I think there is great potential to put the Highliner Lodge on the fly fishing map due to its remoteness, great fly fishing, and beauty of the landscape. I see unlimited potential for fly fishing around Chichagof and Yakobi island. Great fly fishing is there for all different species of fish!"

**This young man, Zack McMahan, is an "up and comer"! Stay tuned!**

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## **NEW HALIBUT REGS - KEEPING BIGGER HALIBUT IN 2021!**

**The halibut resource is starting to rebound after years of decline and the fish are getting bigger! Because of this, the slot limit has changed dramatically for Area 2C.**



**For Area 2C**

**One-fish bag limit with size limit of less than or equal to 50 inches or greater than or equal to 72 inches.**

This is a huge change in Area 2C over the past 8 years! The prior limits were 36"-42" or greater or equal to or greater than 80". That means that you can now keep a halibut up to 60 pounds (rather than the old limit of ~ 25 pounds! Also you can keep a halibut that is over 196 pounds whereas before it had to be over 276 pounds!

**For Area 3A**

**Two-fish bag limit with one fish of any size and a second fish less than or equal to 32 inches, Wednesdays closed to retention of halibut, one trip per vessel and one trip per CHP per day (no annual limit).**

There isn't much change here. :(

Couple these changes with our ability to offer you GAF fish which allow you to keep an additional halibut of ANY size and we are truly making halibut fishing great again!

Button  
Text

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Highliner Lodge & Charters, Inc. | All-Inclusive Alaska Fishing Charters | (877)-386-0397 | [Email Us](#) | [Website](#)

