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STATE OF ALASKA

William A. Egan, Governor



ANNUAL REPORT OF PROGRESS, 1965 - 1966
FEDERAL AID IN FISH RESTORATION PROJECT F-5-R-7
SPORT FISH INVESTIGATIONS OF ALASKA

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INTRODUCTION

This report of progress consists of Job Segment Reports conducted under the State of Alaska Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Project F-5-R-7, "Sport Fish Investigations of Alaska."

The project during this report period is composed of 18 separate studies. Some are specific to certain areas, species or fisheries, while others deal with a common need for information. Each job has been developed to meet the needs of various aspects of the State's recreational fishery resource. Seven jobs are designed to pursue the cataloging and inventory of the numerous State waters. These jobs, which are of a continuing nature, will eventually index the potential recreational fisheries. Four jobs are directed toward specific sport fish studies. These include specialized efforts toward the anadromous Dolly Varden of Southeastern Alaska, the silver salmon in Resurrection Bay, the king salmon stocks on the Lower Kenai Peninsula, the king salmon stocks in Upper Cook Inlet, and the Arctic grayling of the Tanana River system.

The statewide access program is developing rapidly. Our efforts in investigating existing and potential recreational sites and access has resulted in favorable action being taken on our proposals and recommendations submitted to the land management agencies at both the State and Federal levels.

The remaining jobs included a specialized creel census effort in Southeastern, an egg-take program designed to establish indigenous egg-take sources, and evaluation of the Fire Lake system.

Three special reports have been completed from past studies on the Dolly Varden study. These appear in the Department's "Research Report" series and are a direct result of the Federal Aid In Fish Restoration Program. To date, the following reports have been published: Research Report No. 3, "Some Migratory Habits of the Anadromous Dolly Varden Salvelinus malma (Walbaum) in Southeastern Alaska," 1965, Robert H. Armstrong; Research Report No. 4, "Annotated Bibliography on the Dolly Varden Char," 1965, Robert H. Armstrong; and Research Report No. 5, "Age and Growth of Anadromous Dolly Varden Char Salvelinus malma (Walbaum), in Eva Creek, Baranof Island, Southeastern Alaska," 1966, David W. Heiser.

The material contained in this progress report is often fragmentary in nature. The findings may not be conclusive and the interpretations contained herein are subject to re-evaluation as the work progresses.

RESEARCH PROJECT SEGMENT

STATE: ALASKA Name: Sport Fish Investigations
of Alaska.

Project No.: F-5-R-7 Title: Saltwater Sport Fish Harvest
Studies in Southeast Alaska.

Job No.: 1-D

Period Covered: May 3, 1965 to September 14, 1965

ABSTRACT

This report covers the findings of saltwater creel census programs conducted in the three major Southeast Alaska population areas of Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka.

Anglers were interviewed as they returned from the fishing grounds by Department personnel for accumulation of necessary biological data. Pertinent fishery information was collected in each area and is discussed by area, as is the operation of individual creel census programs.

Timing of individual creel census studies, including that of the salmon densities, is discussed individually by area segment.

For purposes of this report each area will be treated separately in part, and comparatively when available.

Credit for operation of individual programs is due Roger Wadman, Robert Baade, and Rupert Andrews, respective biologists for the Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The creel census studies be continued to obtain continuous information upon which sound management policies may be formulated.
2. A unified program be instigated including the initiation of a suitable statistical design for all Southeast Alaska.
3. Now that a sufficient background of data has been obtained, it is recommended the sampling effort be reduced.
4. No changes be made in the saltwater regulations at this time.

OBJECTIVES

1. To compile an annual estimate of the numbers and species, by area, of the sport fish harvest of saltwater fish.
2. To compile indexes to the size and age groupings with emphasis on the salmonoids.

TECHNIQUES USED

Anglers were censused at principal moorages and landings to provide the maximum number of interviews.

Biological data was obtained as available by actual observations, and scale samples, lengths, weights, etc. were recorded.

Past reports, knowledge of run timing, and areas of angler preferences were utilized to direct census procedures.

Aircraft were used to make total boat counts which were used for correlation with actual on-the-ground interviews.

As some sampling techniques varied between the separate areas, these, by necessity, will be covered in the appropriate text segment.

FINDINGS

Juneau Area Saltwater Creel Census - 1965

The Juneau area creel census program began June 1 and ended 92 days later on August 31.

During the 1965 season a total of 5,845 anglers, using 2,563 boats, both sport and sport-gear commercial, took 8,523 salmon. This figure excludes the Golden North Salmon Derby catch.

Table 1 presents the total season's catch and number of boats by type.

TABLE 1 - Type and Number of Boats, Species and Number of Fish, and Catch per Boat Trip Censused - Juneau, 1965.

<u>Boats</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>No. Fish</u>	<u>CPUE*</u>
Sport (1558 Boats)	King	687	.44
	Coho	1,029	.66
	Pink	14	.009
	Chum	9	.006
	Red	5	.003
	TOTAL	1,744	

TABLE 1 (Cont) - Type and Number of Boats, Species and Number of Fish, and Catch per Boat Trip Censused - Juneau, 1965.

<u>Boats</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>No. Fish</u>	<u>CPUE*</u>
Commercial (1,005 Boats)	King	1,452	1.44
	Coho	5,181	5.15
	Pink	88	.09
	Chum	56	.06
	Red	2	.002
	TOTAL	6,779	
Sport and Commercial Boats (2,563 Boats)	King	2,139	.83
	Coho	6,210	2.42
	Pink	102	.04
	Chum	65	.03
	Red	7	.003
	TOTAL	8,523	

*Catch per unit of effort - boat trip

These figures represent an approximate eight to nine percent increase in numbers of both salmon and anglers over those of 1964.

Sport and sport-gearred commercial boats made a total of 2,563 boat trips for an average combined catch of 3.32 fish. This compares to 2.92 salmon per trip in 1964.

A possible reason for the slightly higher catch per boat figure for 1965 was the significantly higher number of sport-gearred commercial boats. The increase of this type gear was approximately 30 percent over that of 1964.

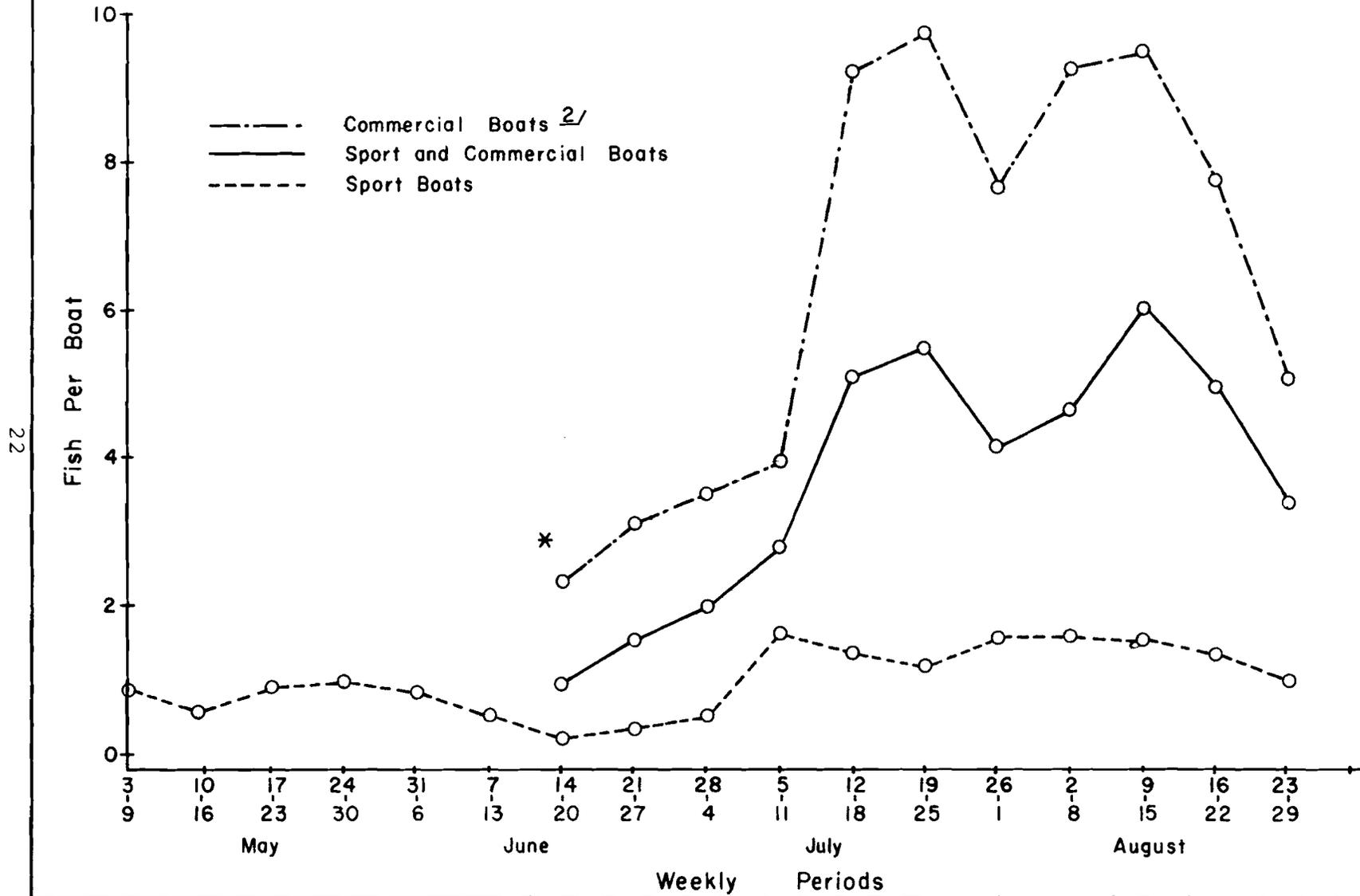
As in prior years the sport-gearred commercial fisherman remained considerably more efficient in numbers of fish taken, and in catch per unit of effort. This premise holds true regarding either catch per boat or individual angler. The efficiency is believed due to multiple gear permitted the commercial angler.

The individual sport angler in 1965 spent 11.2 hours to take a salmon, averaging 1.0 fish per boat; the sport-gearred commercial angler averaged 2.2 hours to take a salmon, averaging 5.4 fish per boat. It is to be noted that these figures include all species recorded throughout the entire seasonal period.

Figure 1 indicates the comparative weekly catch of sport, sport-gearred commercial, and the combined catch of both boat types during the 1965 season, for king and coho salmon.

Table 2 represents the comparative annual catch of all censused sport and sport-gearred commercial fishermen during the period 1960 to 1965 for the Juneau area. Catch per unit of effort is included; however, only three years are directly applicable due to regulation changes.

Figure 1. King and Coho Salmon per boat by weekly period, Juneau, 1965. ^{1/}



^{1/} Excludes Salmon Derby data

^{2/} Includes only sport-gear commercial boats

* Fishing restrictions existed prior to this date

TABLE 2 - Catch per Boat for Sport and Sport-gearred Commercial Fishermen for 1960-1965 - Juneau.

Year	Boats	King		Coho		Pink		Chum	
		Fish	CPUE	Fish	CPUE	Fish	CPUE	Fish	CPUE
1960	1,840	1,637	0.89	1,442	0.78	97	.05	16	.01
1961	1,523	837	0.55	1,104	0.72	78	.05	18	.01
1962	1,557	655	0.42	1,641	1.05	68	.04	31	.02
1963*	2,560	2,396	0.93	4,271	1.67	150	.06	53	.02
1964*	2,366	2,825	1.19	3,782	1.60	281	.12	11	tr.
1965*	2,563	2,139	0.83	6,210	2.41	102	.04	65	.03

*Only directly comparable years due to regulation change.

CPUE - catch per unit of effort.

Summarized in Table 3, is the season's creel census catch broken down by weekly periods. Included are the miscellaneous species of bottom fish taken during this period.

Estimated Salmon Catch - Juneau, 1965

Common to all three southeast creel census areas are the numerous private moorages and docks which make absolute catch calculations impossible. This is in spite of creel census interviewers being located where the greatest number of anglers could be actually contacted.

To compensate for this situation, aerial surveys were flown to determine the actual number of boats fishing on a given day. This information, or figure, was then correlated with the number of dock-side angler contacts for the same day.

Throughout the season, as determined from the aerial counts and dockside interviews, it was estimated that 56.2 percent of the total saltwater anglers were interviewed.

An additional factor was included to account for angler effort and catch during census-takers' days off. Throughout the length of the creel census period 70 percent of the days were monitored by census takers.

By deriving factors from these two percentage figures the total season's catch can be estimated. A total of 6,099 boat trips produced an estimated total seasonal catch of 20,282 salmon. These figures exclude the derby catch and effort, although an additional 1,295 salmon were caught during the derby. The total expanded seasonal catch is presented in Table 4.

TABLE 3 - Creel Census Summaries by Weekly Periods, Juneau Area, 1965.

<u>Weekly Period</u>	<u>Number of Boats</u>	<u>Number of Anglers</u>	<u>Hours Fished</u>	<u>Total Salmon</u>	<u>Total Kings</u>	<u>Total Coho</u>	<u>Total Pinks</u>	<u>Chum Salmon</u>	<u>Misc. Species</u>	<u>No.</u>
5/3-5/9	22	53	228	26	26	0	0	0	Halibut	939
5/10-5/16	51	116	533	30	30	0	0	0	Dolly V.	66
5/17-5/23	33	85	546	29	29	0	0	0	Red Snapper	10
5/24-5/30	80	199	1,146	94	93	0	1	0	Turbot	9
5/31-6/6	174	426	2,669	182	172	10	0	0	Rockfish	8
6/7-6/13	198	487	2,750	168	154	12	1	1	Pacific Cod	3
6/14-6/20	66	137	779	64	58	6	0	0	Ling Cod	1
6/21-6/27	185	430	2,529	302	136	146	1	19	Sable Fish	1
6/28-7/4	102	203	1,246	213	85	120	3	5	Ronguil	1
7/5-7/11	279	832	5,036	794	330	451	6	7		
7/12-7/18	204	442	2,947	1,074	305	738	24	7		
7/19-7/25*	53	101	577	299	56	238	5	0		
7/26-8/11	270	592	3,613	1,142	241	889	10	2		
8/2-8/8	262	567	3,179	1,223	178	1,030	14	1		
8/9-8/15	205	406	2,690	1,272	116	1,130	19	7		
8/16-8/22	267	543	3,257	1,214	95	1,096	17	6		
8/23-8/29	<u>112</u>	<u>226</u>	<u>1,171</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>344</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>10</u>		
TOTALS	2,563	5,845	34,896	8,523**	2,139	6,210	102	65		

* Excludes Salmon Derby Days.

**Includes Seven Red Salmon.

TABLE 4 - Total Estimated Salmon Harvest, Juneau, 1965.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Regular Season Sport Harvest</u>	<u>Derby Catch</u>	<u>Commercial Catch*</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>
Kind	1,635	454	3,457	5,546
Coho	2,449	821	12,330	15,600
Pink	33	16	209	258
Chum	21	4	133	158
Sockeye	<u>11</u>	<u> </u>	<u>4</u>	<u>15</u>
TOTAL	4,149	1,295	16,133	21,577

*Sport-gearred commercial fishermen.

Average salmon weights, lengths, gear preference, boat types and other information will be presented comparatively with the other areas at the end of the report.

Juneau Salmon Derby - 1965

The 1965 Golden North Salmon Derby was sponsored by the Territorial Sportsmen on July 23, 24, and 25. Boundaries, fishing times and derby rules were similar to those in 1964 (Volume 6, Dingell-Johnson Project Report).

The total derby catch sampled was comprised of 454 king, 821 coho, 16 pink, and 4 chum salmon. In addition to the salmon catch, nearly 2,000 pounds of halibut and miscellaneous bottom fish were taken.

The average derby catch per angler was 0.81 salmon and represented 6.01 hours of fishing effort. The average number of fish per boat was 2.04.

Salmon derby data in Table 5 is compared with prior years beginning in 1960.

TABLE 5 - Annual Salmon Derby Catches, Juneau, 1960-1965.

<u>Species</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
King	361	221	226	617	624	454
Coho	650	551	490	695	1,246	821
Pink	19*		7	115	297	16
Chum	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL	1,030	772	733	1,440**	2,172	1,295

* Includes other salmon species

**Includes one sockeye

The number of red-fleshed kings was slightly higher in 1965 than in 1964. Seventy percent were "red" kings in 1965 as opposed to 58 percent in 1964.

The percentage of male and female king salmon was 51.7 percent and 48.3 percent respectively. Coho males comprised 63.0 percent of the total recorded coho catch. The percentage of male kings was slightly higher in 1965, but the remaining statistics were constant with prior years.

An illustration of lengths and weights taken from a sample of the derby fish is depicted in Table 6 for comparison of areas.

TABLE 6 - Lengths and Weights by Fishing Area, Juneau Salmon Derby, 1965.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Av. Weight/lbs.</u>	<u>Av. Length/in.</u>
Auke Bay	King	17.4	31.6
	Coho	12.0	28.2
	Pink	0.0	0.0
	Chum	0.0	0.0

Tee Harbor	King	13.8	28.9
	Coho	8.9	26.0
	Pink	3.8	27.0
	Chum	8.2	20.2

Derby fish from Auke Bay tended to average heavier and greater in length as many of the smaller fish were turned in at the packing ship for door prizes.

Ketchikan Area Saltwater Creel Census, 1965

The Ketchikan Saltwater Creel Census program began May 25 and concluded on August 31, to provide current fishery data.

As in previous years, two of the more popular areas were the Clover Pass and Mountain Point areas at extreme ends of the Tongass Highway. The fishing areas are presented in Volume 6 of the 1964-65 Dingell-Johnson Project Report.

Throughout the season 257 anglers, fishing primarily for salmon, caught a total of 87 salmon, excluding derby and Bell Island data.

These censused anglers fished 1,265 hours, utilizing 119 boats, for an average catch per angler and average catch per hour figure of 0.34 and 0.07 respectively. Angler days totaled 1,619.

TABLE 7 - Creel Census Summaries by Weekly Periods, Ketchikan Area, 1965.

<u>Weekly Period</u>	<u>No. of Boats</u>	<u>No. of Anglers</u>	<u>Hours Fished</u>	<u>Total Salmon</u>	<u>Total Kings</u>	<u>Total Coho</u>	<u>Total Pinks</u>	<u>Other Species**</u>		
								<u>RS</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>RF</u>
5/24-5/30	11	19	64.5	5	5	0	0	0	0	0
5/31-6/6	14	28	130.0	7	7	0	0	2	1	0
6/7-6/13	12	29	120.0	9	9	0	0	0	1	0
6/14-6/20	11	24	84.0	4	4	0	0	2	1	0
6/21-6/27	6	14	63.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6/28-7/4	10	19	92.5	7*	4	2	0	1	2	0
7/5-7/11	14	33	177.0	8	8	0	0	1	2	0
7/12-7/18	8	18	91.0	3	0	2	1	1	1	0
7/19-7/25	4	8	49.0	1	0	0	1	0	4	0
7/26-8/1	11	22	119.5	20	1	11	8	0	0	1
8/2-8/8	6	15	88.0	12	3	5	4	0	1	4
8/9-8/15	5	9	40.5	7	0	4	3	0	0	0
8/16-8/22	6	14	114.0	4	2	2	0	4	0	1
8/23-8/29	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>32.0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTALS	119	257	1,265.0	87	43	26	17	15	13	6

* Includes one chum salmon.

**RS - Red Snapper, RF - Rockfish, H - Halibut

The above figures were taken only from interviewed anglers, and the expanded season's catch will be discussed later. Additional species of bottom fish, largely halibut and red snapper, were taken incidental to the salmon catch, although some fishermen sought these species exclusively.

Table 7 represents the regular season's weekly catch in the Ketchikan area, exclusive of derby and Bell Island data. Catch per unit of boat effort by salmon species is depicted in Table 8 for the 119 boats censused during the regular season.

TABLE 8 - Salmon Catch per Boat Trip, Ketchikan, 1965.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Fish/trip</u>
King	43	.36
Coho	26	.22
Pink	17	.14
Chum	1	.008

Bell Island Area

The Bell Island area king salmon fishery is treated separately in this writing due to restrictive measures in effect between June 1 and July 31, and because it is a separate fishery in it's own. Only one king is allowed during the June 1 to July 31 period.

Catch for the area was 417 kings by 911 anglers. By inference, 911 angler days were spent in the Bell Island area. Data presented in Table 9 indicates the Bell Island salmon catch figures censused as they were landed at dockside.

TABLE 9 - Bi-Monthly Salmon Catch, Bell Island - 1965.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Total Anglers</u>	<u>King Salmon</u>
May 15-31	102	62
June 1-15	202	112
16-30	208	104
July 1-15	97	41
16-31	87	44
August 1-15	79	23
16-31	<u>136</u>	<u>31</u>
TOTAL	911	417

Average lengths, weights, data on angling preferences, baits, and related information will be considered comparatively with the Juneau and Sitka data at the end of the Sitka section.

Information in Figure 2 is presented to indicate both the numbers and size difference of the Bell Island and Ketchikan caught king salmon. By far the larger number of kings are taken in the Bell Island area despite the greater distance involved.

Estimated Salmon Catch, Ketchikan, 1965

As in both other southeast census areas, Juneau and Sitka, total catch figures are difficult to obtain due to the existence of private moorages, and the physical impossibility of contacting every angler.

Extrapolation techniques in the Ketchikan area differ only in that the effort to make total (on the water) boat counts are made from promontories along the road system. In this area it is felt this method is as effective as aerial counts made in Juneau and Sitka.

Throughout the season 776 boats were observed angling, and of these 119 were interviewed for a 15.3 percent angler contact sample. Creel Census interviewers contacted fishermen in 60 of the 91 day census period, which is 66.0 percent of the total number of days in the sample period.

Utilizing a factor of 1.4 (derived from the 66 percent) to allow for days boats were unsighted, and a factor of 6.5 (derived from the 15.3 percent) which was the sample interviewed, the total season's catch can be expanded (Table 10).

TABLE 10 - Total Estimated Salmon Harvest, Ketchikan, 1965.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Regular Season</u>	<u>Derby</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>
King	908*	253	1,161
Coho	236	0	236
Pink	154	0	154
Chum	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>
TOTAL	1,307	255	1,562

*Includes 517 King Salmon from Bell Island.

Ketchikan Salmon Derby, 1965

The salmon derby operated 5 days during 1965, May 29, 30, 31, and June 19 and 20. Derby areas were similar to those of previous years.

The total derby catch was 169 kings, 1 chum, 16 halibut, 1 ling cod, and 28 rockfish. It was estimated that the total salmon catch was actually 1.5 times greater than entered, and these adjustments are reflected in Table 10.

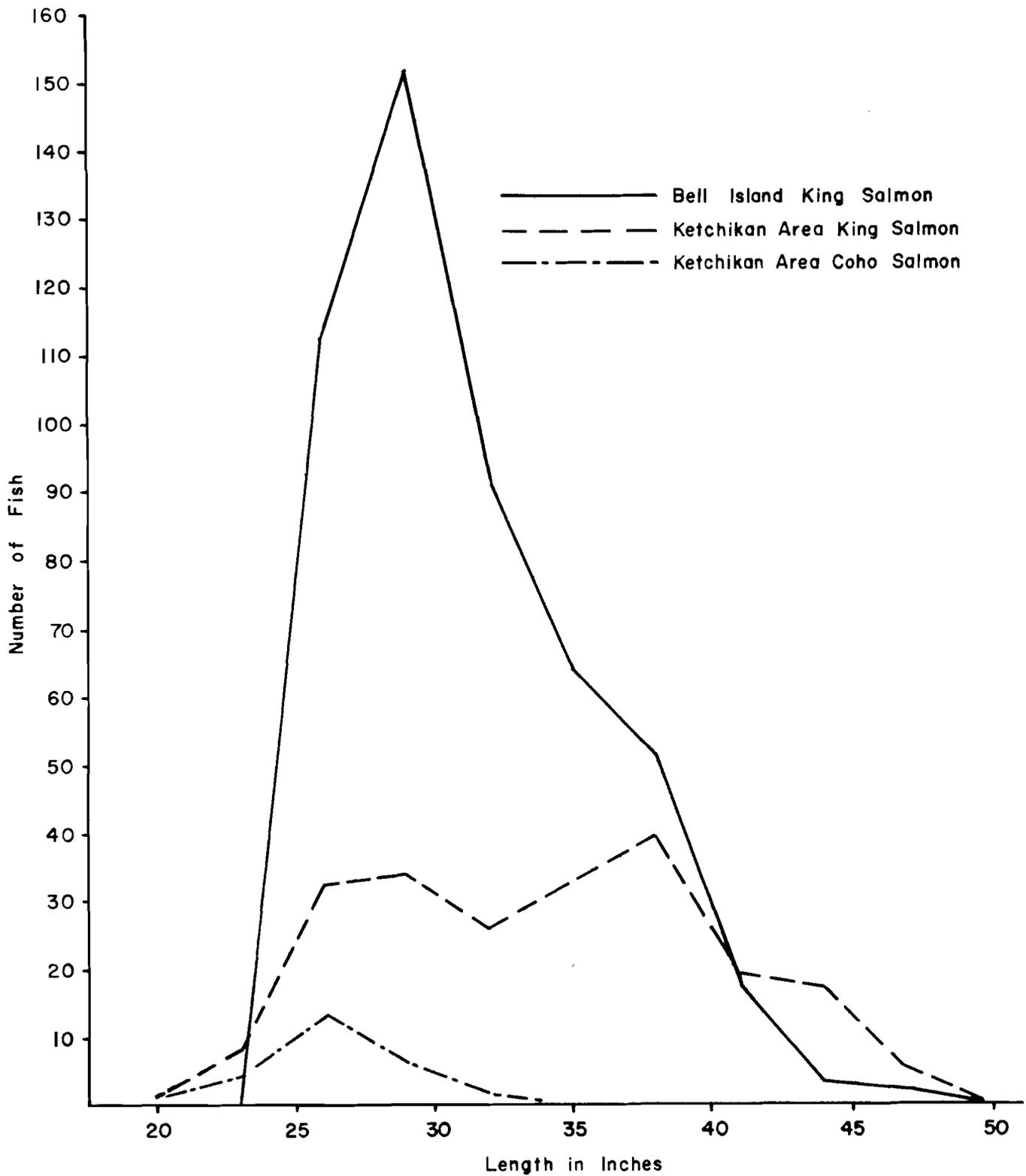


Figure 2. Length Frequency by Three-Inch Increments
Ketchikan Area, 1965.

TABLE 11 - Creel Census Summaries by Weekly Periods, Sitka Sound, 1965.

Weekly Period	Number of Boats	Number of Anglers	Hours Fished	Total Salmon	Total Kings	Total Coho	Total Pink	Other Species				
								RS	RF	LC	H	DV
6/14-6/20*	1	2	2.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6/21-6/27*	11	19	60.5	3	2	1	0	0	5	1	3	4
6/28-7/4	10	19	92.3	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
7/5-7/11	12	18	139.0	5	5	0	0	1	5	1	13	0
7/12-7/18	29	57	346.5	32	21	8	3	0	16	0	4	0
7/19-7/25	32	59	324.3	28	10	5	13	1	2	1	16	2
7/26-8/1	17	39	239.8	20	4	12	4	0	2	2	0	6
8/2-8/8	21	44	267.0	37	8	17	12	0	2	0	13	0
8/9-8/15	8	21	145.0	31	6	3	22	1	0	0	0	0
8/16-8/22	1	2	6.0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8/23-8/29	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8/30-9/5	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>21.0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTALS	144	284	1,643.4	161	60	47	54	3	33	5	49	12

*Excludes Sitka Salmon Derby Totals

RS - Red Snapper

RF - Rockfish

LC - Ling Cod

H - Halibut

DV - Dolly Varden

The average salmon catch per angler during the derby was .27 fish, with the individual boat averaging .67 fish.

The 938 anglers actually interviewed during the derby substantiate the popularity of these few days angling. Also of interest is the fact that 85 percent of the anglers checked were interviewed in the p.m., indicating long sessions on the water.

Results of the 1965 Ketchikan salmon derby are nearly identical to that of 1964 insofar as total catch is concerned.

Sitka Area Saltwater Creel Census, 1965

Investigations of the saltwater sport fish harvest continued in 1965 with a creel census program beginning June 14 and concluding September 5.

Census boundaries and interview techniques were basically identical to those explained in Volume 6 of the 1964-65 Project Report.

During the course of the 84-day census period, 30 days were selected for angler contacts and personal interviews. Creel census interviews included at least one weekend day and two randomly selected week days.

Aerial surveys were conducted on selected days for the total number of boats fishing. These counts were then correlated with actual dock-side interviews. The expanded catch will be discussed later in the text.

The data presented in Table 11 depicts weekly summaries of angler effort, numbers, and catch.

The 284 fishermen contacted fished 1,643 hours for an average catch of .09 salmon per individual angler hour. Average catch per angler was .54 fish, or 1.1 salmon per boat trip, which normally had approximately two anglers aboard. Catch per unit of boat effort is presented in Table 12.

TABLE 12 - Salmon Catch per Boat Trip, Sitka, 1965.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Fish/Trip</u>
King	60	.41
Coho	47	.32
Pink	54	.31

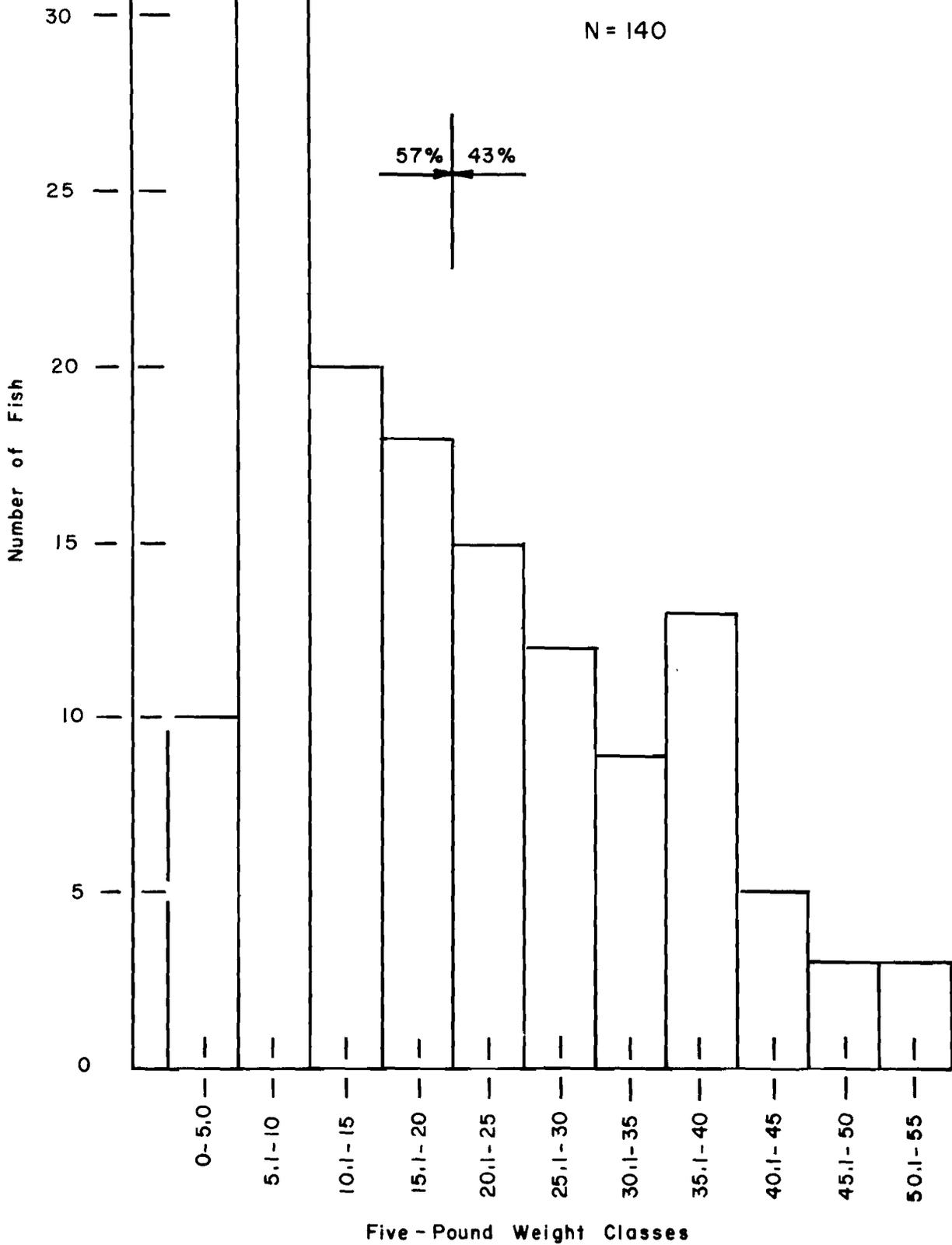
Average weights, lengths, preference of angling methods, and bait preferences are included comparatively with the Juneau and Ketchikan area at the end of this report segment.

Figure 3 depicts the size frequencies of Sitka Sound king salmon in 5-pound frequencies and the degree of respective size occurrence.

Figure 3.

King salmon size frequencies
by five-pound classes
Sitka Salmon Derby, 1965

N = 140



Estimated Salmon Catch - Sitka, 1965

As in both Juneau and Ketchikan, the dockside interviews are correlated with the aerial surveys and the percent of sample days interviewed to expand the seasonal salmon catch.

Calculating that 35.7 percent of the census period was actually sampled by creel census, with 73.4 percent of the total fishermen interviewed on these sample days, the total season catch can be estimated. The following presents the method used for these extrapolations.

Total Days in Census period	= 84
Total Days Sampled	= 30
% Census period sampled	= 35.7% or 2.8
Mean % sampled per sample day	= 73.4% or 1.3
Total kings	= 60 x 1.36 x 2.80 = 228
Total coho	= 47 x 1.36 x 2.80 = 179
Total pink	= 54 x 1.36 x 2.80 = 206

Table 13 presents the estimated 1965 salmon harvest.

TABLE 13 - Total Estimated Salmon Harvest, Sitka, 1965.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Regular Season</u>	<u>Derby</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>
King	228	155	383
Coho	179	38	217
Pink	<u>206</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>206</u>
TOTAL	613	193	806

Sitka Salmon Derby, 1965

The 1965 salmon derby, held in two successive weekends, June 19, 20 and 26 and 27, was censused in its entirety.

A total of 589 participants registered to fish in the derby and landed a total catch of 155 kings, 38 coho, and 74 fish of other species. The other species of bottom fish were occasionally sought exclusively, but were generally taken incidental to trolling for salmon. The average catch of salmon per angler was .32 fish.

Information in Table 14 summarizes the recorded Sitka Salmon Derby landings.

TABLE 14 - Sitka Salmon Derby Landings, 1965.

<u>Date</u>	<u>King</u>	<u>Coho</u>	<u>Halibut</u>	<u>Ling Cod</u>	<u>Others</u>
June 19	26	0	5	1	0
20	13	0	0	0	0
26	64	22	29	5	2*
27	<u>52</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1**</u>
TOTAL	155	38	60	11	3

* Dolly Varden

**Pink Salmon

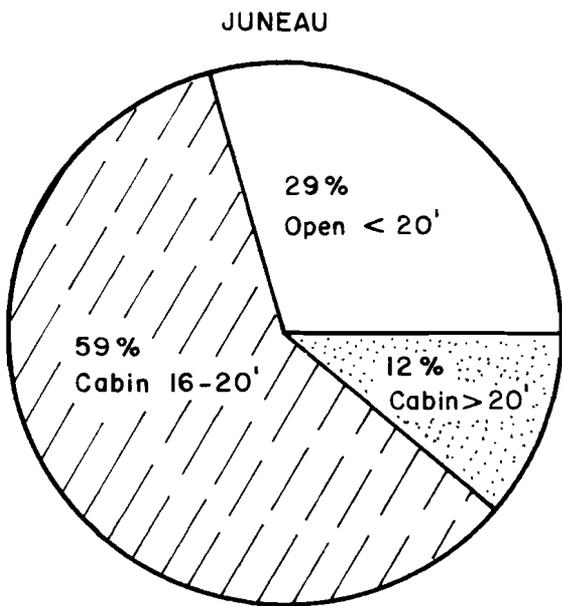
General Comparisons - Southeast Alaska Creel Census Areas

Tables 15 and 16 and Figures 4 and 5 were omitted from individual report segments for comparative purposes. These depict average fish weights and lengths by area, boat preferences by area, and angling methods and bait preferences. Data included in these pages were taken from the general season creel census at each of the respective areas. Derby data was excluded as it is suspected a greater degree of bias exists during these brief but frenzied periods of angling activity.

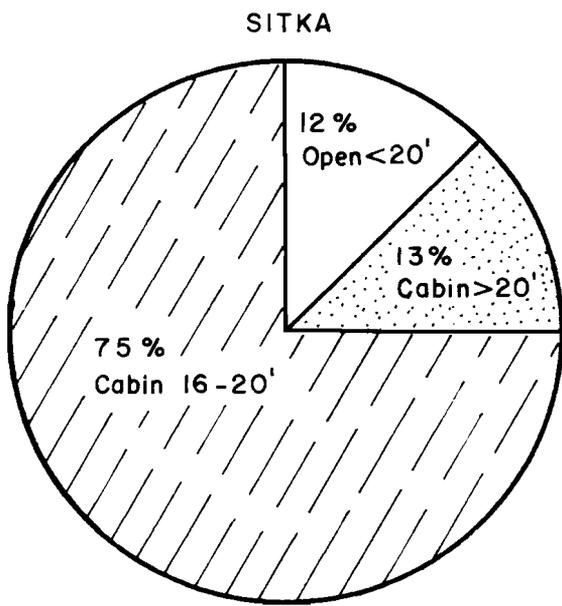
TABLE 15 - Average Length of Salmon in Inches, by Month. Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan, 1965. *

<u>Area</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
Juneau	King	32.3	31.1	29.0	27.2
	Coho	--	25.0	25.9	26.2
	Pink	--	--	23.4	20.2
Sitka	King	--	32.5	39.7	23.3
	Coho	--	27.9	25.3	25.6
	Pink	--	--	19.0	19.0
Ketchikan	King	36.0	36.8	40.1	28.5
	Coho	--	--	24.4	27.4
	Pink	--	--	23.0	23.5

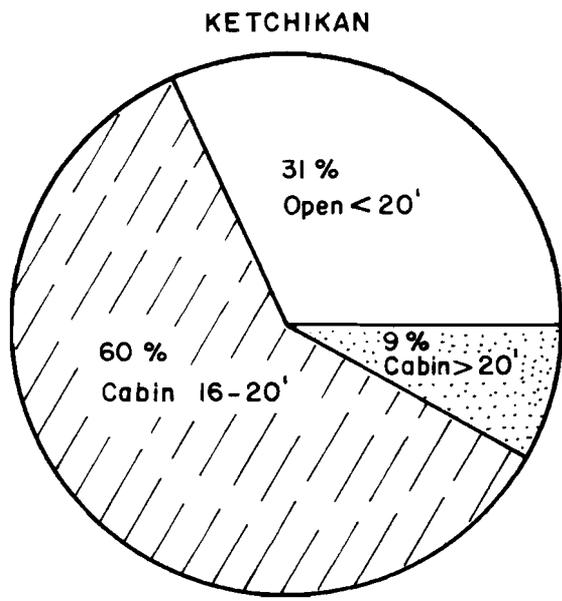
*Exclusive of Salmon Derby



Power
 13% Inboard
 87% Outboard



Power
 27% Inboard
 73% Outboard



Power
 10% Inboard
 90% Outboard

Figure 4. Type of Boats and Power Used for Total Boats Checked from Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan, 1965.

Figure 5. Fishing methods and gear preference for the Juneau, Sitka and Ketchikan areas, 1965.

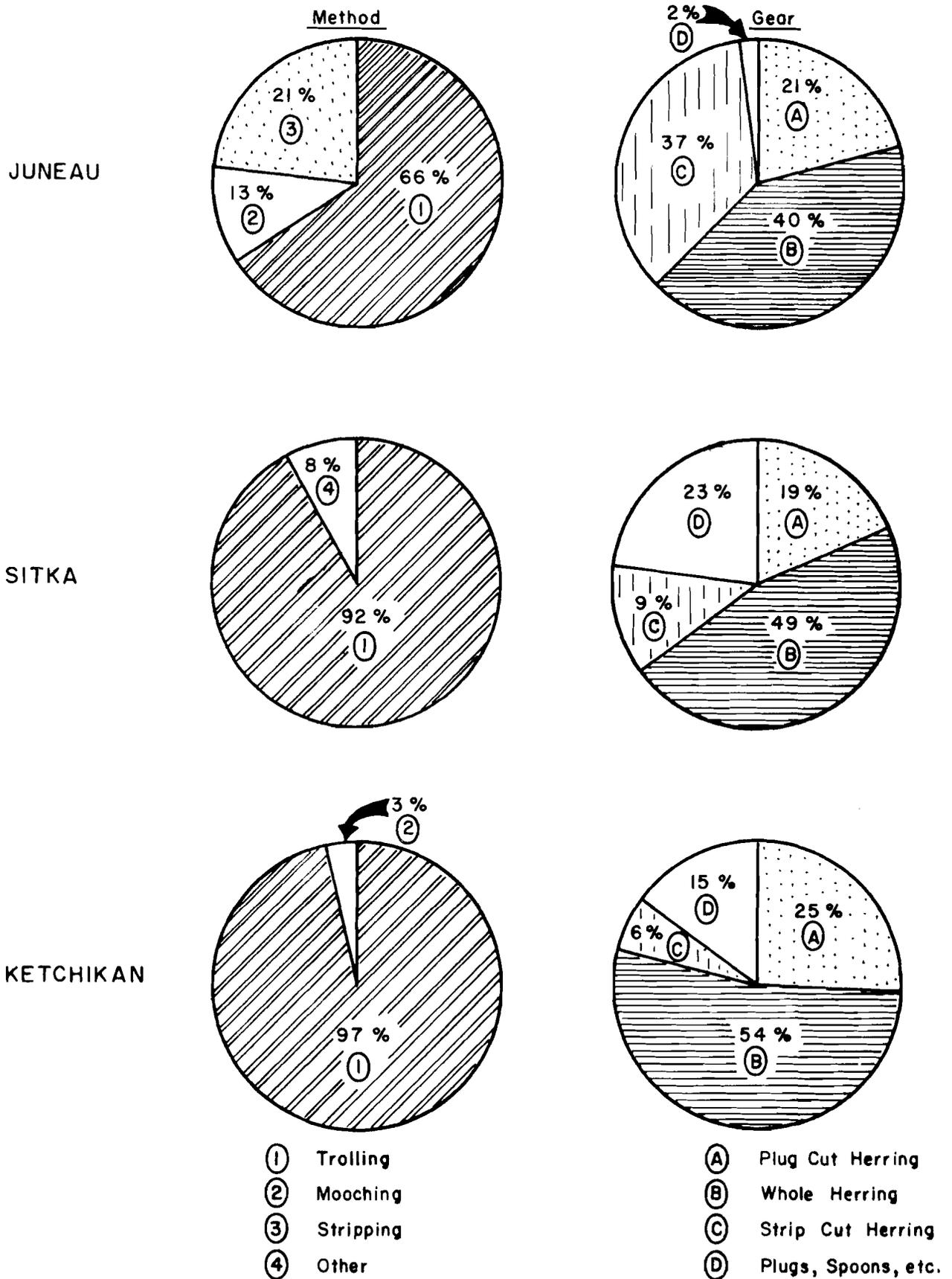


TABLE 16 - Average Round Weights of Salmon in Pounds, by Month, Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan, 1965. *

<u>Area</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
Juneau	King	20.2	13.5	14.0	12.6
	Coho	--	7.3	8.6	9.8
	Pink	--	--	4.5	4.3
Sitka	King	--	22.5	23.7	10.3
	Coho	--	9.7	8.5	8.7
	Pink	--	--	3.3	4.0
Ketchikan	King	24.0	21.4	35.7	12.3
	Coho	--	--	5.2	8.6
	Pink	--	--	4.1	4.6
Bell Island Area	King	21.2	20.8	13.5	11.7

*Excludes all derby data

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