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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### FISHERY UPDATE



*Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner*  
*Sam Rabung, Director*



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Petersburg Area Office  
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Date: July 3, 2019  
Time: 3:00 p.m.

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#### 2019 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE #2

Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are ongoing projects that assess pink and chum salmon abundance returning to Section 9-B and District 10. Test fishing at Point Gardner occurs one day per week for five weeks starting in statistical week 26 (June 23-29). The Point Gardner test fishery has proven to be a very good indicator for pink salmon returning to Frederick Sound and lower Stephens Passage, particularly to District 10. The Kingsmill test fishery occurs one day per week for four weeks starting in statistical week 27 (June 30-July 6). The Kingsmill test fishery is used as an indicator for runs returning to Frederick Sound and to eastern lower Chatham Straits (Section 9-B and District 10). Results from the Kingsmill test fishery are generally less conclusive since the test fishery will catch fish heading north to Frederick Sound and south to Rowan and Tebenkof Bays.

This year the *F/V St. Janet* is conducting the Point Gardner test fishery and the *F/V Empress* will be conducting the Kingsmill test fishery.

**Point Gardner:** The second test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 1. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvest was well below average whereas chum salmon harvest was well above average. Male sex ratios were above average for both species.

**Kingsmill:** The first test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 1. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Both pink and chum salmon harvests were below average. Male sex ratios were average for pink salmon and above average for chum salmon.

**Run Strength:** Both test fisheries indicate weaker than normal pink salmon returns to Frederick Sound. The strength of the chum salmon run is less clear. Last week's Point Gardner test fishery and this week's Kingsmill test fishery both indicated a weaker than normal chum salmon run. However, this week's Point Gardner test fishery indicated a strong chum salmon run. It appears that the run is late and could be stronger than normal.

**Sex Ratio Sampling:** Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the beginning of the run and females are more numerous during the latter part of the run. Comparing this year's sex ratios to the historical average provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous runs. For pink salmon, the male sex ratio differed between Point Gardner and Kingsmill; it was higher than average at Point Gardner and normal at Kingsmill. This would indicate the run timing is normal to slightly later than normal. The male sex ratio for all three test fisheries to date have been higher than normal indicating a later than normal chum salmon run.

**Average Weights:**

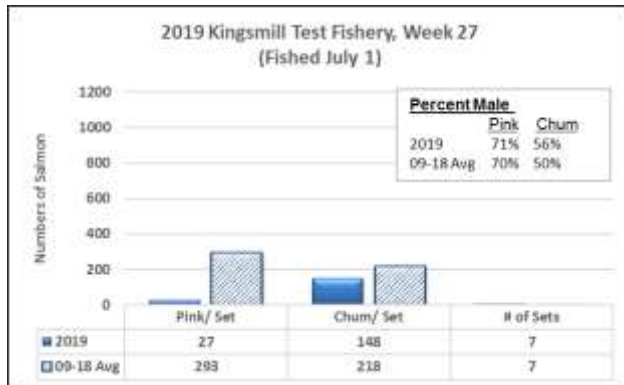
- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 4.0 pounds; chum salmon: 8.2 pounds.
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: 3.8 pounds; chum salmon: 9.1 pounds.

**Next Test Fisheries:** Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are scheduled for Monday, July 7.

**2019 Point Gardner Test Fishery Results**



**2019 Kingsmill Test Fishery Results**



News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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