
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner
Sam Rabung, Director



Contact:
Troy Thynes

Phone: (907) 772-3801
Fax: (907) 772-9336

Petersburg Area Office
16 Sing Lee Alley
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
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2019 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE #3

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* is conducting the Kingsmill test fishery.

Point Gardner: The third test fishery was conducted on Wednesday, July 10. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvest was well below average whereas chum salmon harvest was near average. Male sex ratios were above average for both species.

Kingsmill: The second test fishery was conducted on Tuesday, July 9. Six of the seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvest was below average, whereas chum salmon harvest was well above average. Male sex ratios were below average for pink salmon and above average for chum salmon.

Run Strength: Both test fisheries indicate weaker than normal pink salmon returns. The strength of the chum salmon run appears to be strong as indicated by near average to above average chum salmon harvest and later timing in both test fisheries this week. The Kingsmill test fishery had the highest chum salmon harvest of any week in all years of test fishing at Kingsmill (since 1995). The chum salmon run appears to be later than normal.

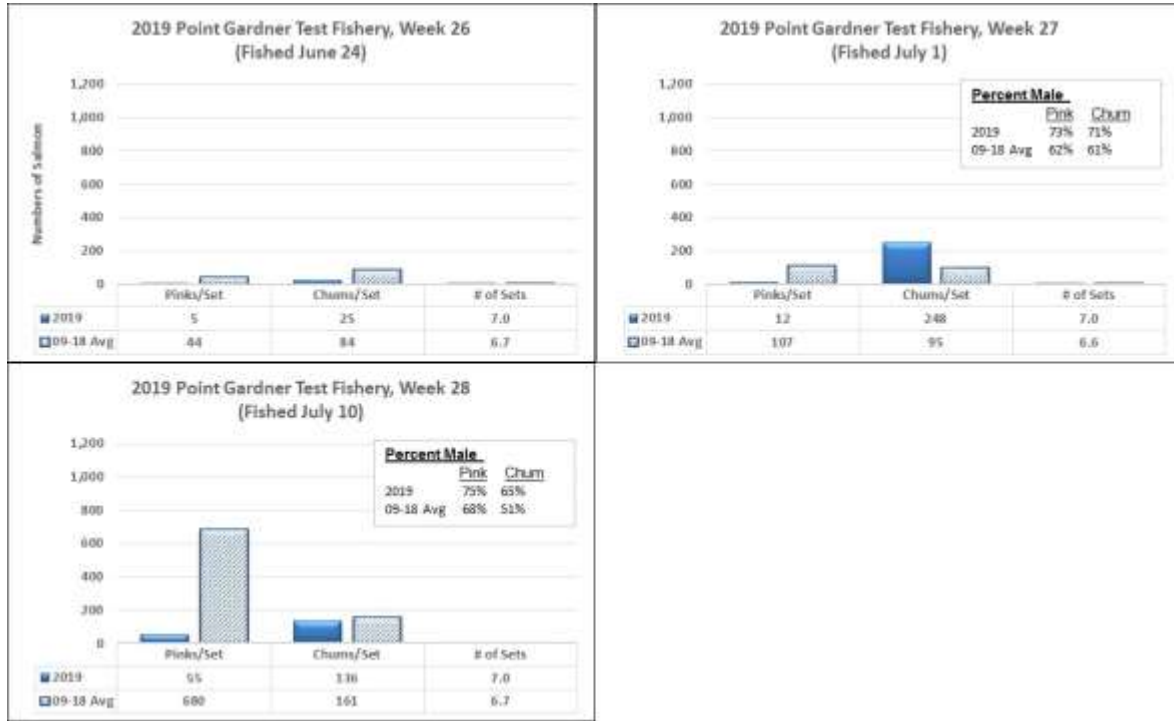
Sex Ratio Sampling: Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the beginning of the run and females are more numerous during the latter part of the run. Comparing this year's sex ratios to the historical average provides an indication of whether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

Average Weights:

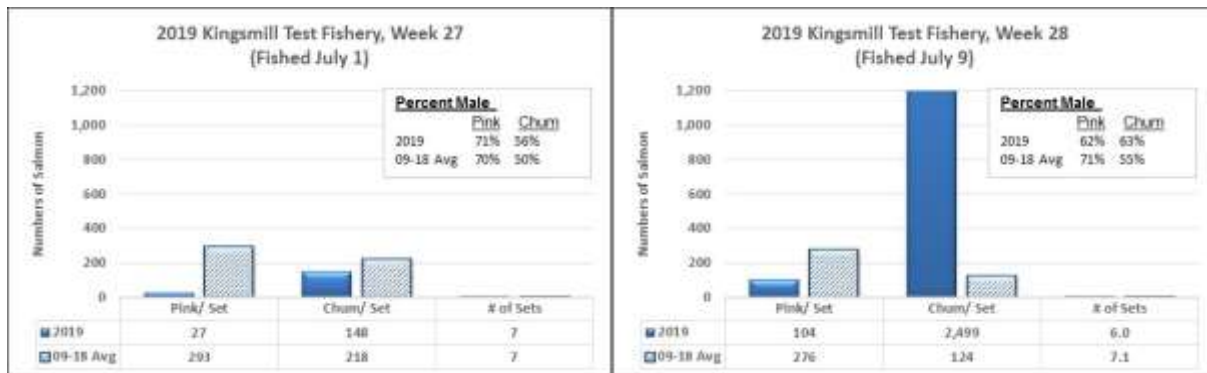
- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 4.2 pounds; chum salmon: 9.9 pounds.
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: 3.7 pounds; chum salmon: 7.6 pounds.

Next Test Fisheries: Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are scheduled for Monday, July 15.

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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