
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



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Time: 1:30 p.m.

2019 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE #5

Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries were used to assess pink salmon abundance returning to Section 9-B and District 10. Test fishing at Point Gardner occurred one day per week for five weeks beginning statistical week 26 (June 23-29). Past years' Point Gardner test fishing results have 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 occurred one day per week for four weeks beginning statistical week 27 (June 30-July 6). The Kingsmill test fishery was used as an indicator for runs returning to Frederick Sound and to eastern lower Chatham Strait (Section 9-B and District 10). Results from past Kingsmill test fisheries have generally been less conclusive since the test fisheries caught fish heading north to Frederick Sound and south to Rowan and Tebenkof Bays.

The *F/V St. Janet* conducted the Point Gardner test fishery and the *F/V Empress* conducted the Kingsmill test fishery.

Point Gardner: The fifth and final test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 22. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvest remained below average. Chum salmon harvest was above average. Male sex ratios were average for both pink and chum salmon.

Kingsmill: The fourth and final test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 22. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvest was below average, whereas chum salmon harvest was well above average. Male sex ratios were average for pink salmon and above average for chum salmon.

Run Strength: Both test fisheries indicated weaker than normal pink salmon run to Frederick Sound and lower Stephens Passage. The strength of the chum salmon run is stronger than normal as indicated by continued above average chum salmon harvest in both test fisheries.

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 percent males were similar between Point Gardner and Kingsmill and both were average for the week. From results from this and prior test fishing periods, it does not appear the pink salmon run is late and the run timing is likely normal. The chum salmon male percent male for all test fisheries to date have been higher than normal indicating a later than normal run.

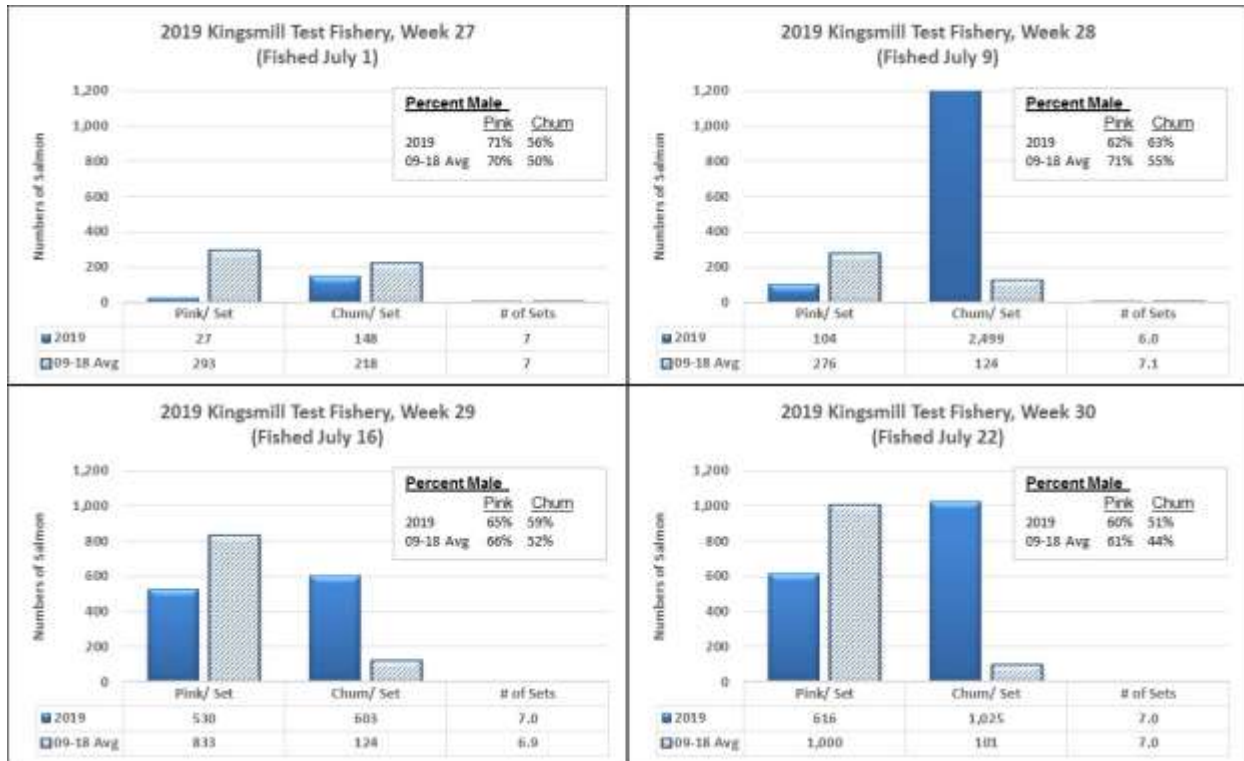
Average Weights:

- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 3.6 pounds; chum salmon: 7.4 pounds.
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: 3.4 pounds; chum salmon: 7.6 pounds.

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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