



## Advisory Announcement

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### 2022 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE # 1

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 will occur one day per week for 5 weeks starting in statistical week 27 (June 26 – July 2). 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 will occur one day per week for four weeks starting in statistical week 28 (July 3 – July 9). The Kingsmill test fishery is used as an indicator for runs returning to Frederick Sound and to eastern lower Chatham Strait (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 both test fisheries.

**Point Gardner:** The first test fishery was conducted on Wednesday, June 29. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink and chum salmon harvests were below the recent 10-year average (2012–2021). Male sex ratios for pink salmon were 100%. Male sex ratios for chum salmon were 75%. However, these results may not be conclusive due to the small sample size.

**Kingsmill:** No test fishery was scheduled to be conducted this week.

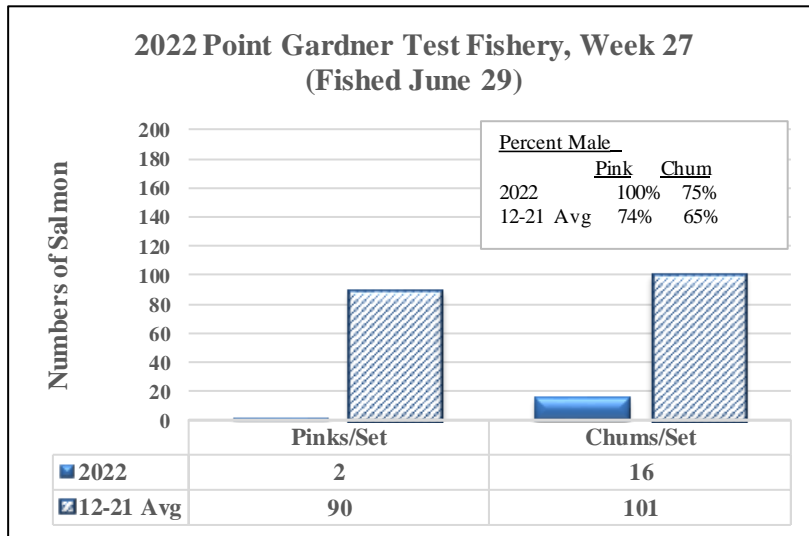
**Run Strength:** It is difficult to gauge the run strength after one test fishing period, however, the pink and chum salmon harvests from this test fishing period were below the 10-year average. Run strength indicators will become more conclusive as more test fishery periods are conducted.

**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 returns. As noted, the sex ratios may not be conclusive due to the small sample sizes. If they were representative, then the pink and chum salmon run timing may be later than normal as indicated by the above average sex ratio.

#### Average Weights:

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

**Next Test Fisheries:** Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are scheduled for Wednesday, July 6 and Friday, July 8.



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