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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### FISHERY UPDATE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
*Scott Kelley, Director*



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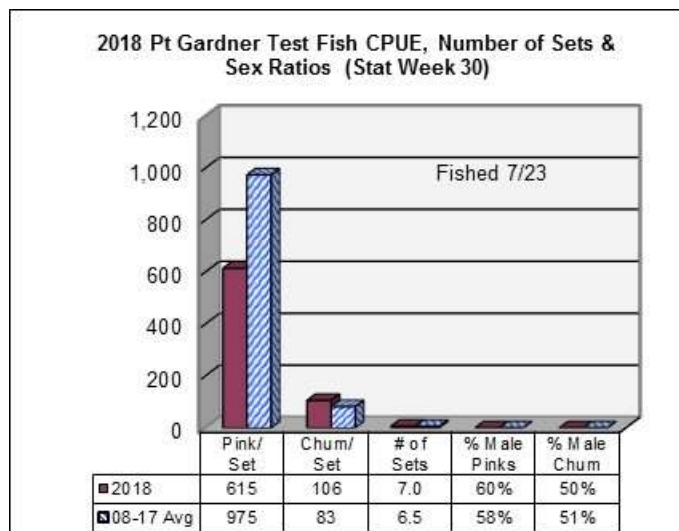
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Petersburg Area Office  
16 Sing Lee Alley  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833  
Date: July 27, 2018  
Time: 3:15 p.m.

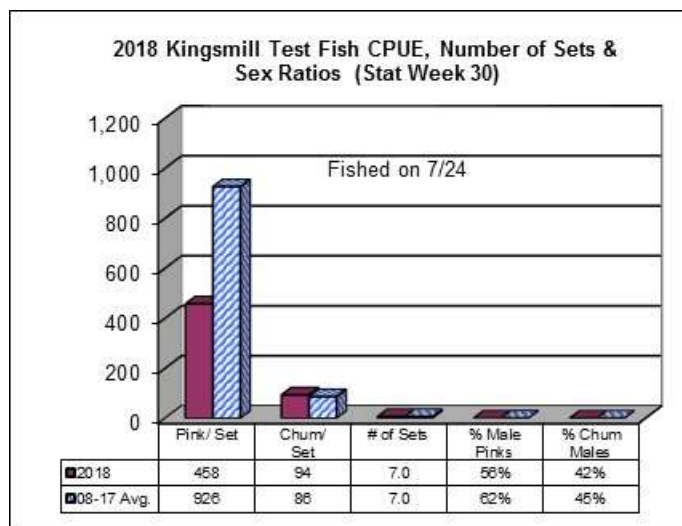
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#### 2018 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE #5

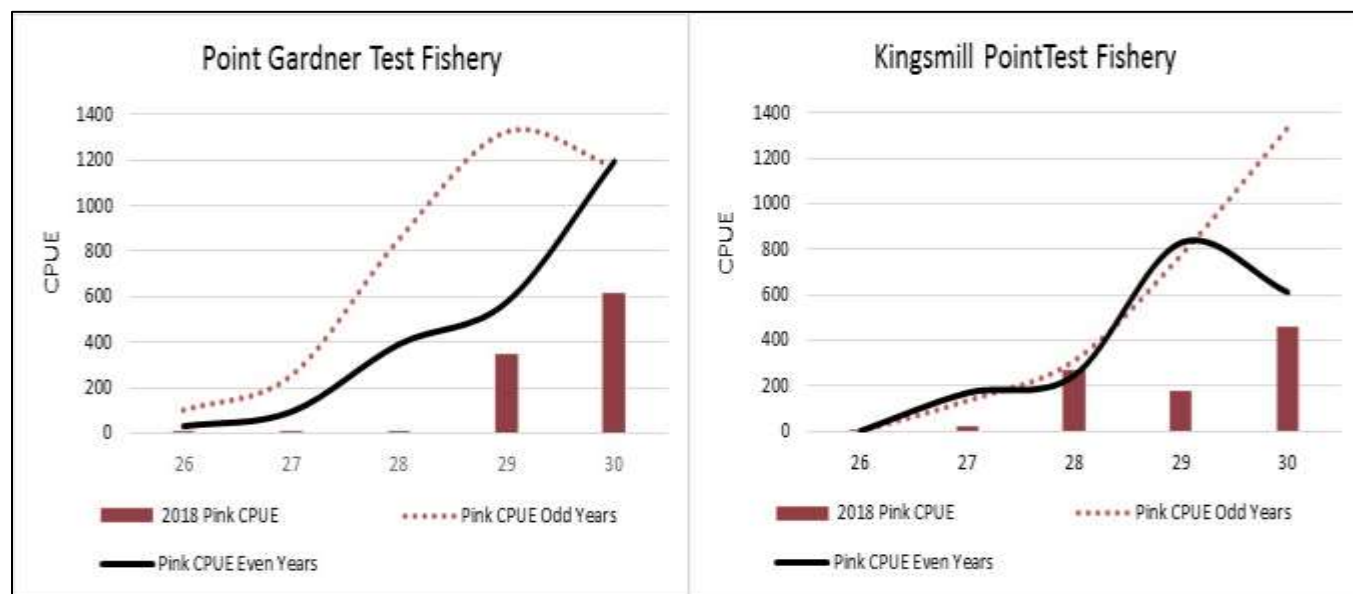
**Point Gardner:** The fifth and final test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 23. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvest continued to be well below the recent 10-year average. Chum salmon harvest was above the recent 10-year average. Sex ratio for pink salmon was 60% male, which is near the recent 10-year average. Sex ratio for chum salmon was 51% male, which is near the recent 10-year average.



**Kingsmill:** The fifth and final test fishery on the Kingsmill shoreline was conducted on Tuesday, July 24. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvest remained well below the recent 10-year average. Sex ratio for pink salmon was 56% male, which is below the recent 10-year average. Chum salmon harvest was above the recent 10-year average. Sex ratio for chum salmon was 42% male, which is slightly below the recent 10-year average.



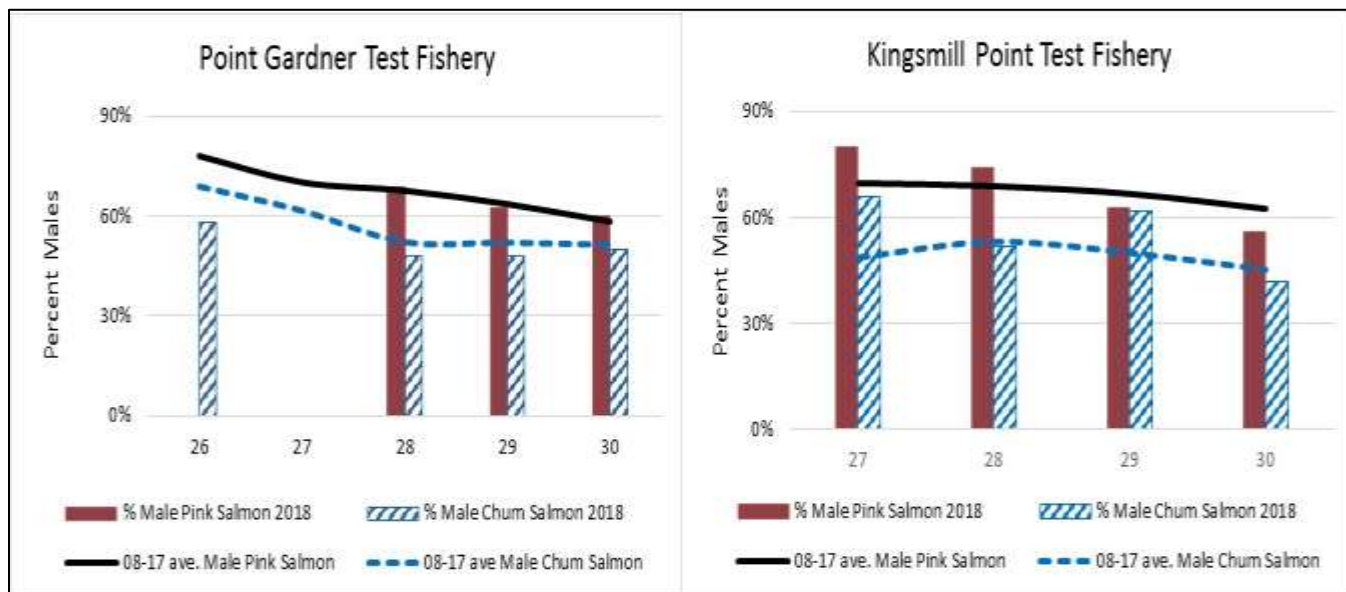
**Run Strength:** Catch per unit effort (number of fish per set: CPUE) for pink salmon has remained well below average this season in the Point Gardner test fishery. Kingsmill pink CPUE showed mixed signals with stat week 28 being slightly above average; however, all other weeks showed a CPUE that was below to well below average. Comparing this season's harvest with other even year test fisheries indicate that pink salmon abundance transiting the Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries were poor. Chum salmon abundance based on test fishing continued to show mixed trends with Kingsmill and Point Gardner being above average this week.



Note: Data represents test fishing results from 1990-2018. Not all years have test fishing results each week.

**Sex Ratio Sampling:** Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the first half of the run, while females are more numerous during the last half of the run. Comparing this year's percentage of males in the fishery this week to the recent 10-year average provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous returns. Sex ratios were not taken at Point Gardner for pink salmon during the initial two test fishing periods due to near record low catches. Subsequent sex ratios from test fishing at Point Gardner showed the percentage of male pink salmon to be near average which indicates pink salmon passing the test fishing area had near average run timing. Sex ratios for pink salmon on the Kingsmill shoreline show mixed results with the weeks 27 and 28 being above average and weeks 29 and 30 being below average, thus pink salmon run timing for Kingsmill was inconclusive. Chum salmon male percentages from Point Gardner remained

below average for the season, with the exception of week 30 being slightly above average which would indicate that chum salmon are slightly early. The percentage of male chum salmon harvested on the Kingsmill shoreline was above average for weeks 27 and 29 and near average for weeks 28 and 30. Due to the mixed signals from the male 2718sex ratio from Kingsmill it is likely that run timing for chum salmon transiting the Kingsmill test fishing area had near average or late run timing.



Note: No sex ratios were obtained for pink salmon during the Point Gardner test fishery for weeks 26 and 27. No sex ratios were obtained for chum salmon during the Point Gardner test fishery for week 27.

#### Average Weights:

- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 4.1 pounds; chum salmon: 11.0 pounds.
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: 4.6 pounds; chum salmon: 9.1 pounds.

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

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