



Advisory Announcement

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2021 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 20 – 26). However, the test fishery start was delayed one week for the 2021 season and began statistical week 27 (June 27 – July 3). 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 27 – July 3). However, the test fishery start was delayed one week for the 2021 season and began statistical week 28 (July 4 – July 10). 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 both test fisheries.

Point Gardner: The third test fishery was conducted on Wednesday, July 14. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon harvests were near the recent 10-year average. Chum salmon harvest rates were well above the recent 10-year average. Pink salmon sex ratios were 61% male. Chum salmon sex ratios were 50% male.

Kingsmill: The second test fishery was conducted on Tuesday, July 13. All seven of the scheduled sets were completed. Pink and chum salmon harvests were well below the recent 10-year average and at or near the lowest historical Kingsmill test fishery harvest rate for SW 29 (1990–2020). Pink salmon sex ratios were 73% male. Chum salmon sex ratios were 58% male.

Run Strength: Test fishery results were inconclusive. Point Gardner reflected an average harvest rate of pink salmon and an above average harvest rate of chum salmon. Kingsmill results were well below the recent 10-year average for both pink and chum salmon.

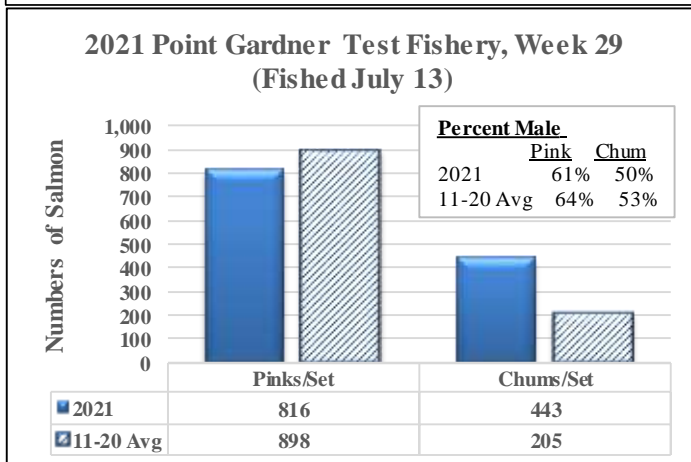
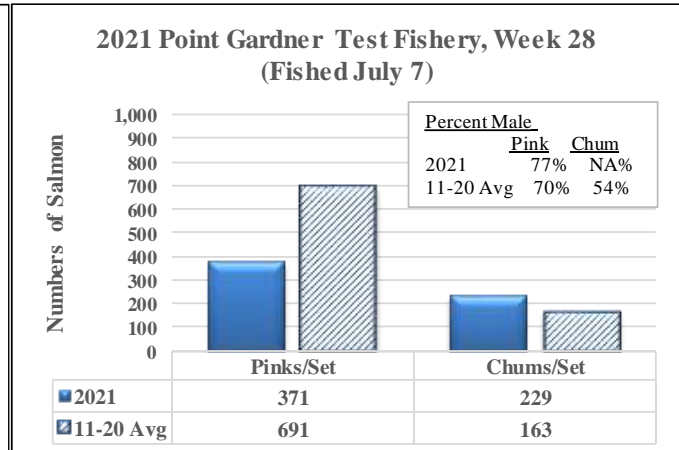
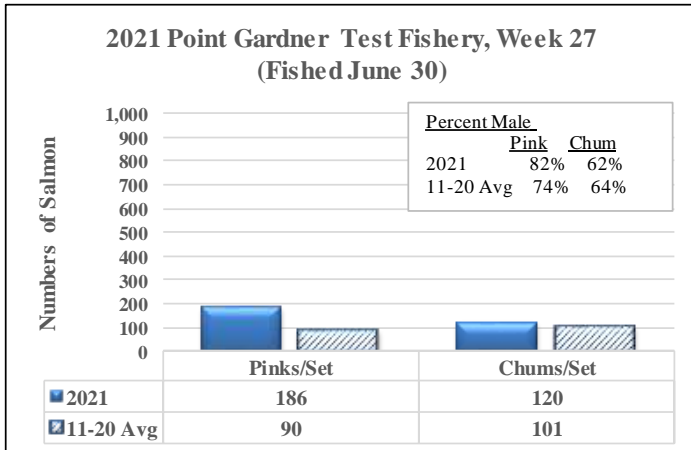
Sex Ratio Sampling: Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the beginning of the run and females are more numerous during the latter part of the run. Comparing this year's sex ratios to the historical average provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous returns. If the sex ratios were representative, the Kingsmill test fishery implies a later than normal pink salmon run timing while the Point Gardner test fishery implies an average run timing. Chum salmon run timing is inconclusive though likely near average.

Average Weights:

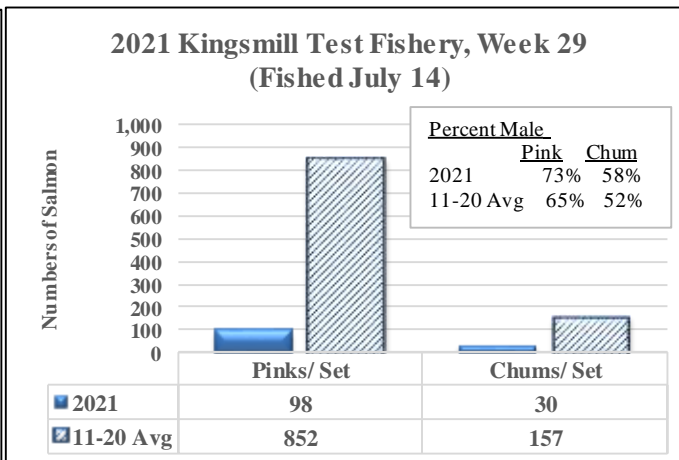
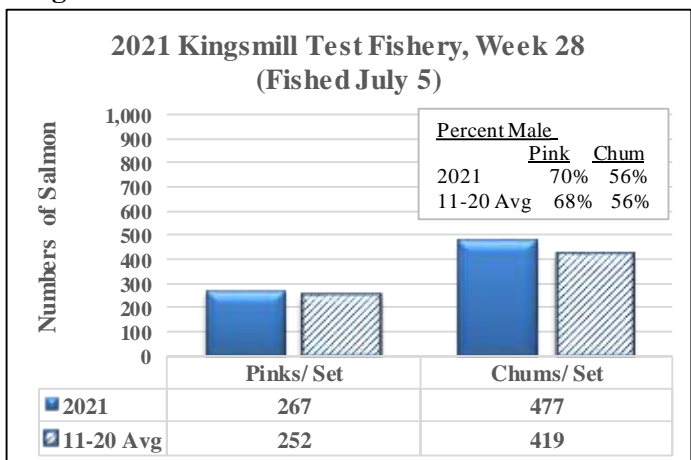
- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 3.1 pounds; chum salmon: 5.9 pounds.
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: 3.1 pounds; chum salmon: 6.2 pounds.

Next Test Fisheries: Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are scheduled for Monday, July 19 and Tuesday, July 20.

Point Gardner:



Kingsmill:



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

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