

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

Juneau Area Office
PO Box 110024
Juneau, AK 99811



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: June 26, 2026

CONTACT: Scott Forbes
Juneau Area Management Biologist
scott.forbes@alaska.gov
(907) 465-4206

2026 HAWK INLET SALMON PURSE SEINE TEST FISHERY UPDATE # 1

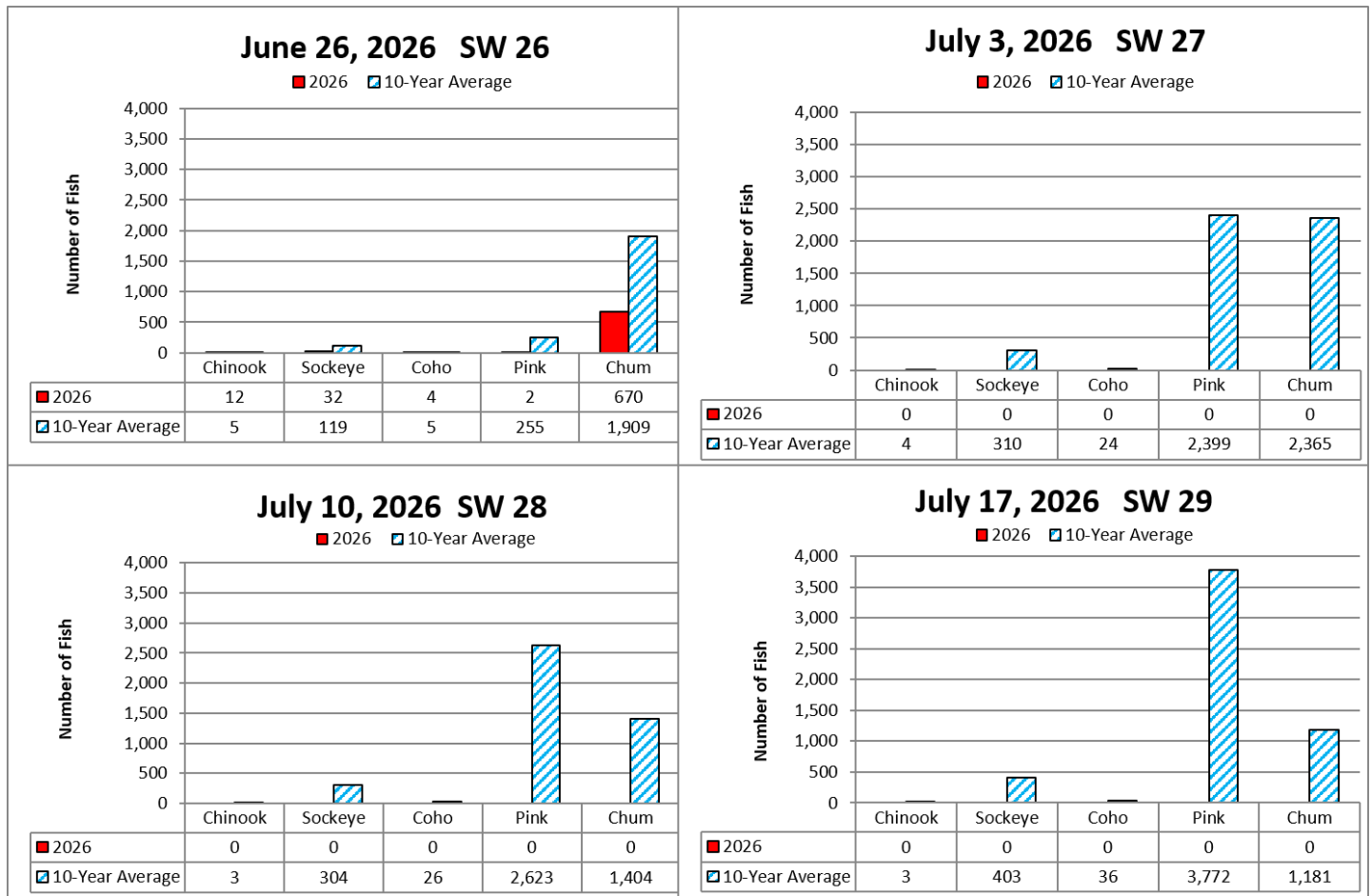
The department has been utilizing the Hawk Inlet test fishery annually since 1992. The primary goals of the test fishery are to evaluate run strength and timing of northern inside migrating pink salmon returning to Lynn Canal and Stephens Passage and to analyze the stock composition of sockeye and chum salmon.

The department solicits bids to charter a commercial salmon purse seine fishing vessel to conduct test fishing along the Hawk Inlet shoreline, generally starting on the fourth Friday in June and occurring once a week for 4 consecutive weeks into mid-July. Each fishing day will include a minimum of 4 sets which are made at predetermined locations between Hawk Inlet and Point Retreat.

The F/V *Osprey* was awarded the test fish contract this season and conducted the first of the 2026 Hawk Inlet shoreline test fisheries on Friday, June 26. Comparing the daily harvests to the recent 10-year average harvests on or around this date, sockeye, pink, and chum salmon harvests were well below average while coho salmon harvest was near average. Sockeye salmon harvest was 27% of average, pink salmon harvest was 1% of average, and chum salmon harvest was 35% of average. The pink salmon harvest numbers were not substantial enough for a pink salmon sex ratio.

Sockeye and chum salmon otoliths will be analyzed to give insight on stock composition and proportion of wild and hatchery origin fish. This information is useful for managing potential common property purse seine fisheries along this shoreline and for other fisheries currently underway in northern Chatham Strait, Lynn Canal, and Stephens Passage.

The next test fishery is scheduled to take place on July 3.



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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220