



Advisory Announcement

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CONTACT: Katie Taylor
Petersburg Area Management Biologist
kathryn.taylor@alaska.gov
(907) 772-3801

2026 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE # 5

The 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 5 weeks, starting in statistical week 26 (June 21 – June 27). 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 4 weeks, starting in statistical week 27 (June 28 – July 4). The Kingsmill test fishery is used as an indicator for salmon runs returning to Frederick Sound and 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 Obsession* is conducting both test fisheries.

Point Gardner: The fifth test fishery was conducted on Friday, July 24. All 7 sets were completed. Pink salmon harvests were above the recent 10-year average (2016 – 2025). Chum salmon harvests were below the recent 10-year average. The male pink salmon sex ratio was 67%. The male chum salmon sex ratio was 41%.

Kingsmill: The fourth test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 20. All 7 sets were completed. Pink salmon harvests were at the recent 10-year average. Chum salmon harvests were below the recent 10-year average. The male pink salmon sex ratio was 67%. The male chum salmon sex ratio was 48%.

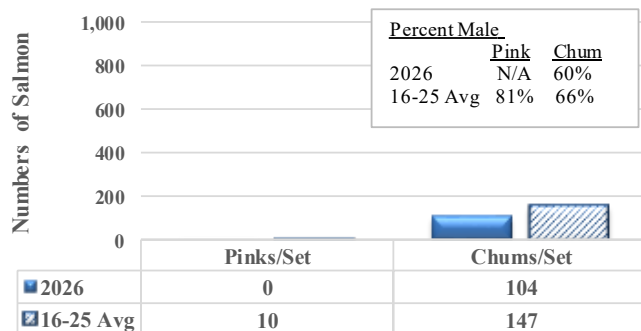
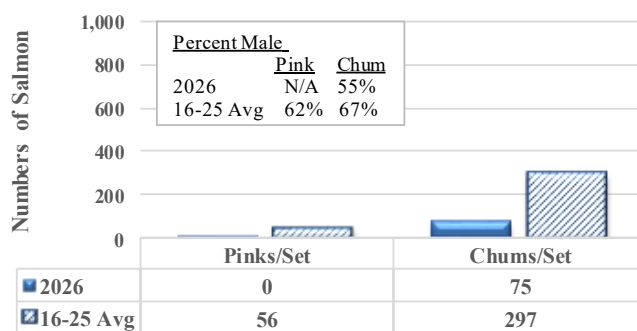
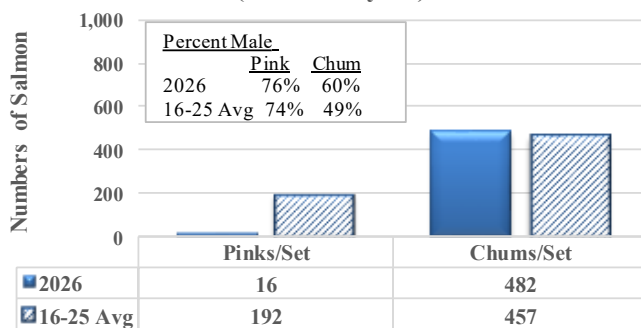
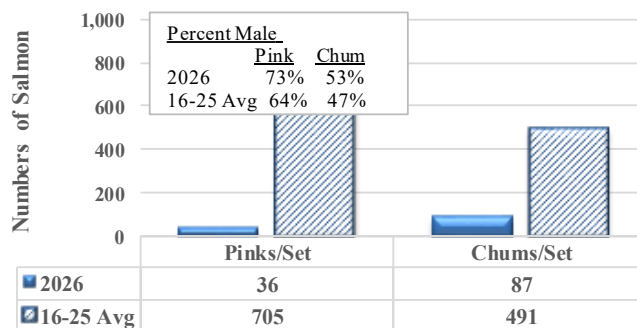
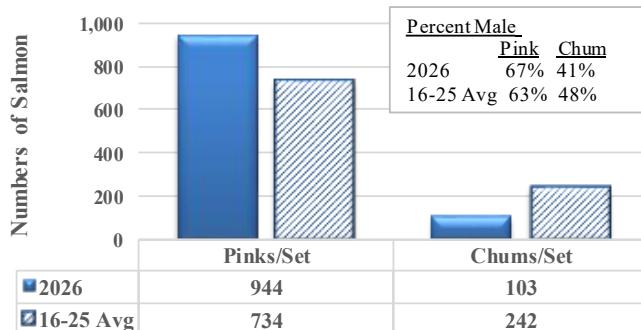
Run Strength: This is the fifth statistical week with generally below average chum salmon harvests, therefore, the chum run strength appears to be below average. The pink salmon harvests were well below the recent 10-year average for the first four test fishing periods but have become average to above average in the fifth test fishing period. Test fish results indicate the early pink salmon run is poor and the middle run is still yet to be determined. Although the results from this week's test fishing period are encouraging, it is the only period with near to above average pink salmon harvests while the four periods preceding this week were consistently among the lowest pink salmon test fish harvests on record. It should also be noted that statistical week 30 harvests were below the long-term averages (1994 – 2025) of 1,077 pinks per set at Point Gardner and 891 pinks per set at Kingsmill.

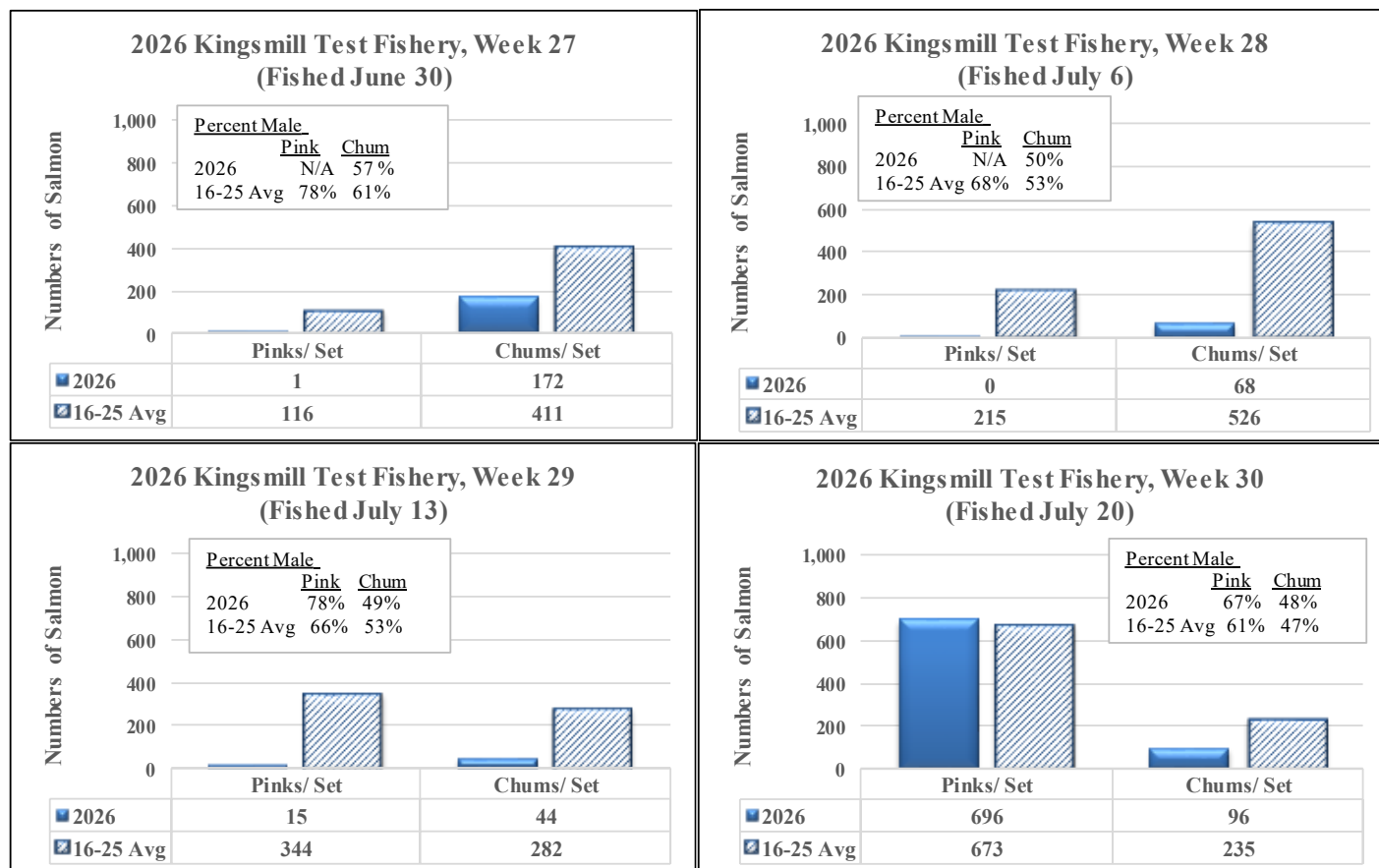
Sex Ratio Sampling: Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the beginning of the run and females are more numerous during the latter part of the run. Comparing this year's sex ratios to the historical average provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous returns. The generally below average sex ratios for chum salmon indicate an earlier than average run timing. The pink salmon sex ratios indicate a later than average run timing.

Average Weights:

- Point Gardner: unavailable for both pink and chum salmon.
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: 3.5 pounds; chum salmon: unavailable.

Next Test Fisheries: The next and final test fisheries are scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, and Friday, July 31.

Point Gardner:**2026 Point Gardner Test Fishery, Week 26
(Fished June 27)****2026 Point Gardner Test Fishery, Week 27
(Fished July 3)****2026 Point Gardner Test Fishery, Week 28
(Fished July 10)****2026 Point Gardner Test Fishery, Week 29
(Fished July 17)****2026 Point Gardner Test Fishery, Week 30
(Fished July 24)**

Kingsmill:

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

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