



Advisory Announcement

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2026 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE # 6

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 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. In some years, an additional test fishery is conducted at one or both test fishing sites.

This year, the *F/V Obsession* conducted both test fisheries. It should be noted that the long-term average (1994 – 2025) was used this week due to the low occurrence of test fisheries in statistical week 31 throughout the years.

Point Gardner: The sixth and final test fishery was conducted on Friday, July 31. All 7 sets were completed. Pink and chum salmon harvests were below the long-term average (1994 – 2025). Male pink salmon sex ratios were 47%. Male chum salmon sex ratios were 57%.

Kingsmill: The fifth and final test fishery was conducted on Tuesday, July 28. All 7 sets were completed. Pink salmon harvests were above the long-term average. Chum salmon harvests were below the long-term average. Male pink salmon sex ratios were 59%. Male chum salmon sex ratios were 49%.

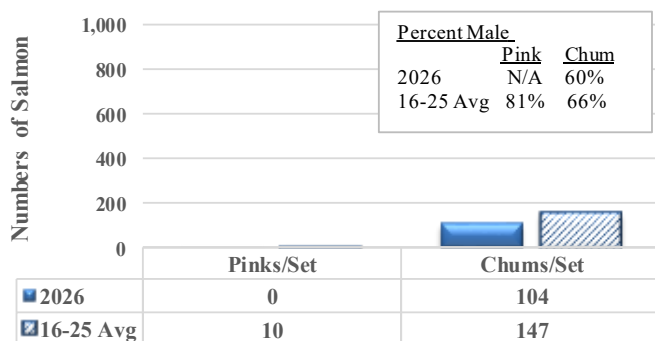
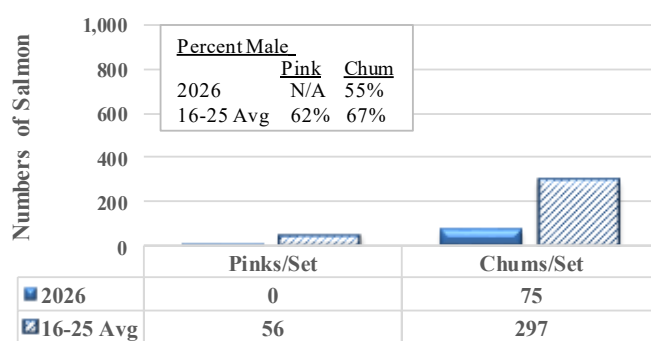
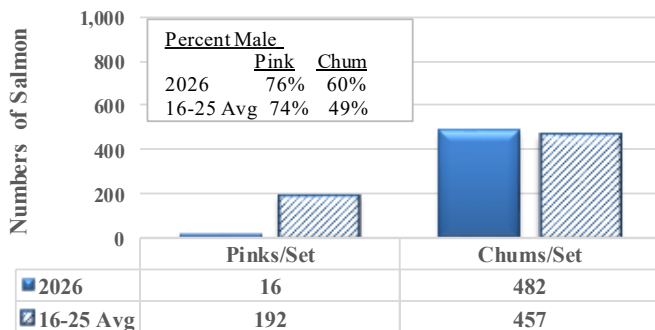
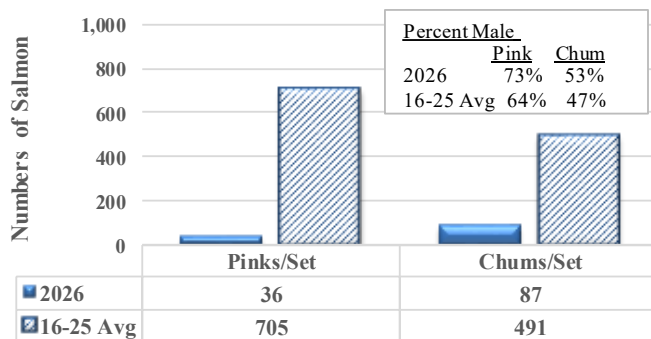
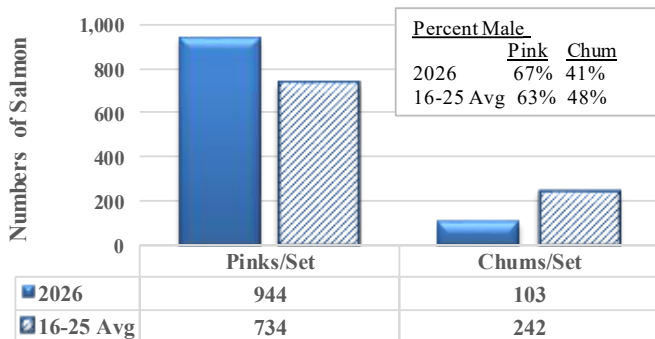
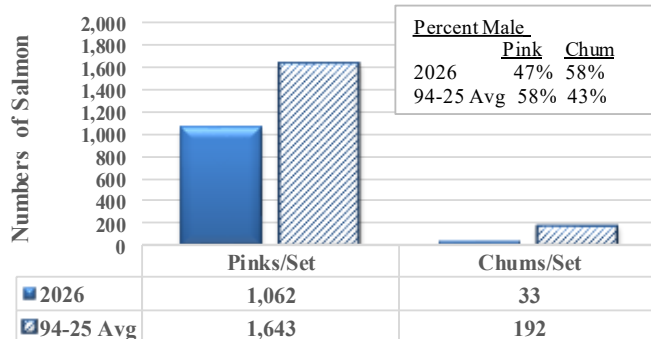
Run Strength: This is the sixth statistical week with generally below average chum salmon harvests, which indicates a below average chum salmon run. The pink salmon harvests were well below average for the first four weeks of test fishing, were average to above average in the fifth week of test fishing and the final Kingsmill test fishing period, then fell back down to below average for the final Point Gardner test fishing period. Test fish results indicated the early pink salmon run was very weak and the middle pink salmon run may be compressed and below average.

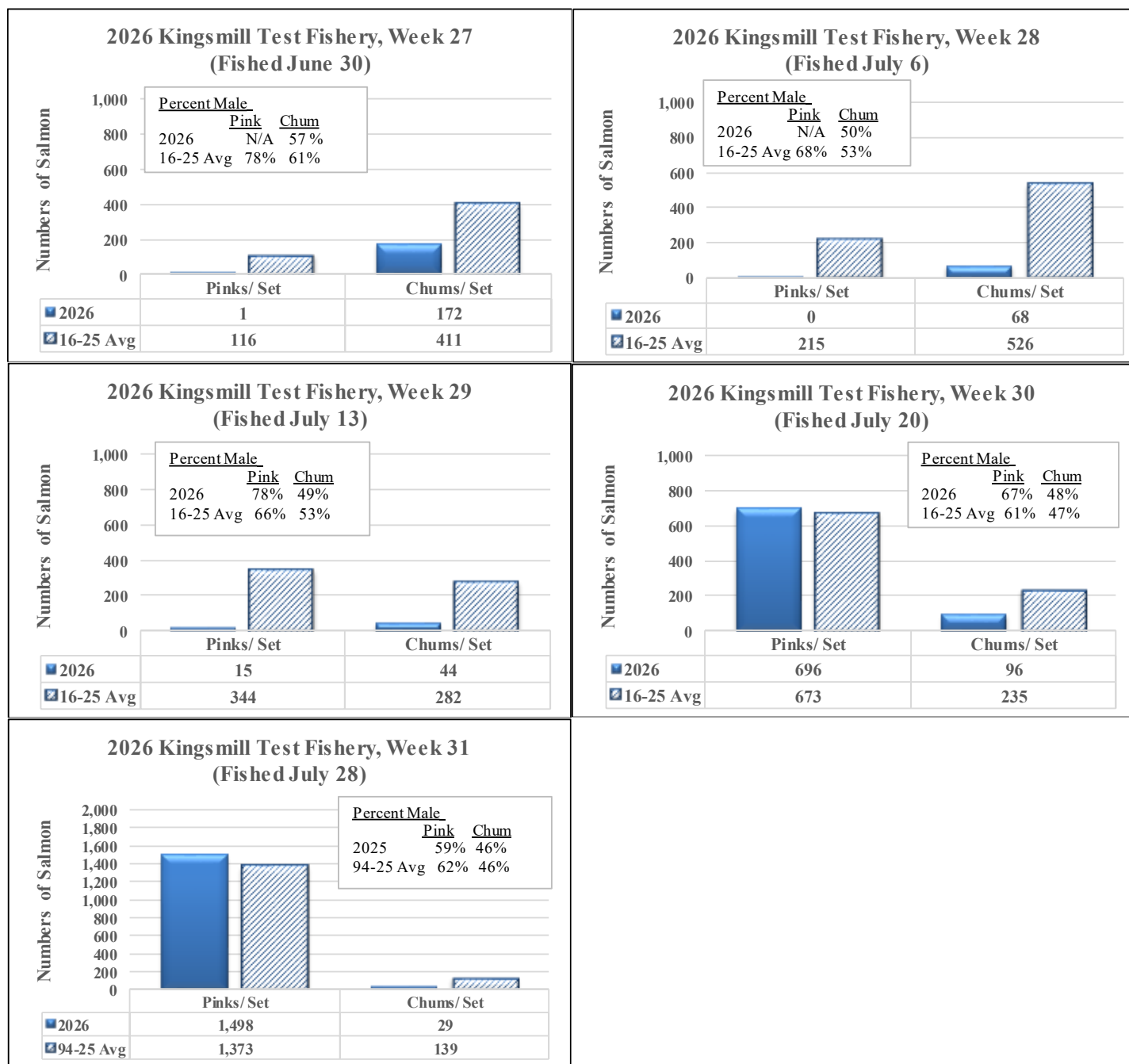
Sex Ratio Sampling: Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the beginning of the run, and females are more numerous during the latter part of the run. Comparing this year's sex ratios to the historical average provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous returns. The generally below average sex ratio for chum salmon indicates an earlier than normal run timing. The pink salmon sex ratios indicated a later than average run timing until the final week of test fishing when they fell below average indicating a later than normal and weak early run, and an earlier than normal or compressed middle run.

Average Weights:

- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 3.6 pounds; chum salmon: 6.6 pounds.
- Kingsmill: pink and chum salmon: data unavailable.

Next Test Fisheries: The Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries have concluded for the 2026 season.

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)****2026 Point Gardner Test Fishery, Week 31
(Fished July 31)**

Kingsmill:

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

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