
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



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2017 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE # 4

Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are ongoing projects that assess pink and chum salmon abundance returning to Section 9-B and District 10. Results from the most recent test fishery are summarized below.

Point Gardner: The fourth test fishery was conducted at Point Gardner on Monday, July 17, 2017. Only six of the seven scheduled sets were completed due to capacity being reached. Pink salmon harvest was well above average. Chum salmon harvest continued to be above average. Sockeye and coho salmon are also caught during test fisheries but are incidental and minor in relation to the pink and chum salmon harvest.

Kingsmill: The third test fishery was conducted at Kingsmill on Tuesday, July 18, 2017. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink and chum salmon harvests continued to be above average. Sockeye and coho salmon are also caught during test fisheries but are incidental and minor in relation to the pink and chum salmon harvest.

Run Strength: Both Point Gardner and Kingsmill have shown continued above average pink salmon run strength heading into Frederick Sound based on the test fishing results to date. This week's Point Gardner pink harvest greatly improved and was well above average. The Kingsmill pink salmon harvest increased from the previous week and was slightly above average. Pink salmon runs to the early District 10 mainland systems may be slightly weaker than average based on the initial two test fisheries at Point Gardner. However, returns to the later systems in Frederick Sound may be average to above average as indicated by the last two test fishing periods and the continued above average results of the Kingsmill test fishery. Chum salmon run strength is strong as indicated by the continued above average harvests in both test fisheries.

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 and females are more numerous during the last half of the run. Comparing this year's percentage of males in the fishery to the historical average provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous runs. Point Gardner test fishing has been below average for the percentage of male pink salmon, which indicates earlier than normal run timing; however, the latest test fishery had a larger percentage of males than average indicating the run may still be building compared to historical run timing. The Kingsmill test fishing results from this week remain slightly below average for the percentage of male pink salmon and would indicate a run timing slightly earlier than normal. The chum salmon percentage of males for Point Gardner has shown mixed results with the male percentage being above and below historical averages but tends to indicate later than Gardner/Kingsmill Update

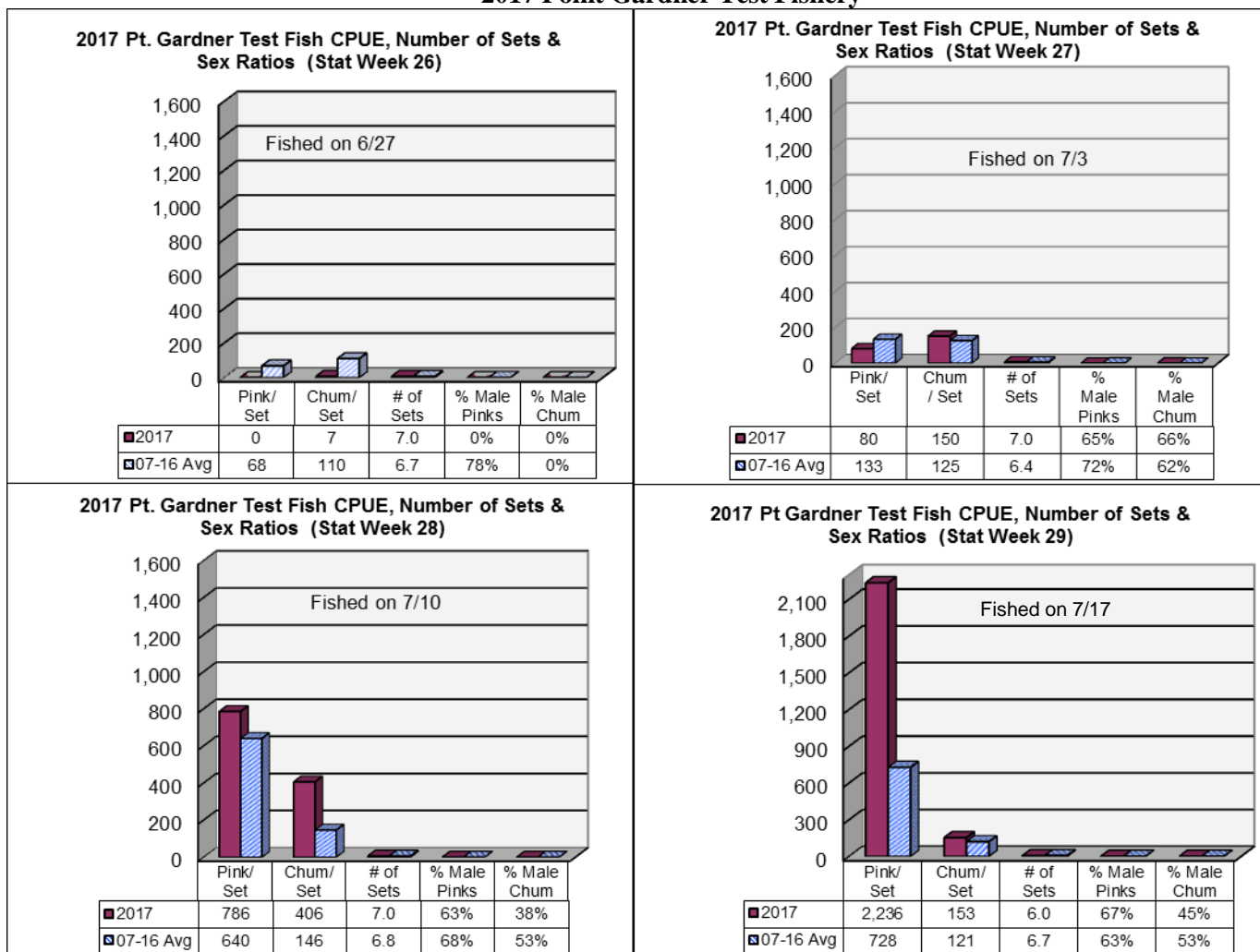
normal run timing. Kingsmill chum salmon male percentages have been near the historical range during the test fishing periods indicating near average run timing. Run timing for chum salmon is inconclusive due to the sporadic collection of data on male percentages for chum salmon from the test fisheries.

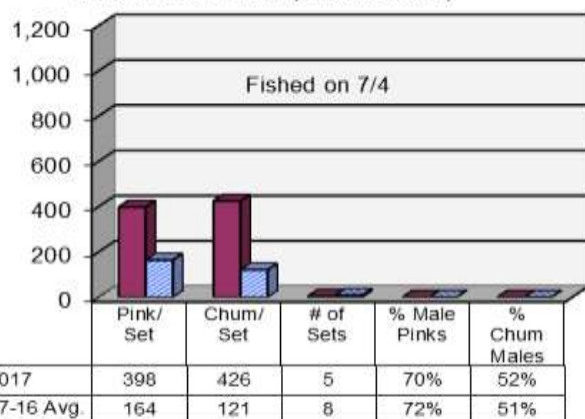
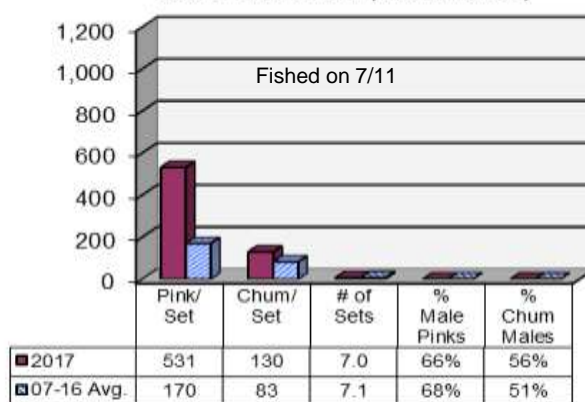
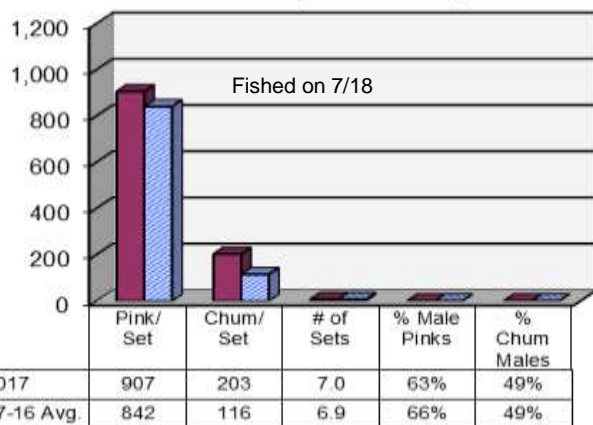
Average Weights:

- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 2.9 pounds; chum salmon: 7.3 pounds;
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: 3.6 pounds; chum salmon; 7.7 pounds.

Next Test Fisheries: Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are scheduled for Wednesday, July 26.

2017 Point Gardner Test Fishery



2017 Kingsmill Test Fishery**2017 Kingsmill Test Fish CPUE, Number of Sets & Sex Ratios (Stat Week 27)****2017 Kingsmill Test Fish CPUE, Number of Sets & Sex Ratios (Stat Week 28)****2017 Kingsmill Test Fish CPUE, Number of Sets & Sex Ratios (Stat Week 29)**

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