



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 2, 2024

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

2024 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE # 2A

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 23 – June 29). 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 30 – July 6). 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.

This week the *F/V Angette* conducted the Point Gardner test fishery.

Point Gardner: The second test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 1. All 7 sets were completed. Chum salmon harvests were well above the recent 10-year average (2014 – 2023) and pink salmon harvests were well below. Male chum salmon sex ratios were 64%. Pink salmon sex ratios were not collected.

Kingsmill: The first test fishery is scheduled to be conducted on Friday, July 5.

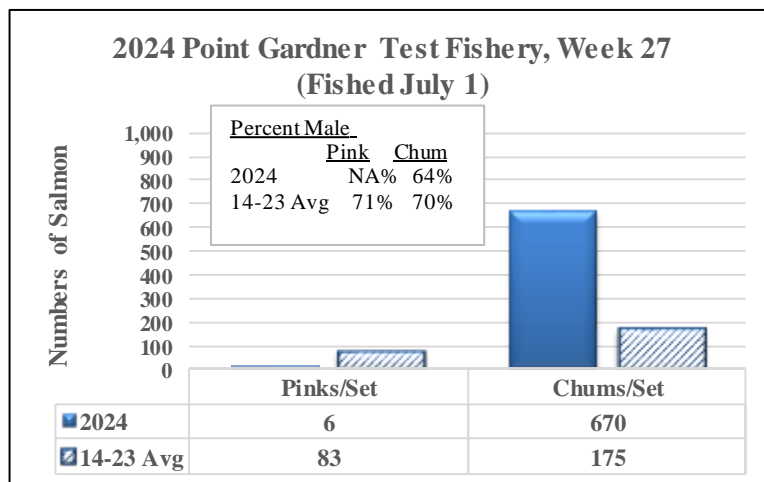
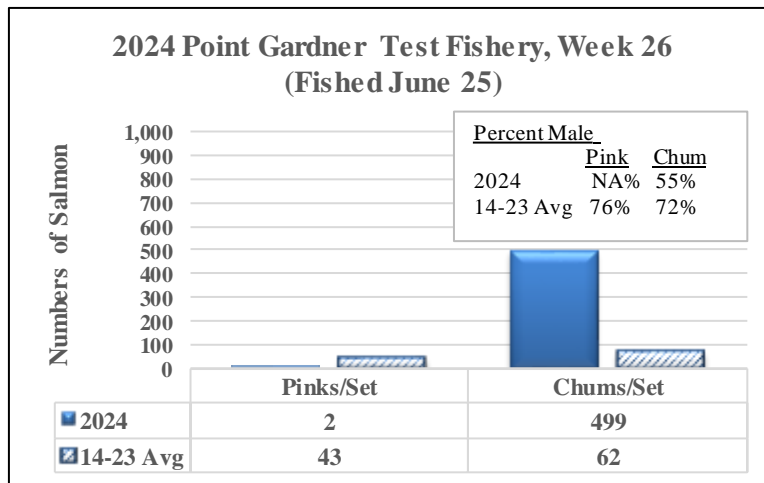
Run Strength: It is difficult to gauge the run strength after two test fishing periods, however, given this is the second period with well above average chum and well below average pink salmon harvests, the chum run strength appears to be good and the pink salmon run strength appears to be poor. It is still early in the pink salmon run and run strength indicators will become more conclusive as more test fishery periods are conducted.

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 below average sex ratio for chum salmon indicates an earlier than normal run timing. The small sample size for pink salmon was too small and no samples were taken.

Average Weights:

- Point Gardner: pink salmon: Data unavailable; chum salmon: Data unavailable.

Next Test Fisheries: The first Kingsmill test fishery is scheduled for Friday, July 5, and the third Point Gardner test fishery is scheduled for Monday, July 8.



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