



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 17, 2024

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

2024 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE # 4

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 year, the *F/V Obsession* is conducting both test fisheries.

Point Gardner: The fourth test fishery was conducted on Tuesday, July 16. 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 42%. Male pink salmon sex ratios were 69%.

Kingsmill: The third test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 15. All 7 sets were completed. Chum salmon harvests were well above the recent 10-year average and pink salmon harvests were below. Male chum salmon sex ratios were 46%. Male pink salmon sex ratios were 84%.

Run Strength: This is the fourth period with well above average chum and well below average pink salmon harvests, therefore, the chum run strength appears to be good and the pink salmon run strength appears to be poor.

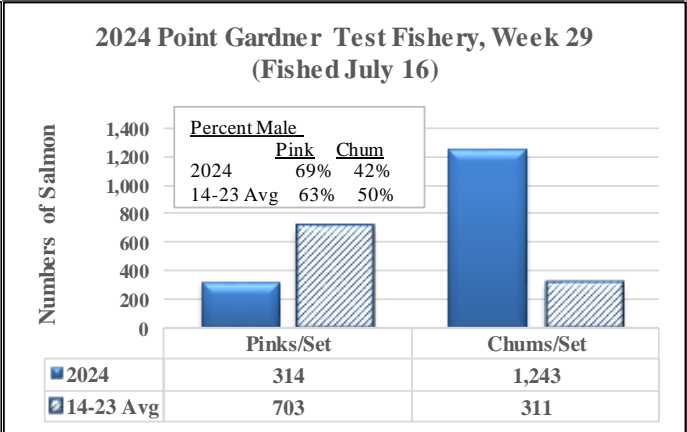
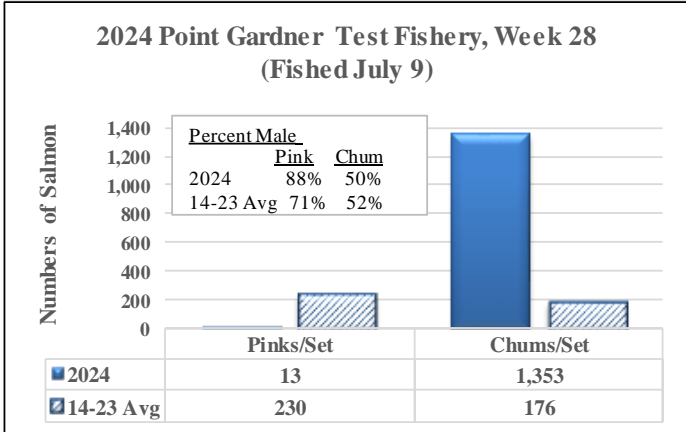
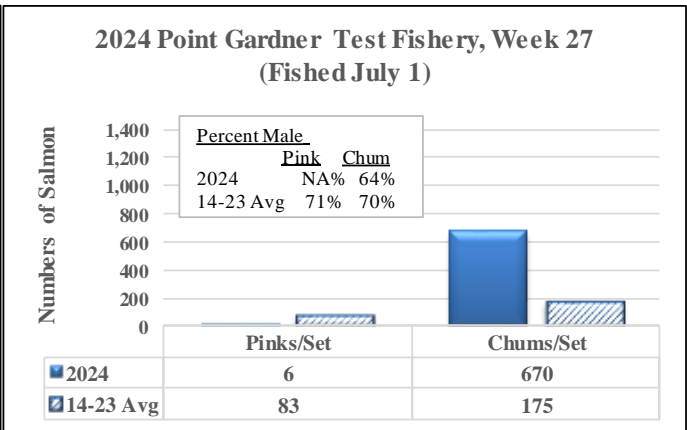
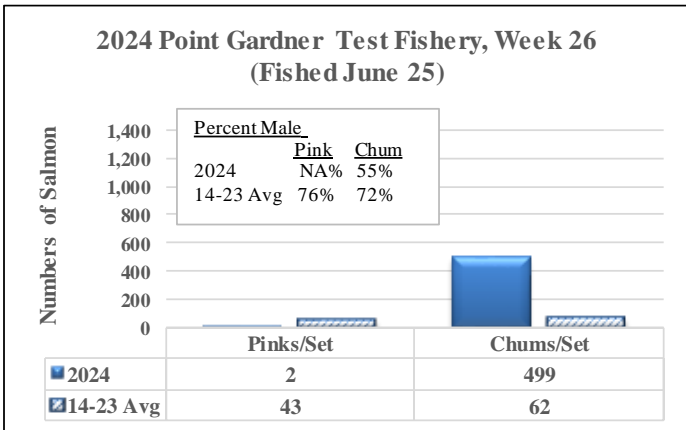
Sex Ratio Sampling: Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the beginning of the run and females are more numerous during the latter part of the run. Comparing this year's sex ratios to the historical average provides an indication of whether 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 pink salmon sex ratio suggests an average to late run timing.

Average Weights:

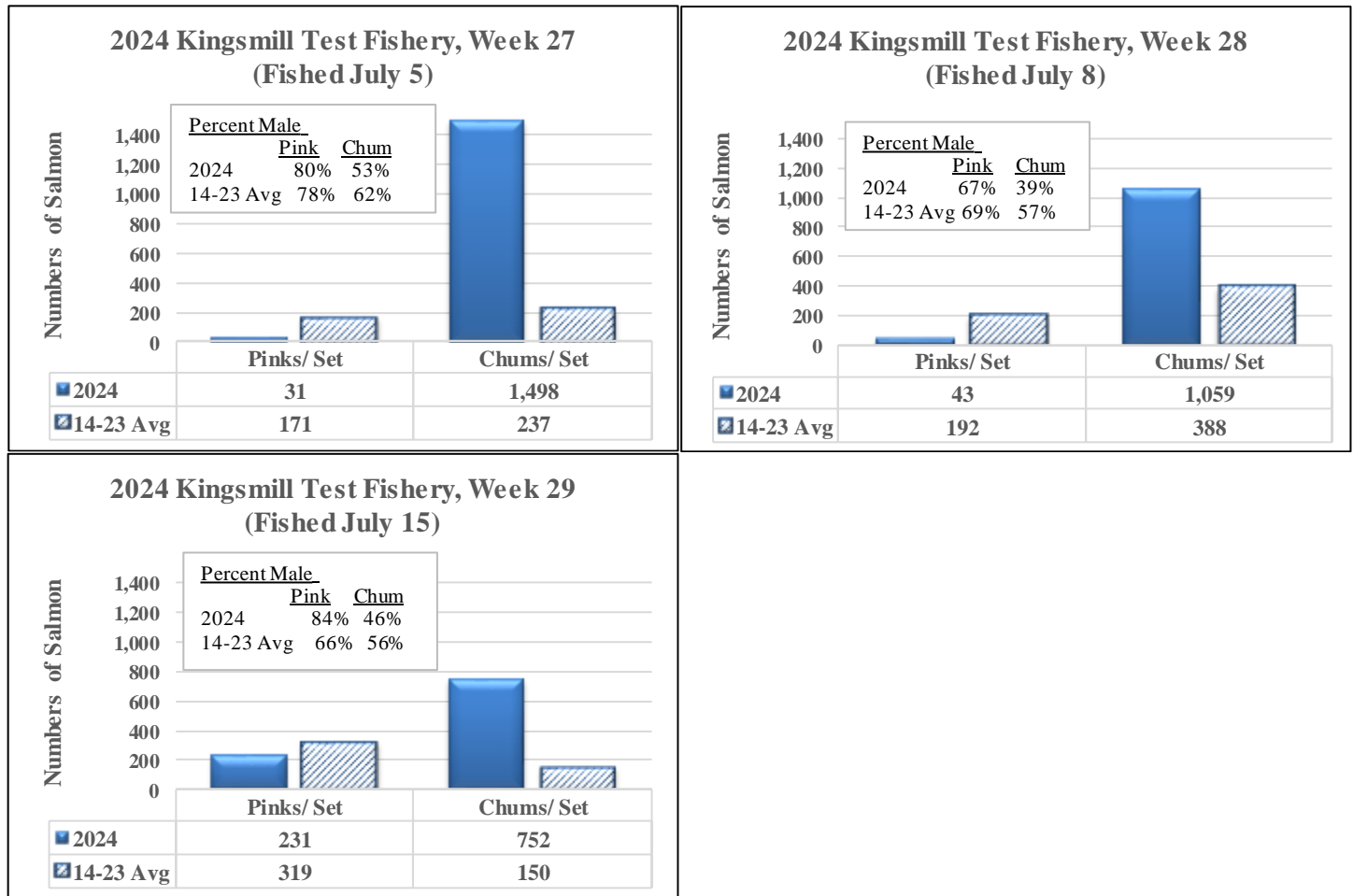
- Point Gardner: pink salmon: 2.8 pounds; chum salmon: 5.7 pounds.
- Kingsmill: pink salmon: Data unavailable; chum salmon: 5.7 pounds.

Next Test Fisheries: The next test fisheries are scheduled for Monday, July 22, and Tuesday, July 23.

Point Gardner:



Kingsmill:



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