

**Districts 6 and 8 Drift  
Gillnet Fisheries  
2019 Postseason  
Report**

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ADFG  
December 2019



# District 6 Season Summary



# District 6 Preliminary Stock Composition

- Chinook Salmon
  - Estimated hatchery of 558 fish or 52% of harvest (CWT)
- Sockeye Salmon
  - Estimated 4,300 Stikine River fish or 18% of harvest (Otolith)
    - 3,200 fish from 106-41, 13% of harvest
    - 1,100 fish from 106-30, 5% of harvest
- Coho Salmon
  - Estimated hatchery of 9,500 fish or 16% of harvest (CWT)
- Chum Salmon
  - Estimated hatchery of 83,600 fish or 74% of harvest (Otolith)

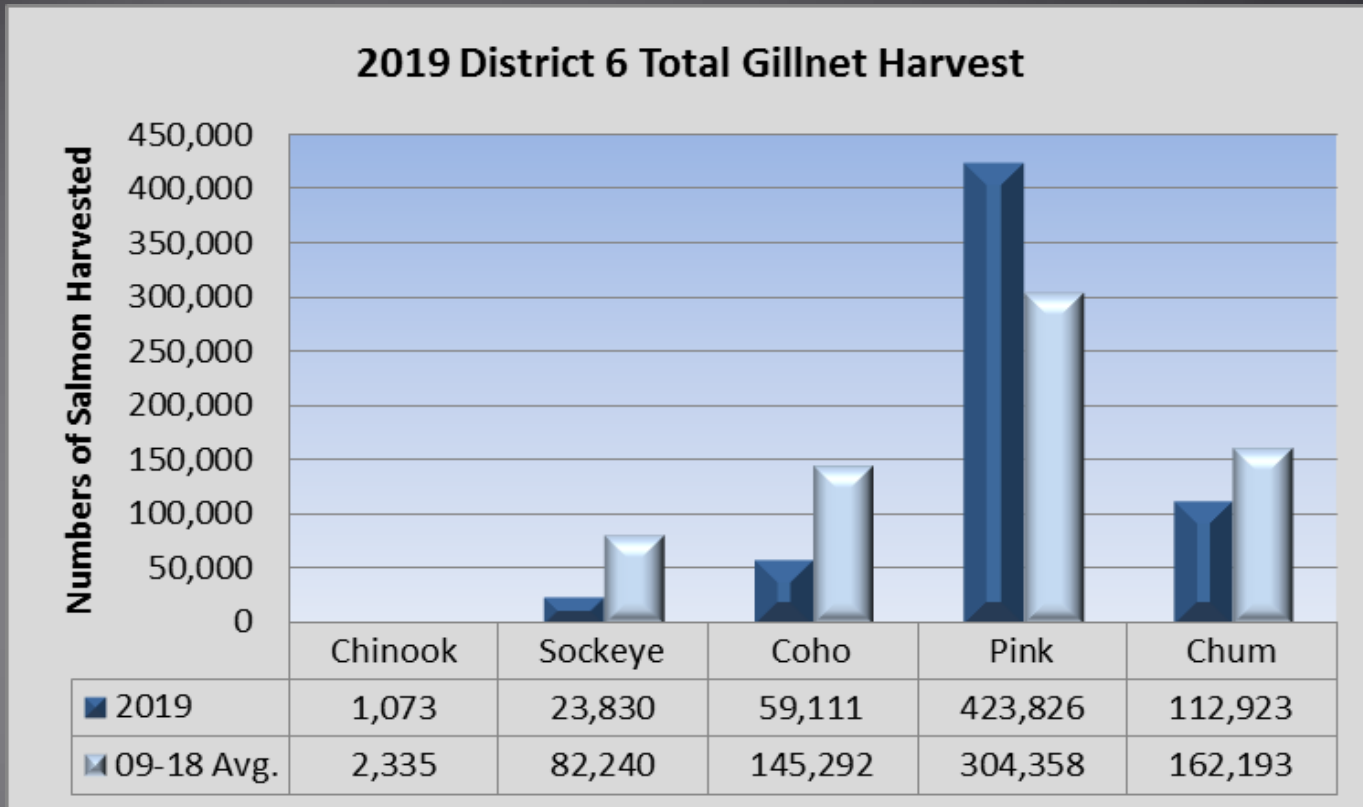


Figure 2.

- Chinook, Sockeye, coho, and chum salmon harvest below average
- Pink salmon harvest above average

Figure 3a.

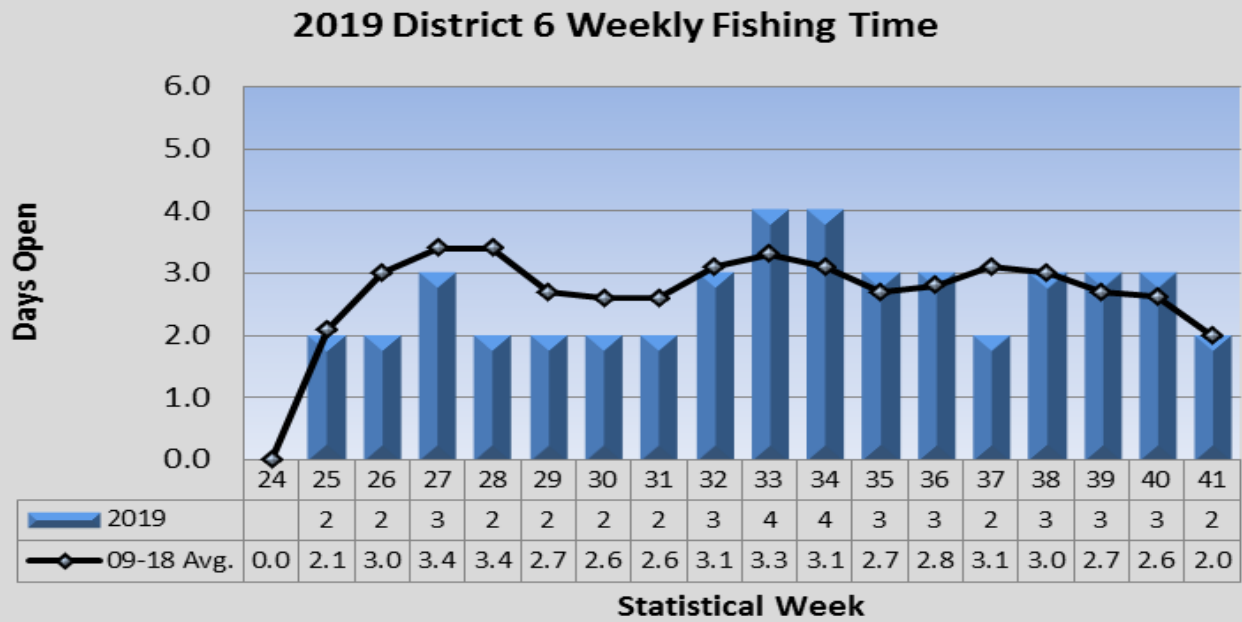
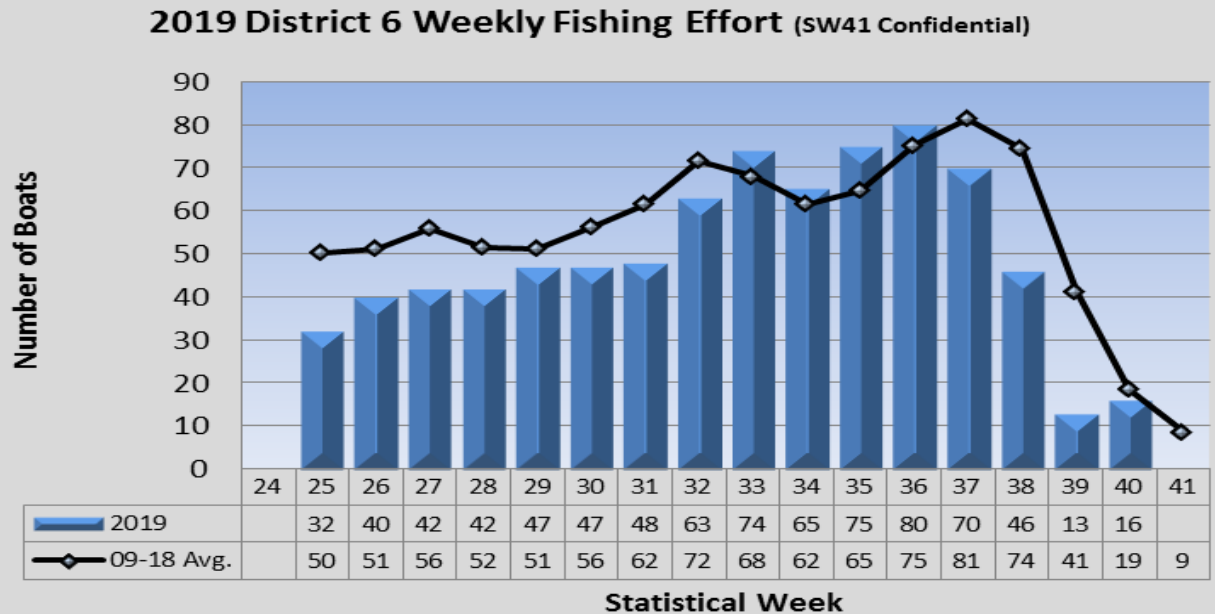


Figure 3b.



# District 8 Season Summary



# District 8 Preliminary Stock Composition

- Chinook Salmon
  - Estimated hatchery of 3,700 fish or 87% of harvest (CWT)
- Sockeye Salmon
  - Estimated 4,200 Stikine River fish or 73% of harvest (GSI)
- Coho Salmon
  - Estimated hatchery of 2,600 fish or 27% of harvest (CWT)
- Chum Salmon
  - Estimated hatchery of 4,900 fish or 97% of harvest (Otolith)

### 2019 District 8 Total Gillnet Harvest

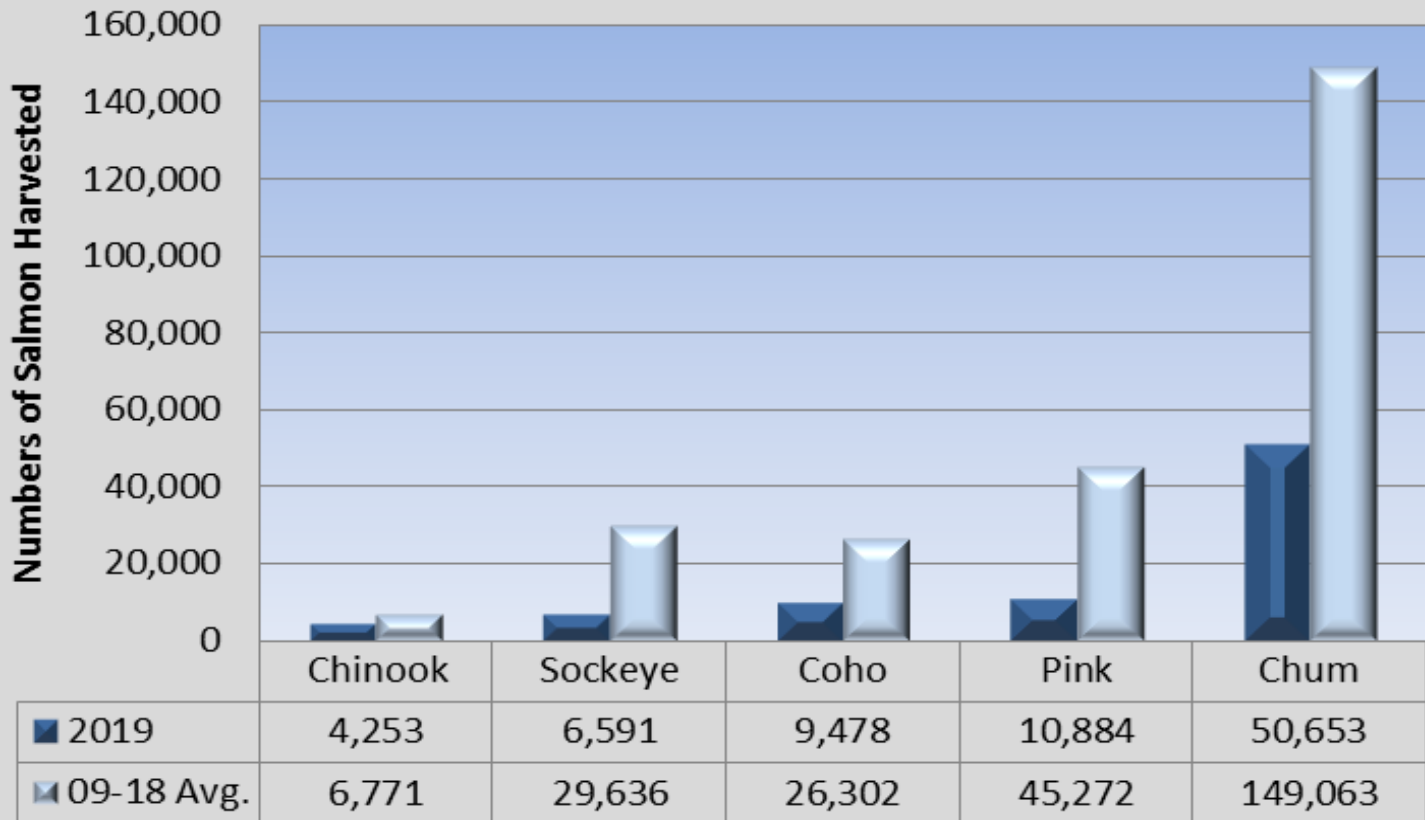


Figure 4.

- Harvest for all species well below average

Figure 5a.

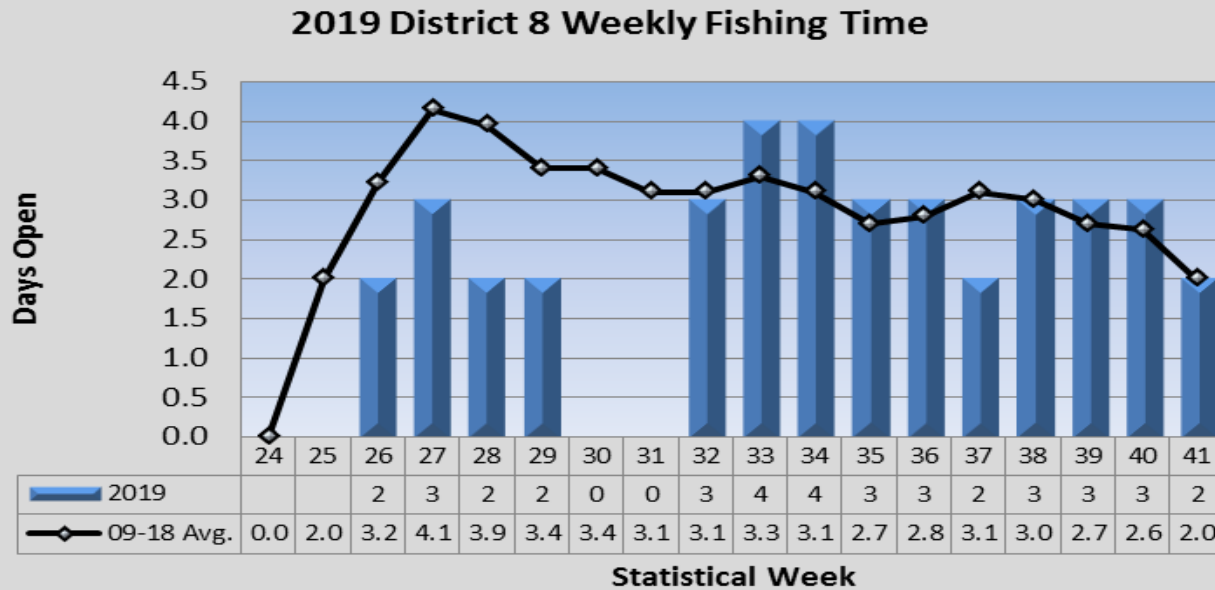
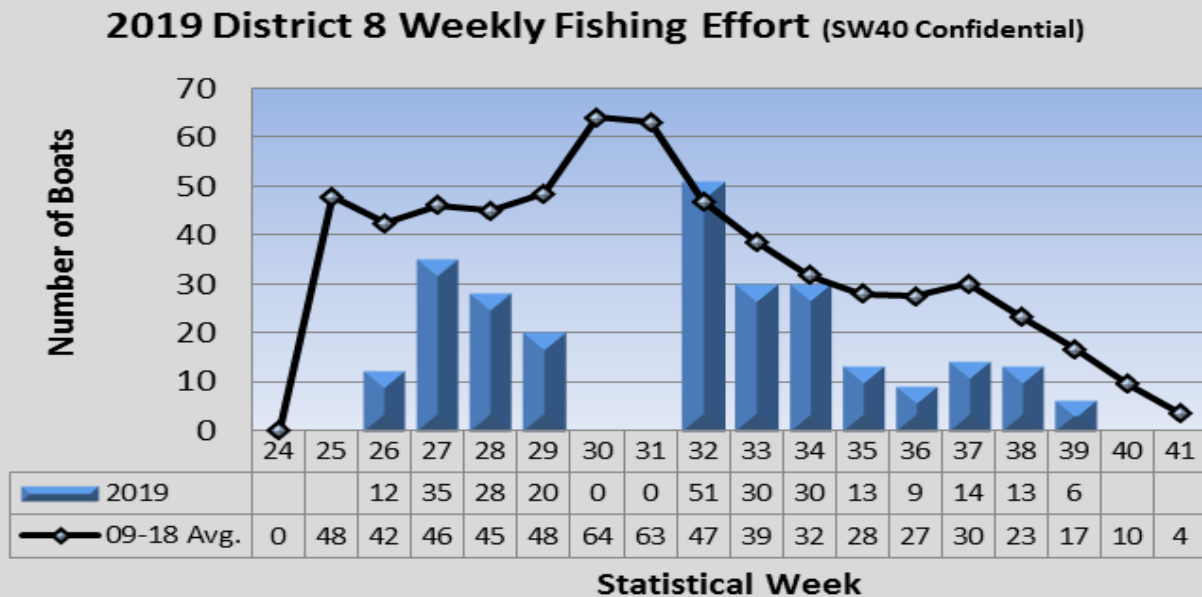


Figure 5b.



## Anita Bay Gillnet and Statistical Areas 108-10 & 20 Gillnet Chum Salmon Harvest, 2004-2019

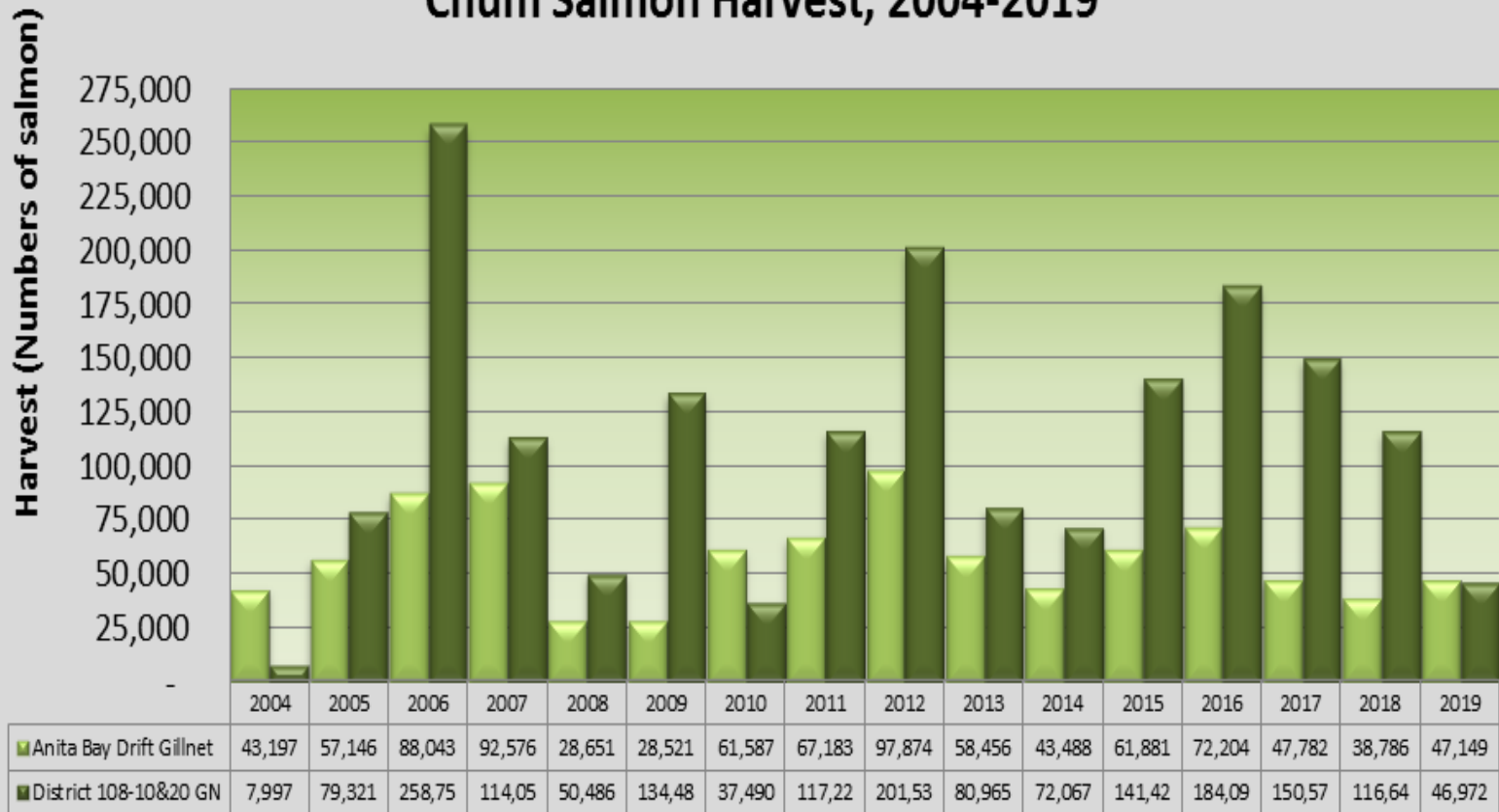


Figure 6.

# District 8 Chinook Salmon

- Preseason forecast of 8,250 large Stikine Chinook salmon with slightly higher inseason projections
- No AC, Conservation measures implemented in all U.S. fisheries.
  - **Gillnet**
    - Delayed opening until SW 26
    - Time restrictions: two days in SW 26, three days in SW 27
    - Restricted area through SW29
    - Maximum mesh size of 6 inches through SW 29
  - **Troll**
    - Spring troll fisheries did not open in 2019
    - Non-retention of Chinook salmon for the first summer troll opening
  - **Sport**
    - Chinook salmon non-retention period from April 1 through July 15
    - Bag and possession limit was restricted to 1 fish for residents and nonresidents
  - **Subsistence**
    - Did not open until June 21
- Postseason Stikine Chinook salmon run size estimate: less than 14,000 fish
  - Gillnet harvest of 113 large Stikine River Chinook salmon through SW29

### 2019 District 8 Gillnet Weekly Chinook Salmon Harvest

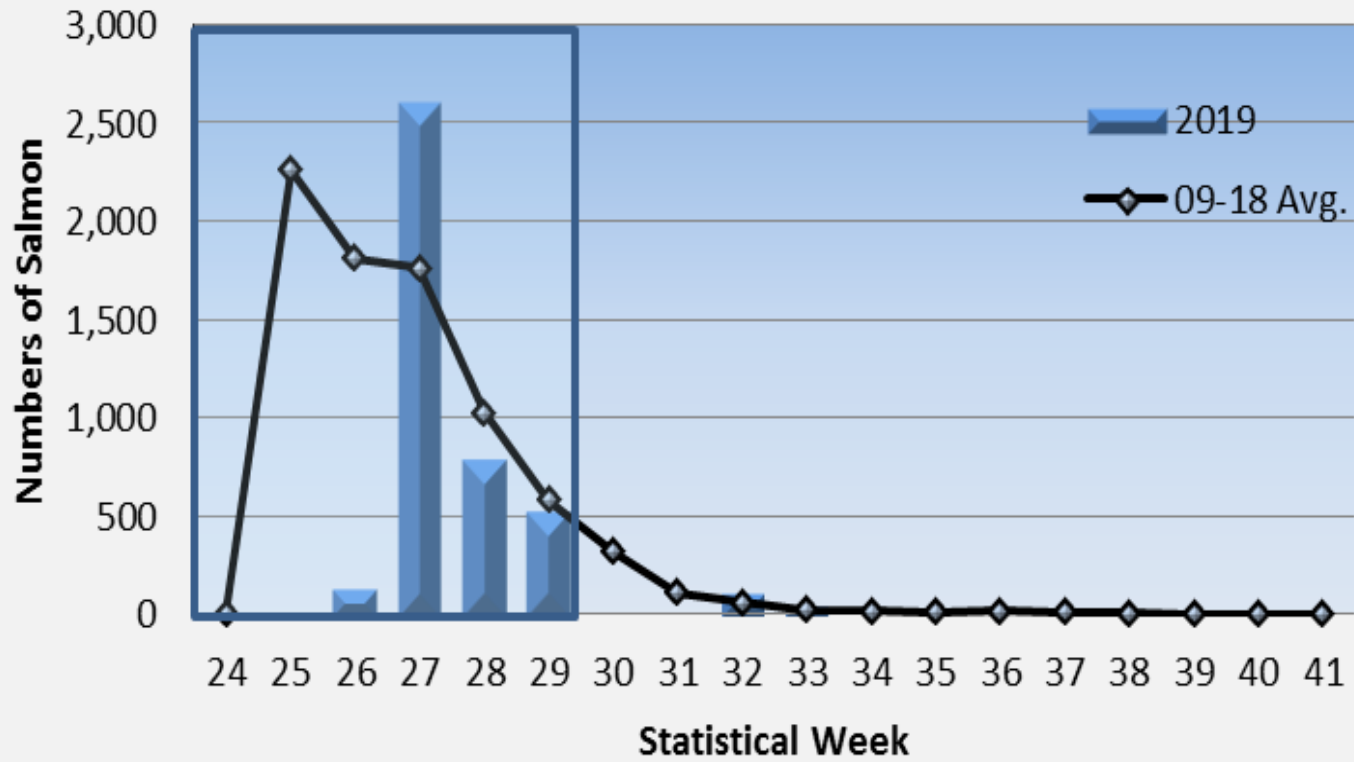


Figure 7.

**District 8 SWs 18-29 Harvest of Large Stikine Chinook Salmon, 2009-2019  
(Gillnet and Sport Harvest Estimated by GSI)**

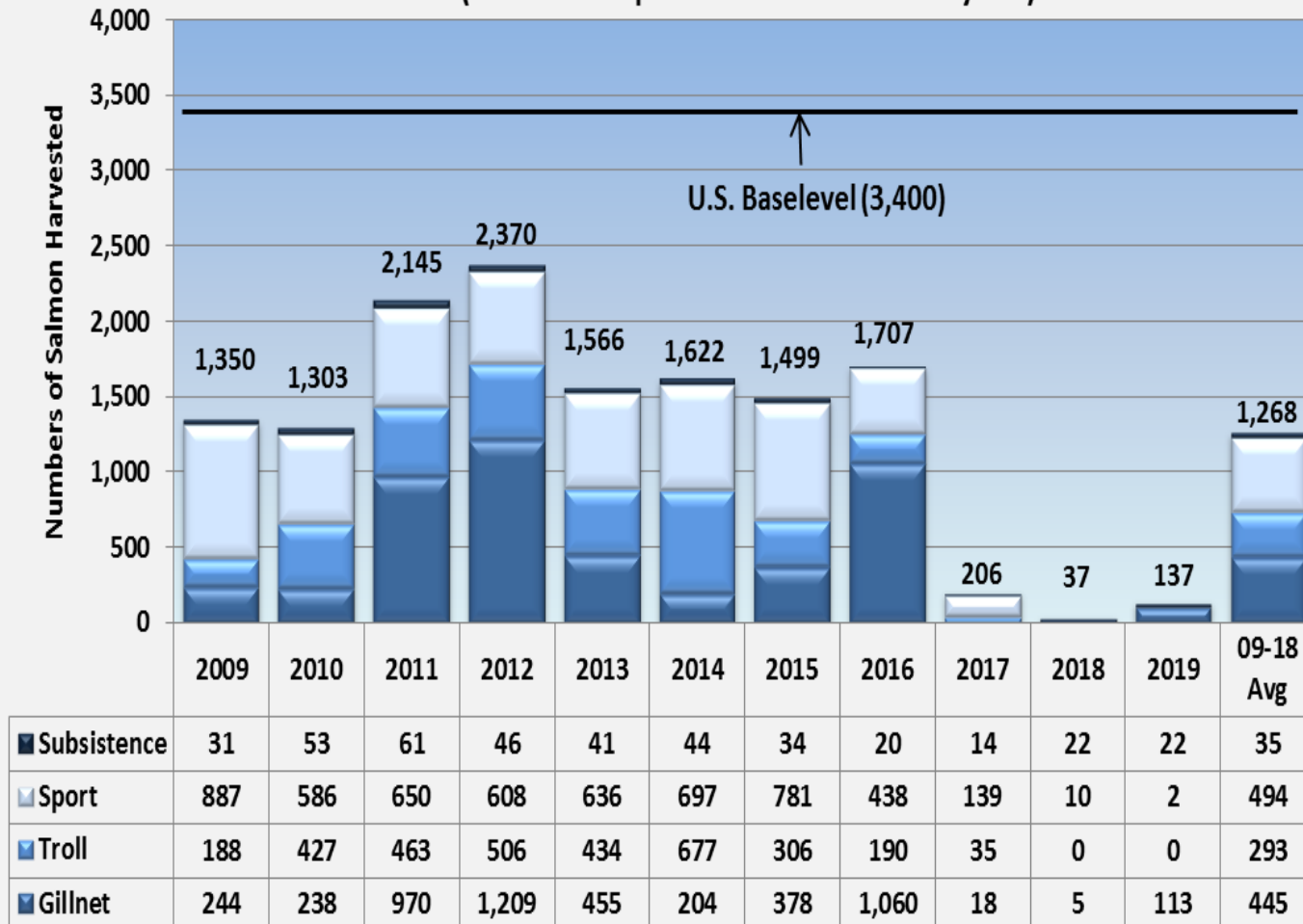


Figure 8.

### 2009-2019 Canadian Total Harvest of Large Stikine Chinook Salmon

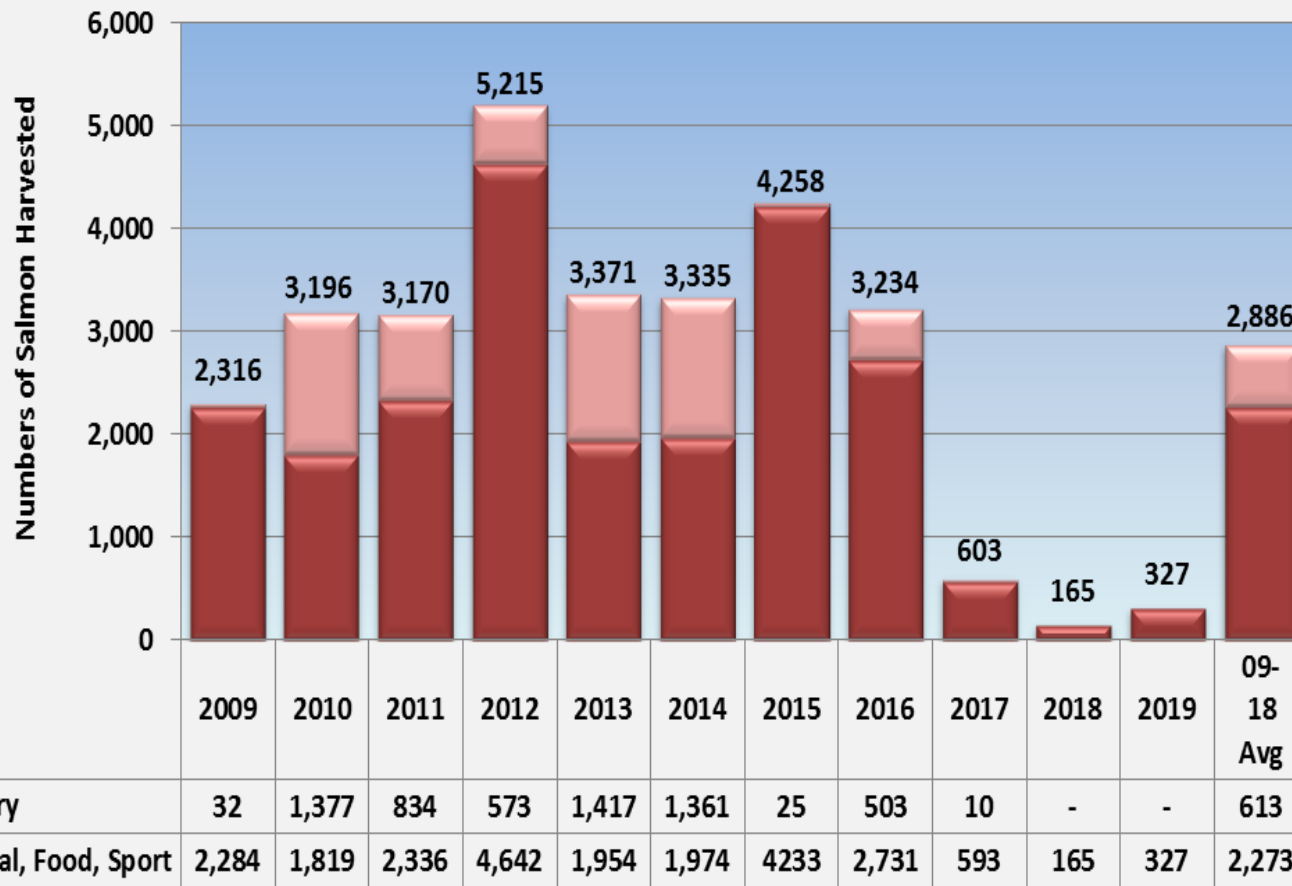


Figure 9.

### Stikine River Chinook Salmon Harvest and Escapement, 2009-2019

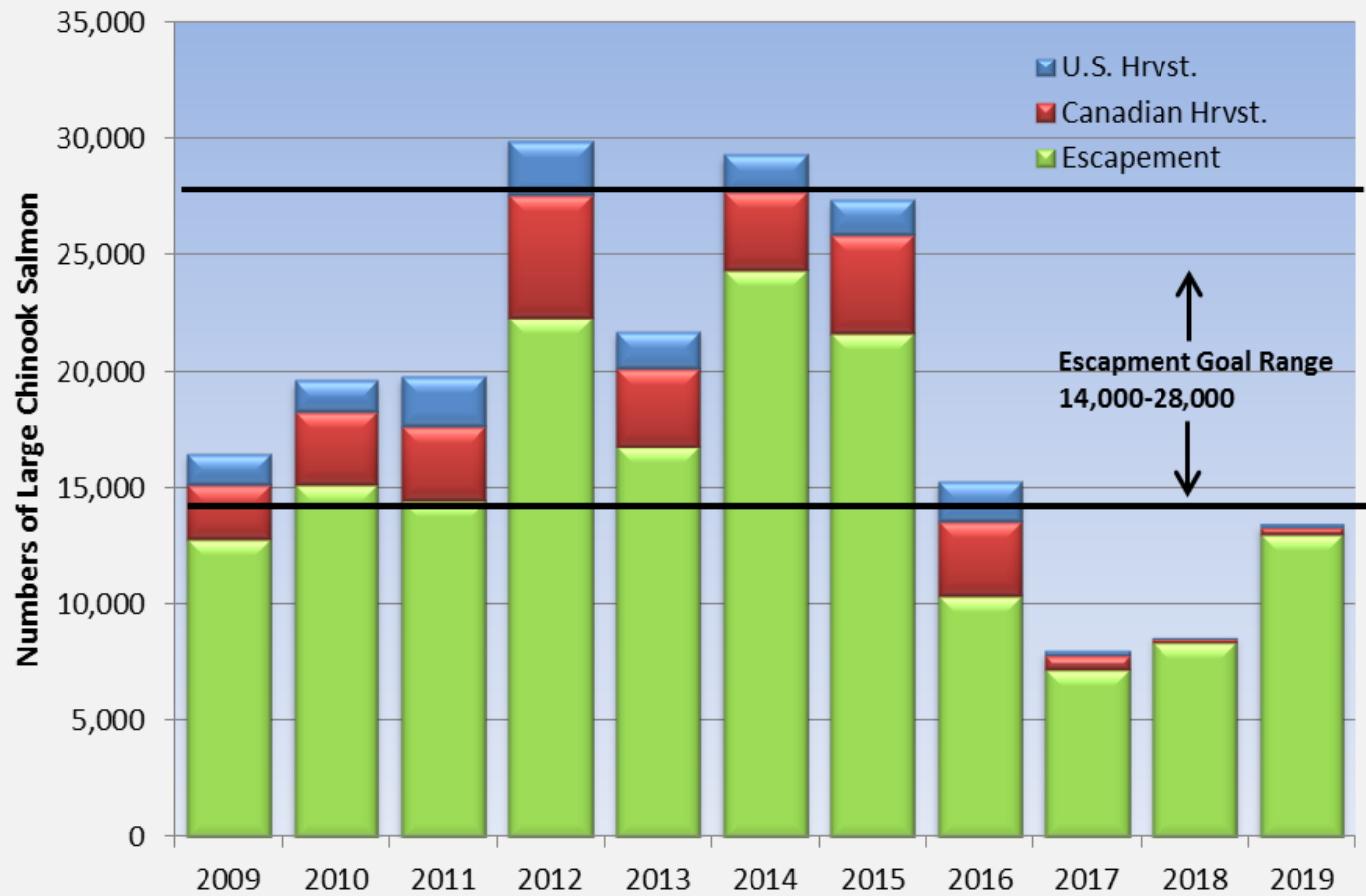


Figure 10.

# Sockeye Management Summary



# Sockeye Salmon Management

- Weeks 25 through 31 (June 16–August 3)
- District 6 Chinook salmon conservation
  - Delayed for one week
  - Restricted to two days in SW 25, three days in SW 26
  - 6 inch maximum mesh restriction in affect through SW 27
- District 6 Sockeye salmon conservation
  - Restricted to two days: SWs 28-31
- District 8 Sockeye salmon conservation
  - Restricted to two days SWs 28 & 29
  - District wide closure SWs 30 & 31
- Generally below average sockeye salmon Abundance
  - Lowest District 6 sockeye salmon harvest in over 40 years
  - District 8 sockeye harvest slightly higher than 2018

# Stikine Sockeye Salmon

- Preseason Forecast: 90,000 fish (66,000 Tahltan, 24,000 mainstem)
  - Harvest Share Changed from 50/50% TO 53% U.S., 47% Canada
  - U.S. AC 22,000 fish (all Tahltan)
  - Mainstem forecast below midpoint of the escapement goal range of 30,000 fish
- Very Preliminary postseason run size (will change with GSI)
  - 85,500 fish (56,700 Tahltan, 28,800 mainstem)
  - U.S. AC 17,300 fish (all Tahltan)
  - U.S. Harvest 7,000 Tahltan, 2,900 mainstem
  - Canada Harvest 13,000 Tahltan, 2,700 mainstem

### Stikine River Sockeye Salmon Harvest and Escapement, 1995-2019

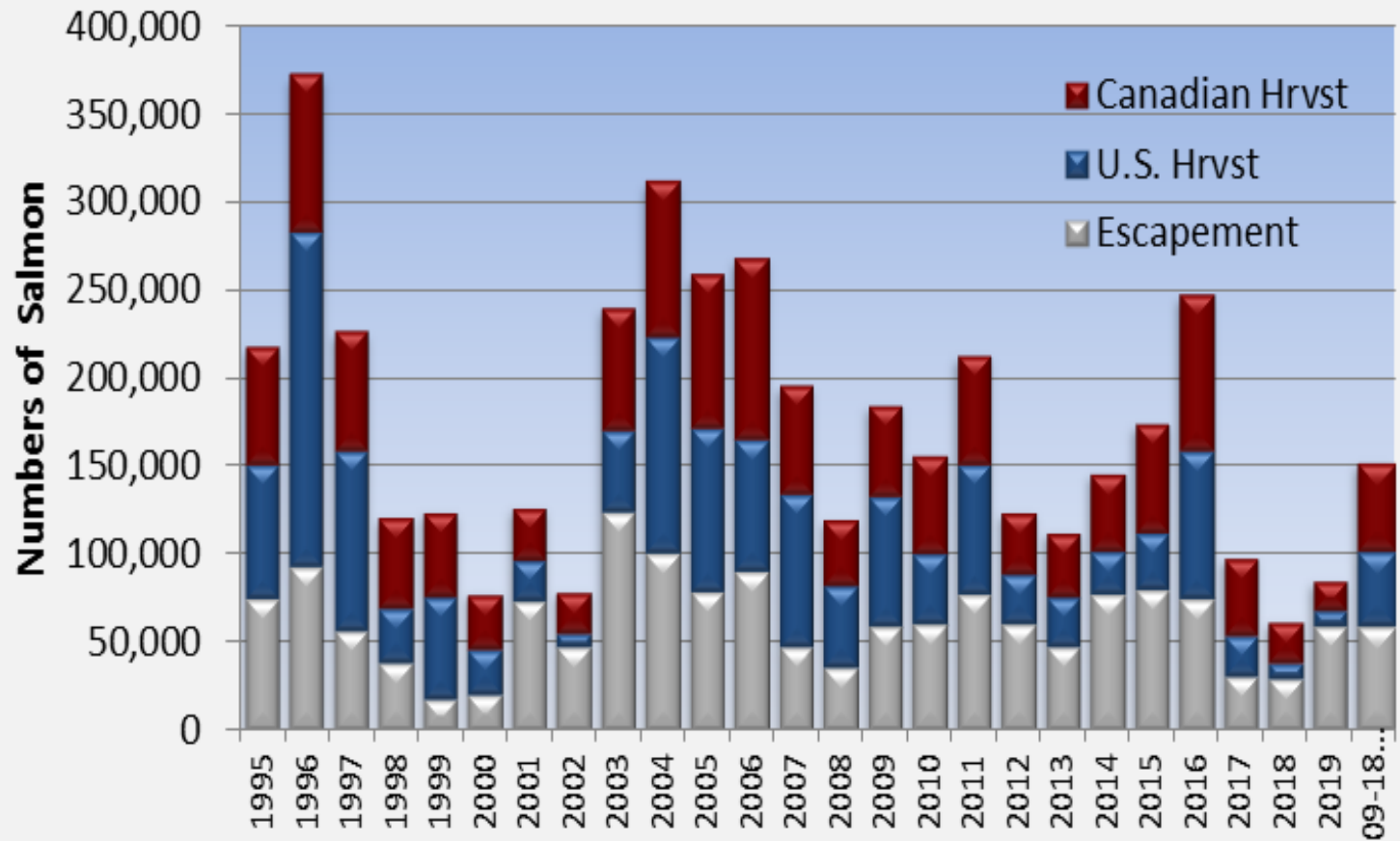


Figure 11.

Figure 12a.

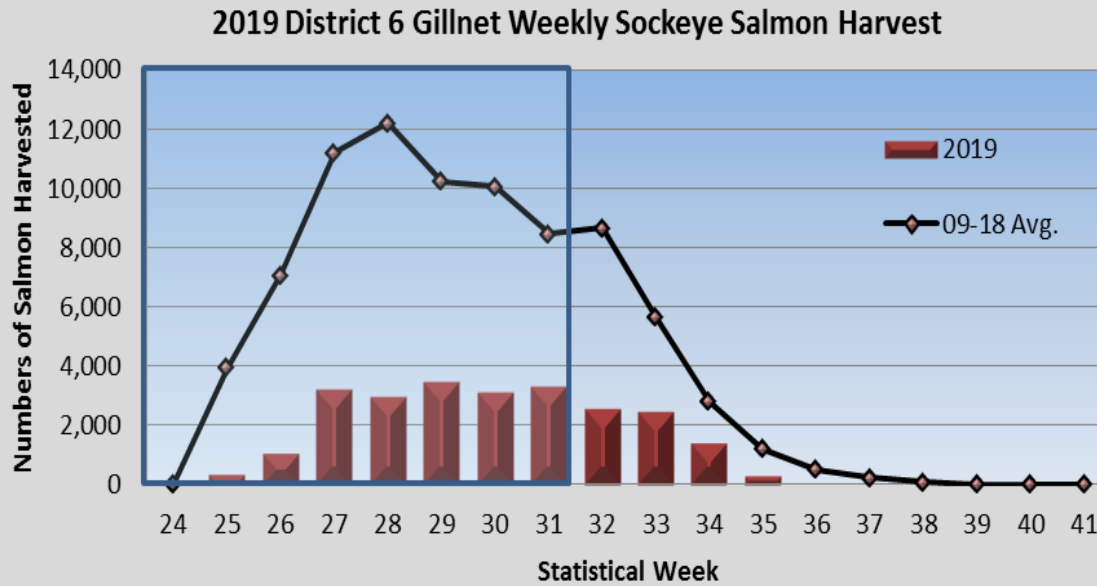
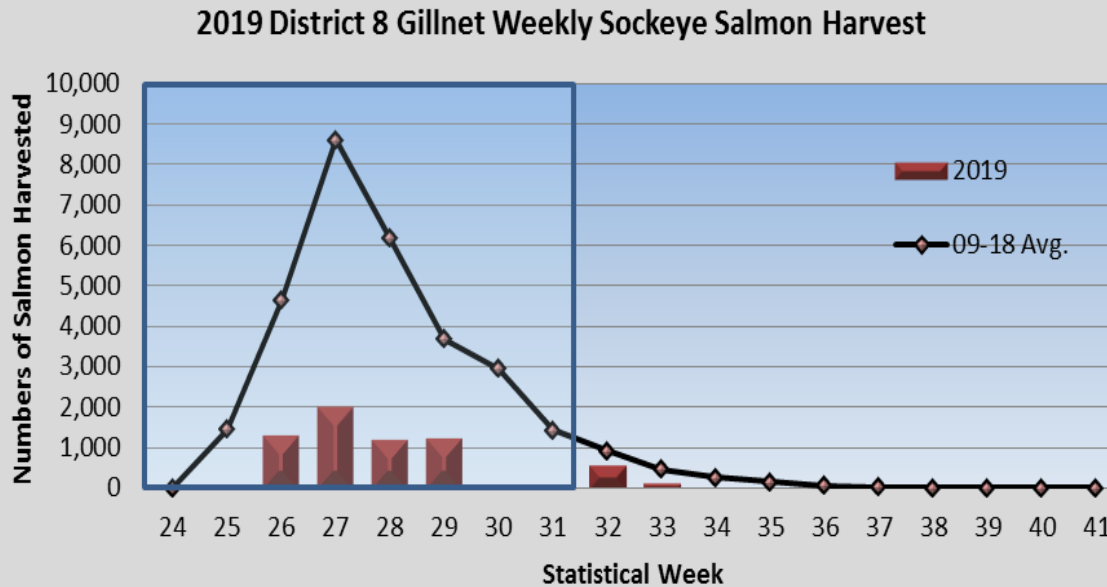


Figure 12b.



# Sockeye Salmon Escapement

- **Stikine**
  - Tahltan Lake escapement: 36,600 (above 18,000-30,000 goal range)
  - Mainstem: 23,200 (within 20,000-40,000 goal range)
- **Island Stocks**
  - Poor to average
- **McDonald Lake**
  - 24,000 escapement (Improved, but below 55,000-120,000 goal range)

# Pink Salmon Management



# Pink Salmon Management

- Weeks 32 through 35 (August 4–August 31)
- District 6
  - Effort above average
  - Pink salmon harvests and harvest rates above average
- District 8
  - Effort well below average
  - Pink salmon harvests and harvest rates well below average
- Stock group escapements within target ranges for both districts

Figure 13a.

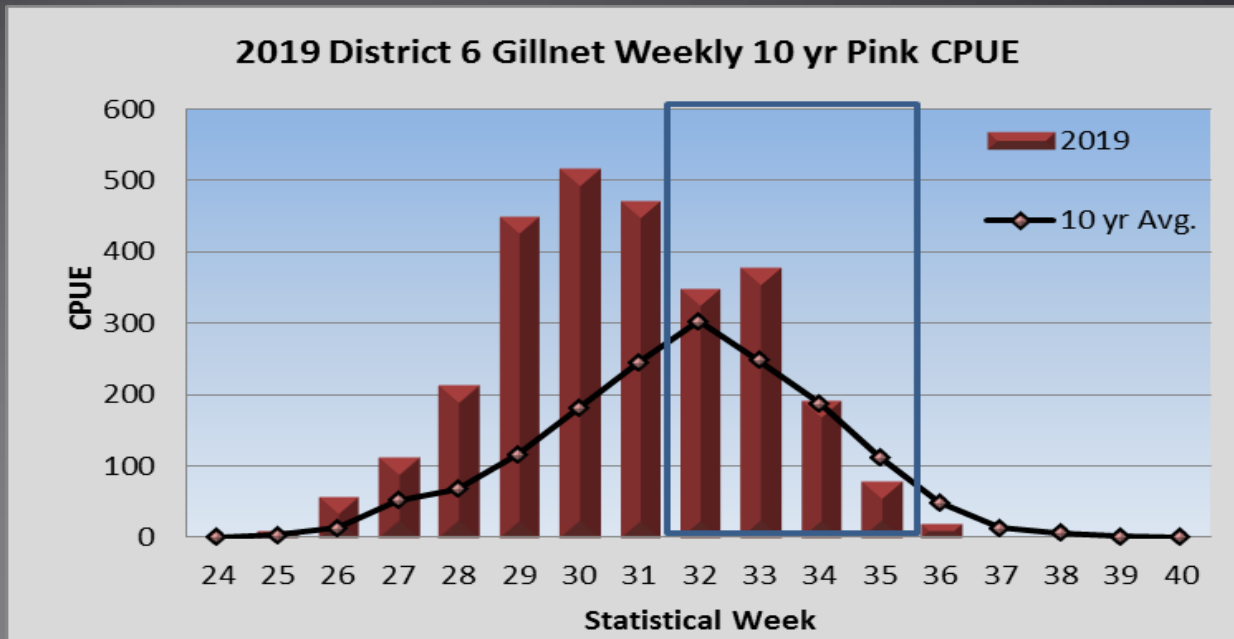
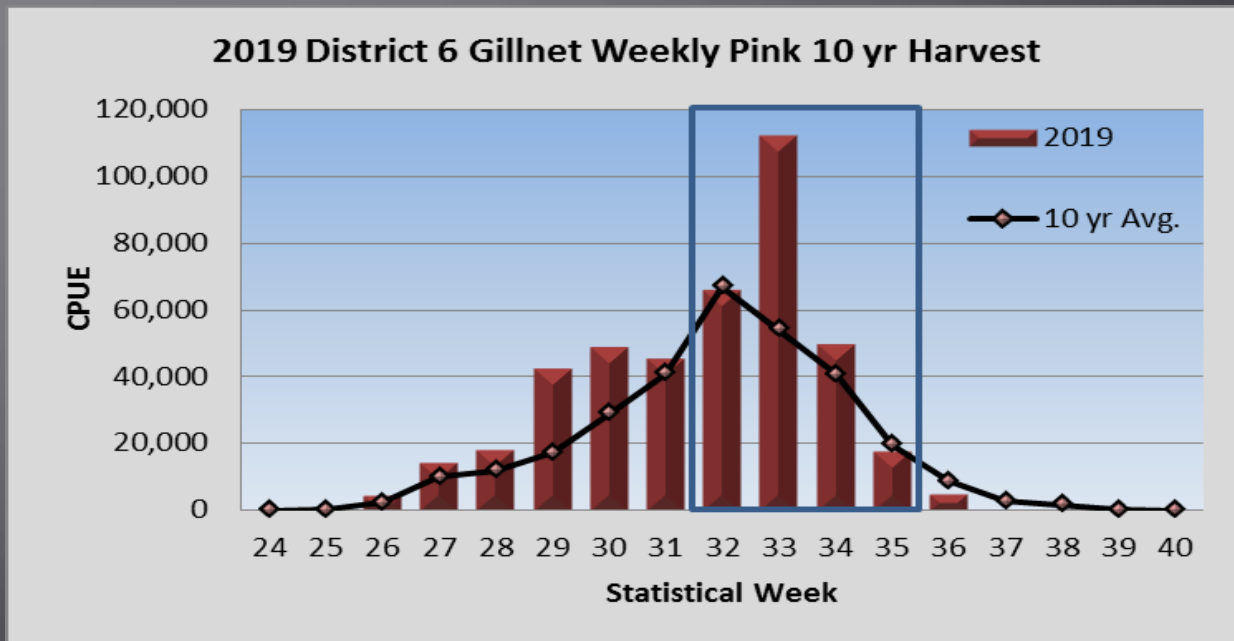


Figure 13b.



# Coho Salmon Management



# Coho Salmon Management

- Weeks 36 through 41 (September 1– October 12)
- District 6
  - Below average effort after first week
  - Coho salmon harvest well below average
  - Variable harvest rates
  - Run timing a week late
- District 8
  - Below average effort
  - Coho salmon harvest well below average
  - Harvest rates were variable
  - Average run timing

### 2019 District 6 Gillnet Weekly Coho Salmon Harvest (SW41 Confidential)

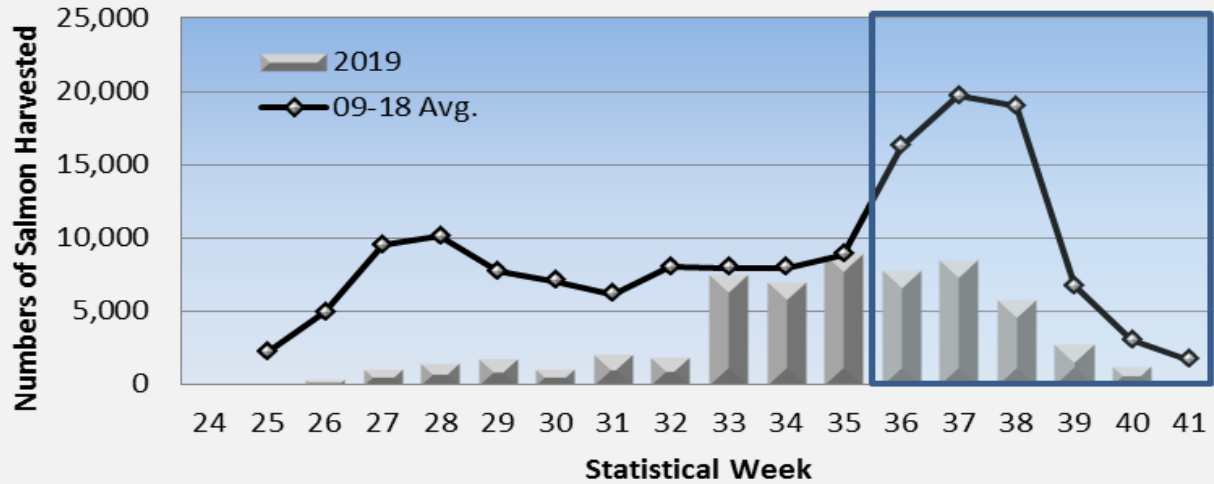


Figure 14a.

### District 6 Weekly Gillnet Coho Salmon Hatchery and Wild CPUE, 2019vs 09-18 Avg. (SW41 Confidential)

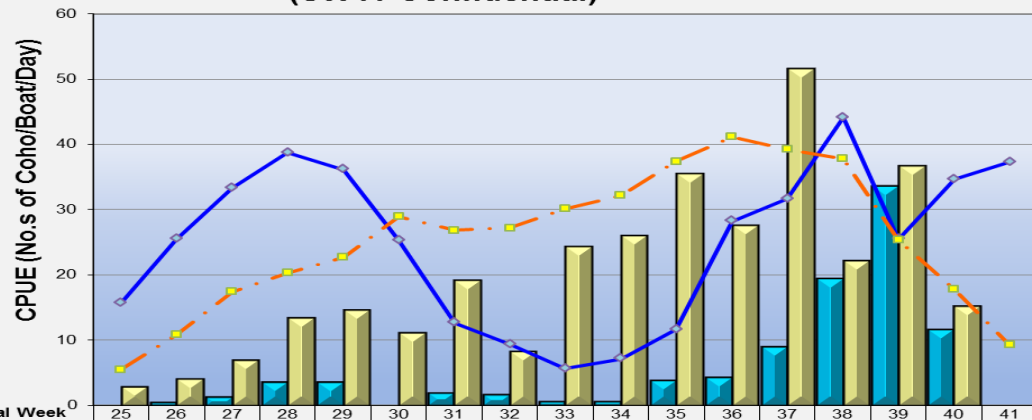


Figure 14b.

Figure 15a.

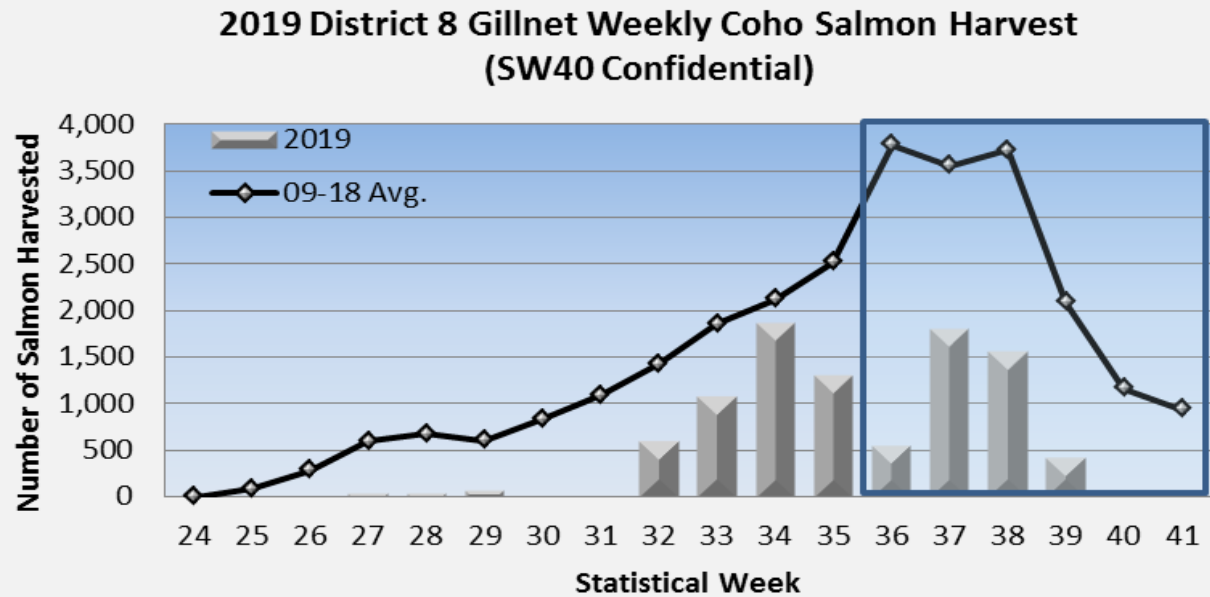
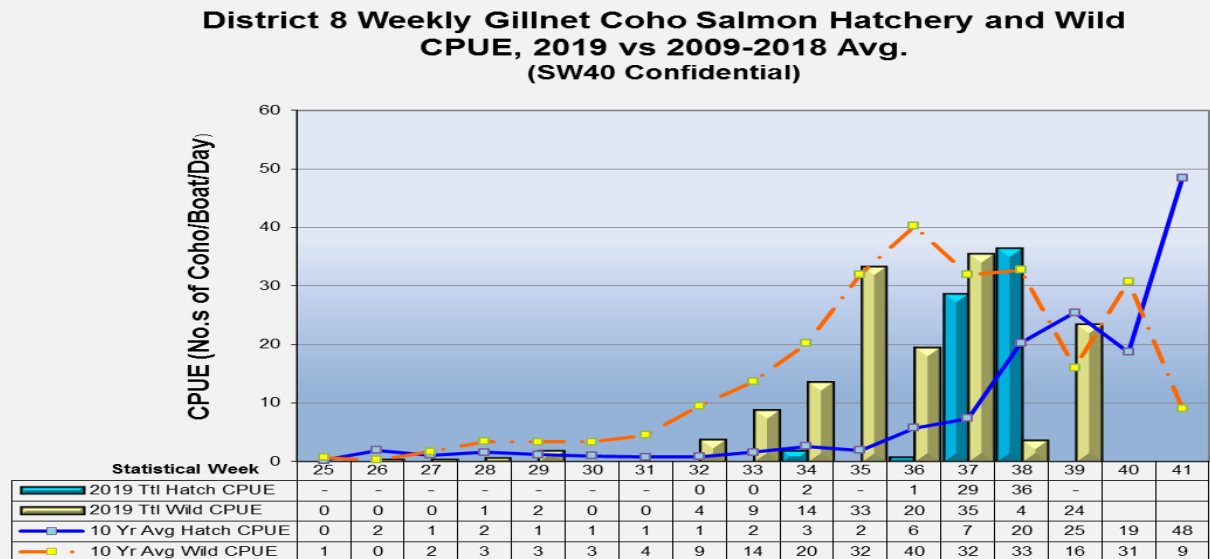


Figure 15b.



# 2020 Expectations

- Stikine Chinook salmon: Preseason forecast produced in December
  - No directed fisheries
    - Conservation measures likely in place for start of gillnet season
- Sockeye salmon:
  - Stikine Sockeye salmon: ??
    - Preliminary forecast produced in February/March
  - Island Stocks: Parent year escapements average
  - McDonald Lake
    - Parent year escapement poor

Any Questions?

