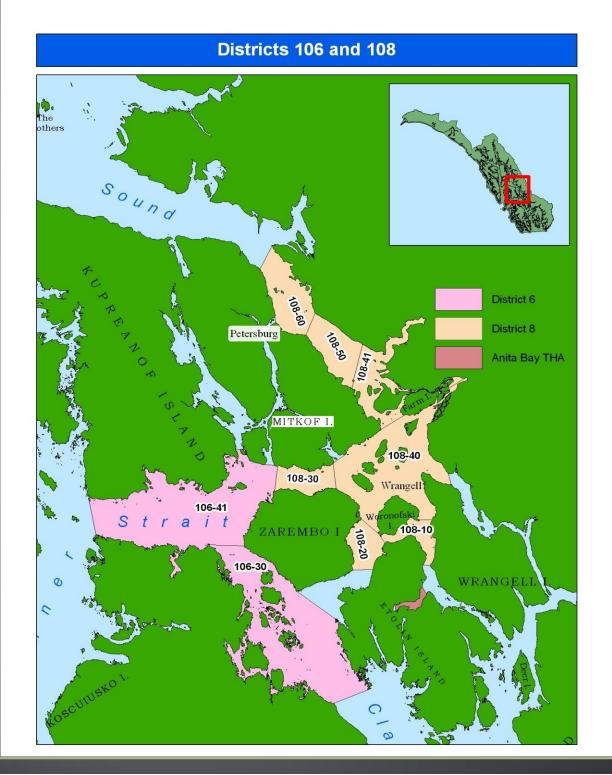
Districts 6 and 8 Drift
Gillnet Fisheries
2018 Postseason
Report

Tom Kowalske
ADFG
November 2018



# District 6 Season Summary



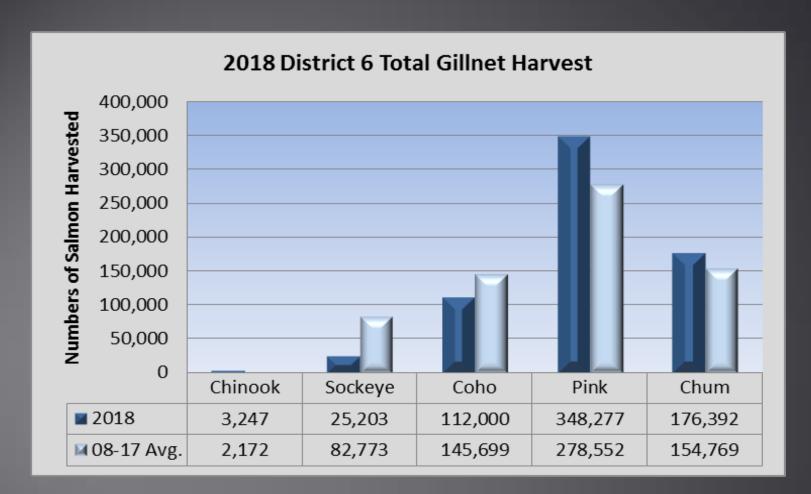
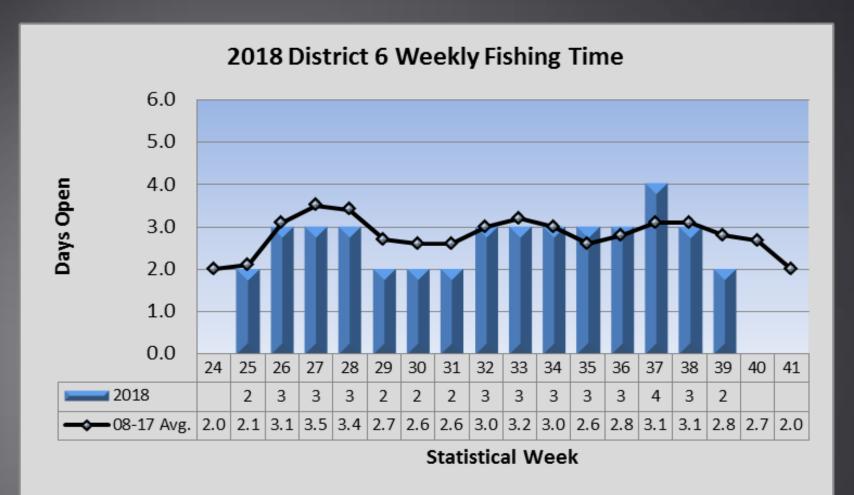


Figure 2.

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

#### District 6 Preliminary Stock Composition

- Chinook Salmon
  - Estimated 59% hatchery
- Sockeye Salmon
  - Estimated 3,000 Stikine River fish or 12% of harvest
    - 2,400 fish from 106-41, 17% of harvest
    - 600 fish from 106-30, 5% of harvest
- Coho Salmon
  - Estimated 31% hatchery
- Chum Salmon
  - Estimated 77% of hatchery origin



- Figure 3.
- 41 total days (June 17–September 25)
- Below 08–17 average of 47.4 days

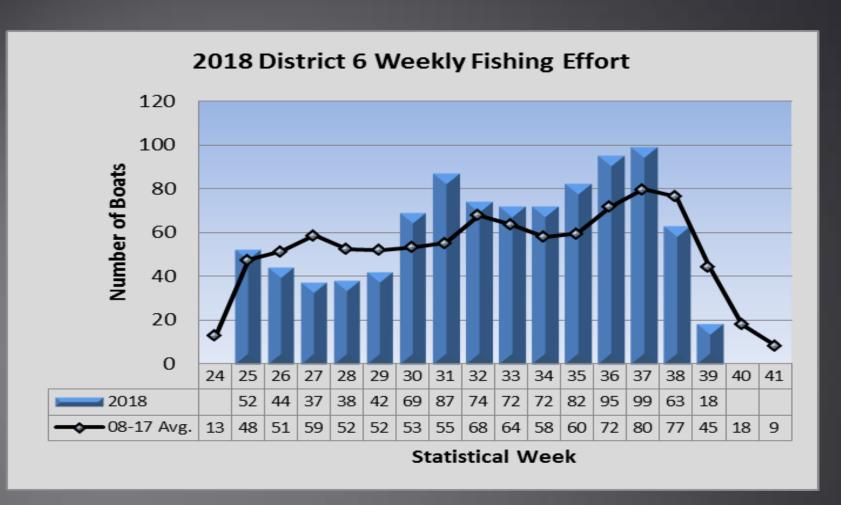
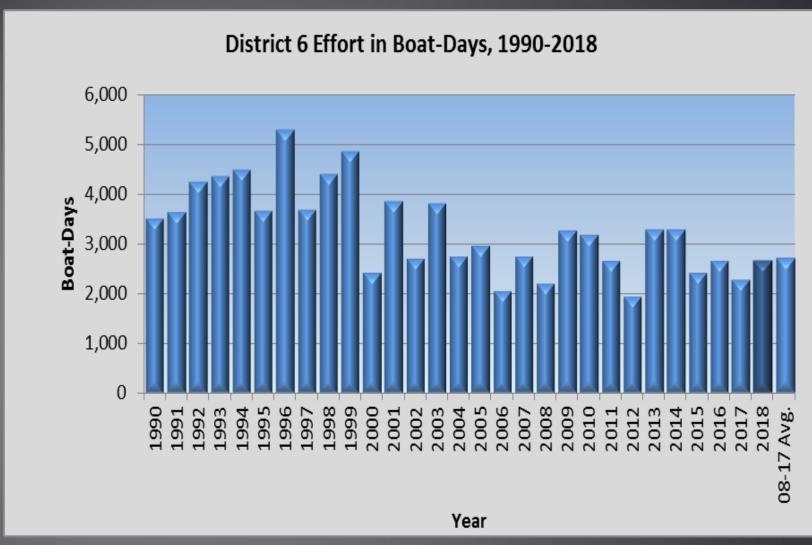


Figure 4.

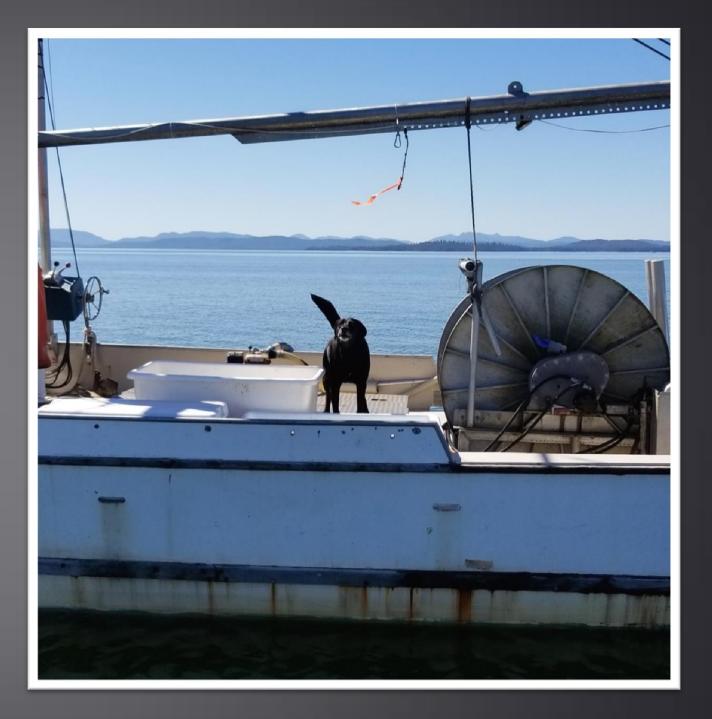
- Weekly effort generally near or above average for most weeks
- Greatest numbers of boats in SW37 with 99 boats



■ Total season effort was 2,663 boat-days, 98% of 08–17 average

Figure 5.

## District 8 Season Summary



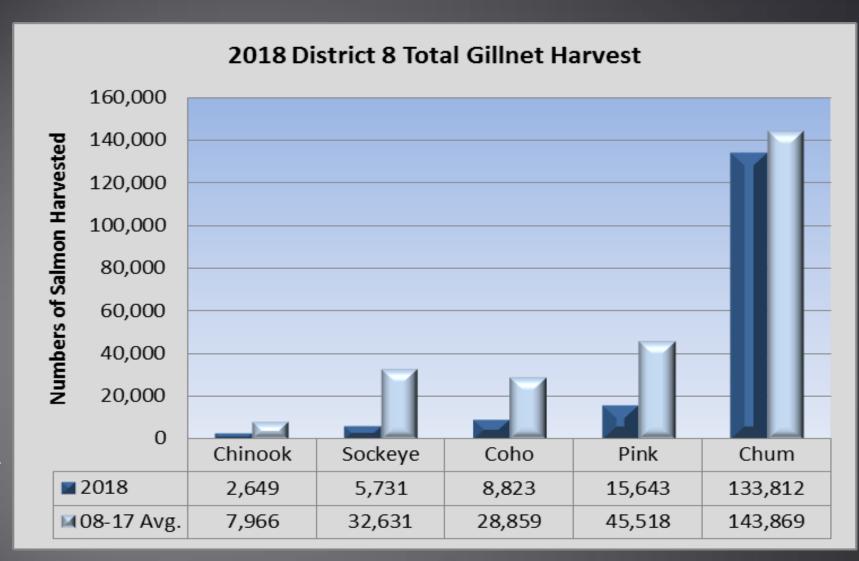
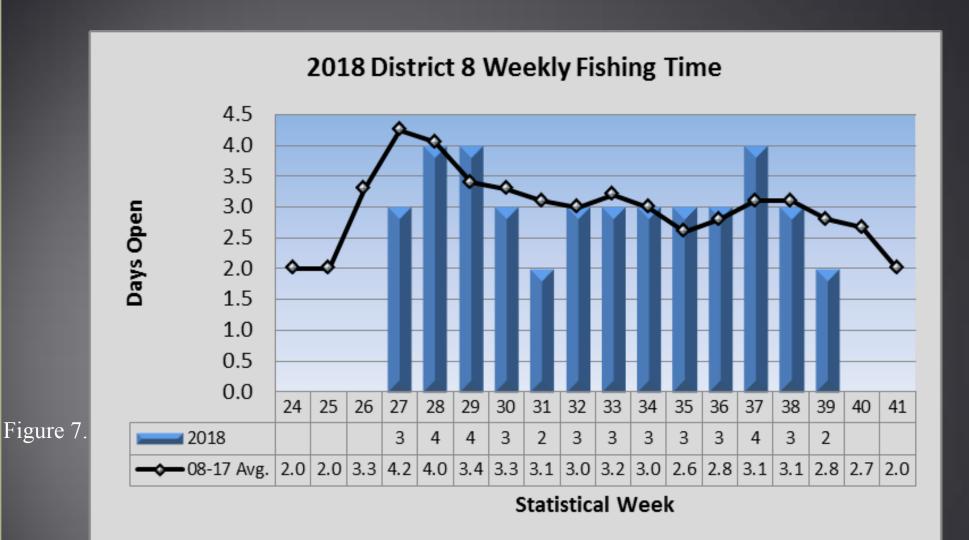


Figure 6.

Harvest for all species below average

#### District 8 Preliminary Stock Composition

- Chinook Salmon
  - Estimated 75% hatchery
- Sockeye Salmon
  - Estimated 4,200 Stikine River fish or 73% of harvest
- Coho Salmon
  - Estimated 33% hatchery
- Chum Salmon
  - Estimated 94% hatchery



- 40 total days (July 1–September 25)
- Below 08-17 average of 49.8 days

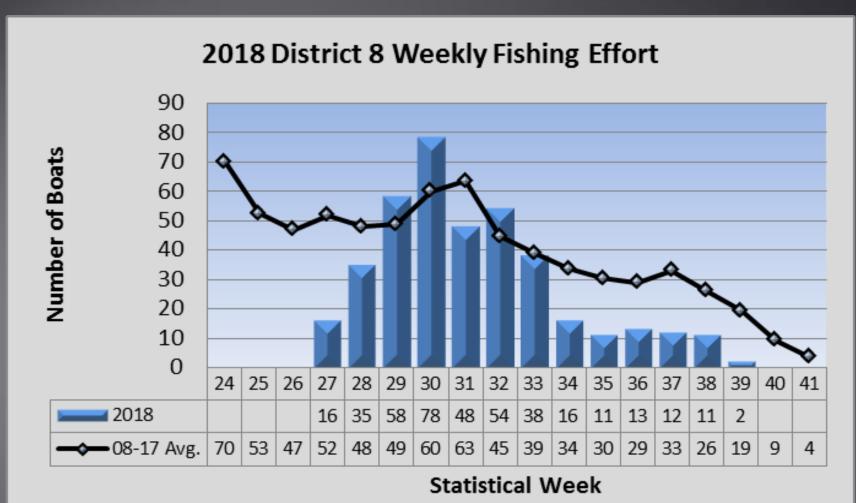
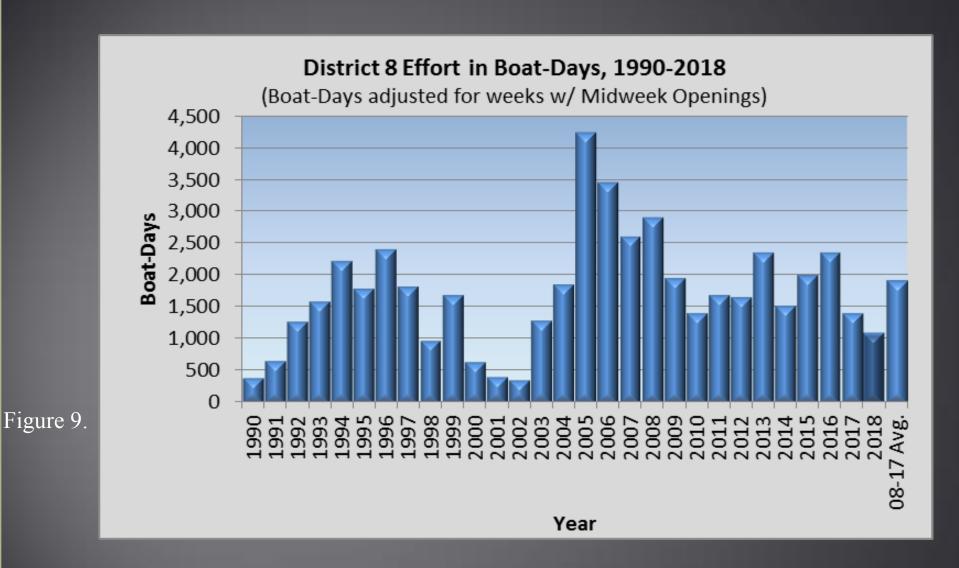


Figure 8.

- Weekly effort varied during sockeye and pink salmon management (SWs 27–34), then below average for coho
- Greatest number of boats in SW's 30 (78 boats)



■ Total season effort was 1,064 boat-days, well below the 07–16 average of 1,907 boat-days

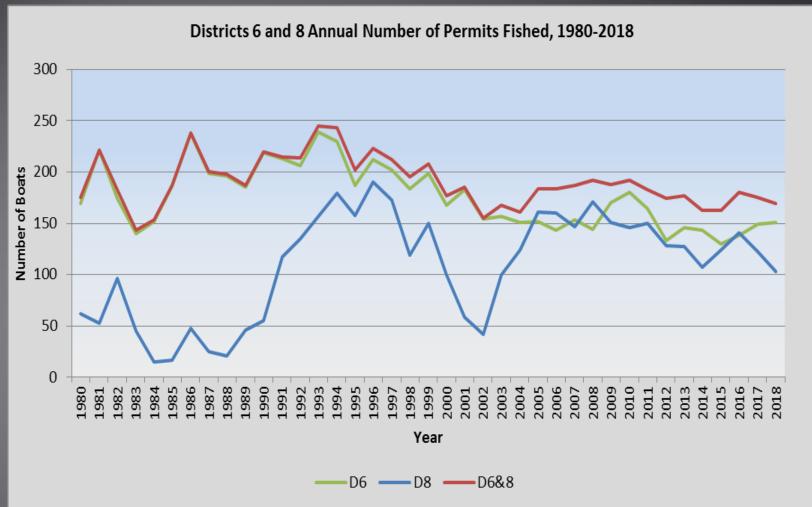


Figure 10.

- 169 boats fishing in Districts 6&8
- Just under the average of 179 boats

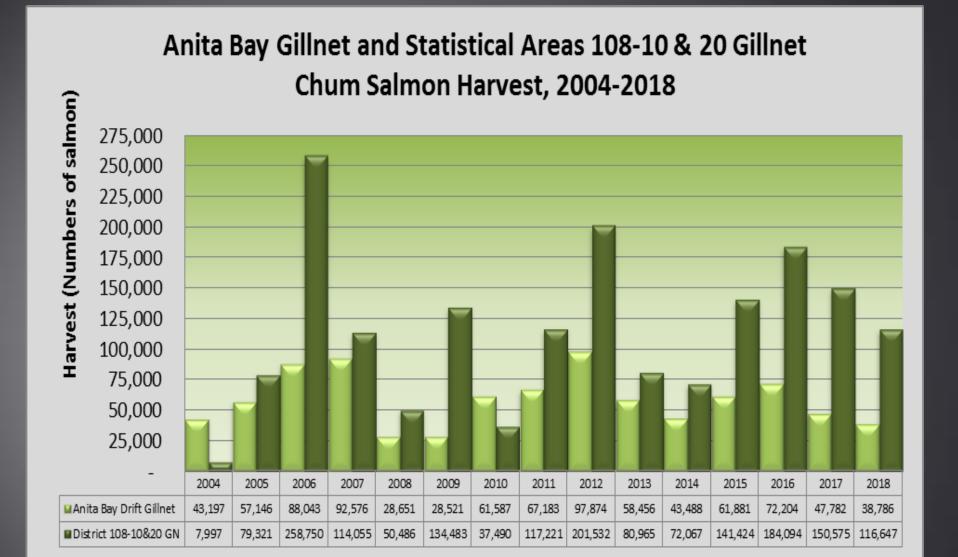


Figure 11.

#### District 8 Chinook Salmon

- Preseason forecast of 6,900 large Stikine Chinook salmon with similar inseason forecasts
- No AC, Conservation measures implemented in all U.S. fisheries.
  - Gillnet
    - Delayed opening until SW 27
    - Restricted area through SW28
    - Maximum mesh size of 6 inches through SW 29
  - Troll
    - Spring troll fisheries did not open in 2018
    - 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 8,000 fish
  - U.S. estimated harvest of 23 large Stikine River Chinook salmon

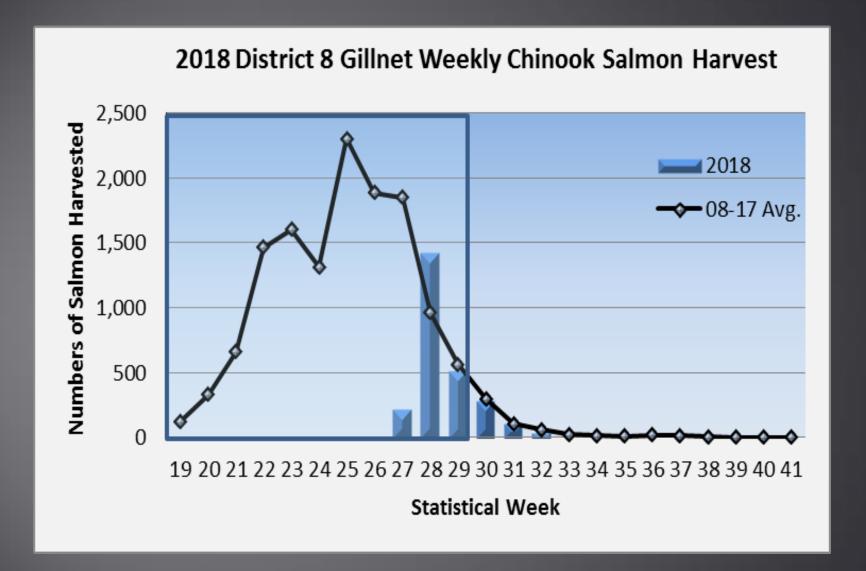


Figure 12.

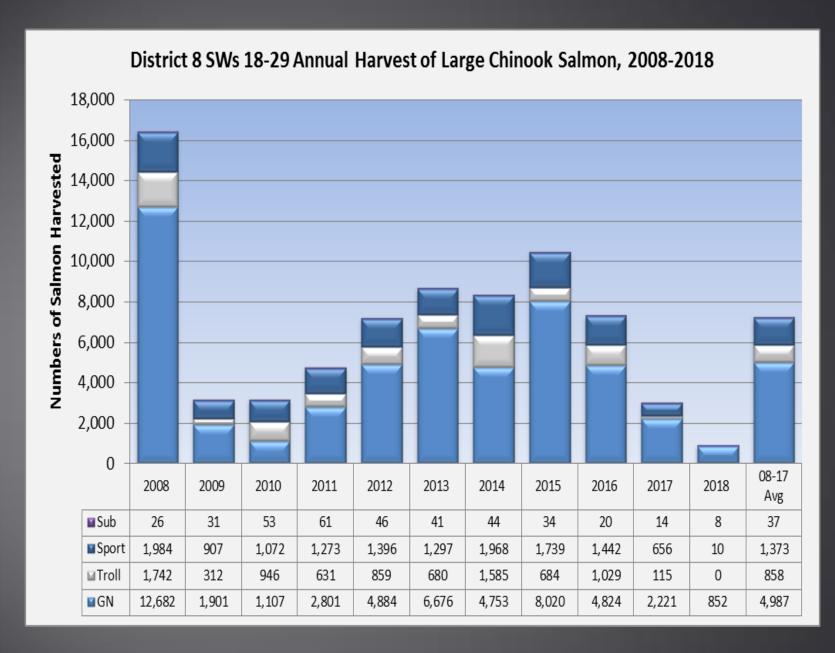


Figure 13.

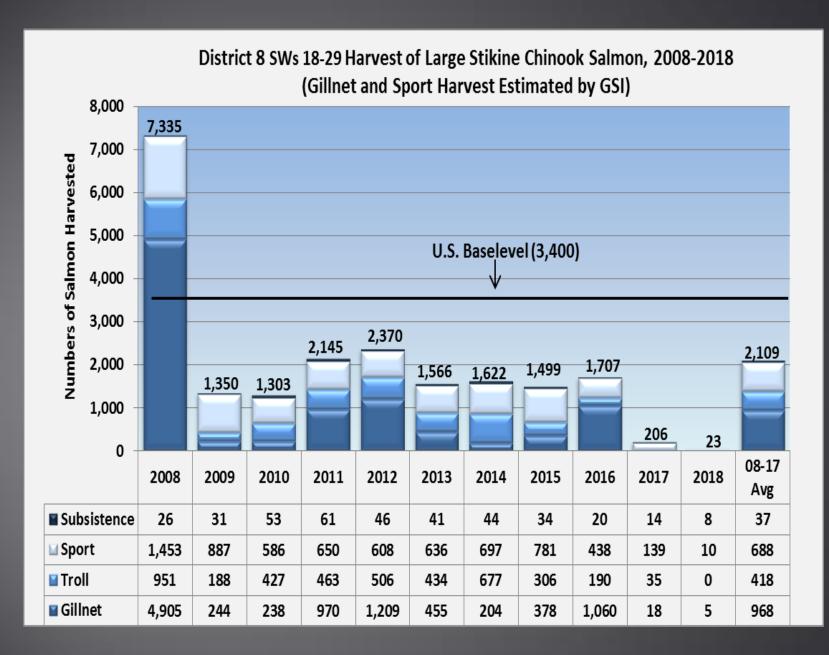


Figure 14.

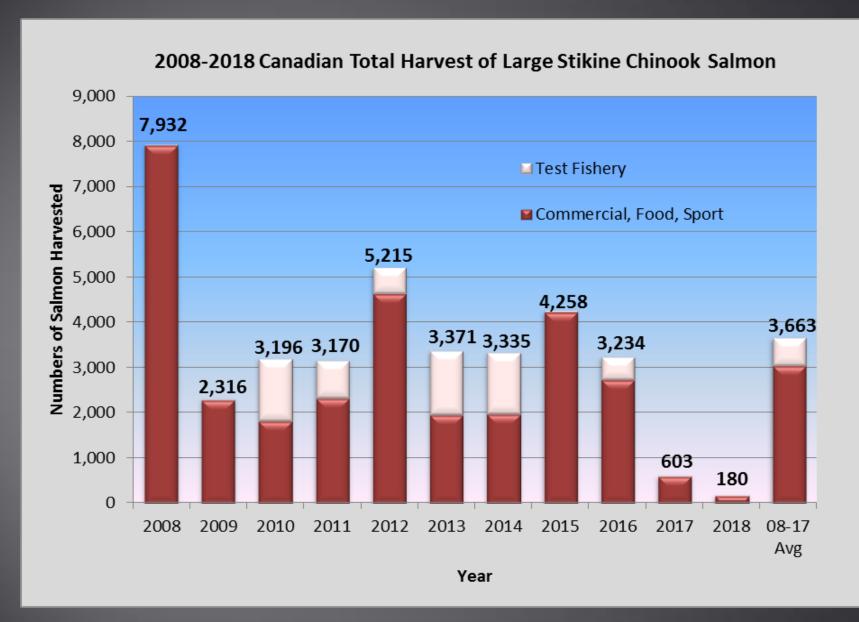


Figure 15.

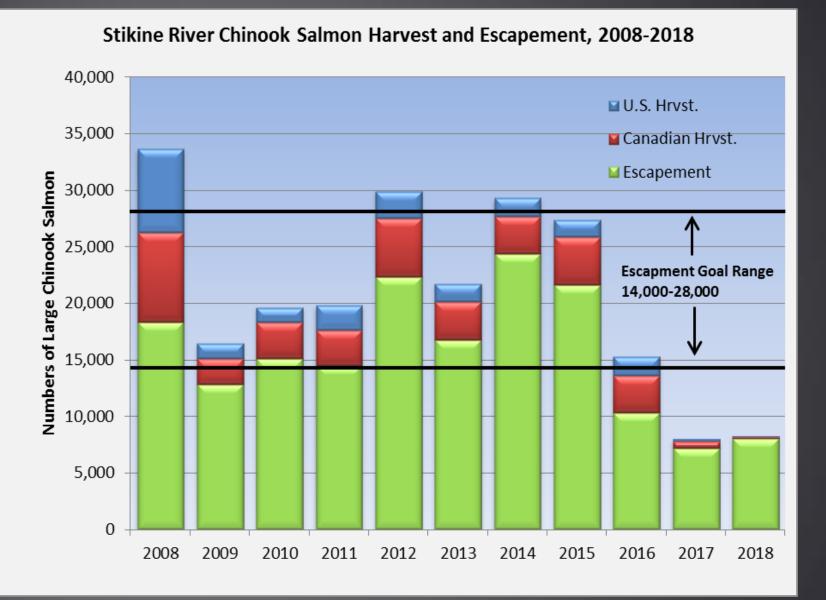


Figure 16.

### Sockeye Management Summary



#### Sockeye Salmon Management

- Weeks 25 through 31 (June 17-August 4)
- District 6 Chinook salmon conservation
  - District 6 delayed for one week
  - Restricted to 2 days in SW 25
  - 6 inch maximum mesh restriction in affect through SW 27
- District 8 Chinook salmon conservation
  - Delayed opening until SW 27
  - Restricted area through SW28
  - Maximum mesh size of 6 inches through SW 29
- Generally poor sockeye salmon runs
  - Lowest District 6 sockeye salmon harvest in over 40 years
  - Lowest District 8 sockeye salmon harvest in 17 years

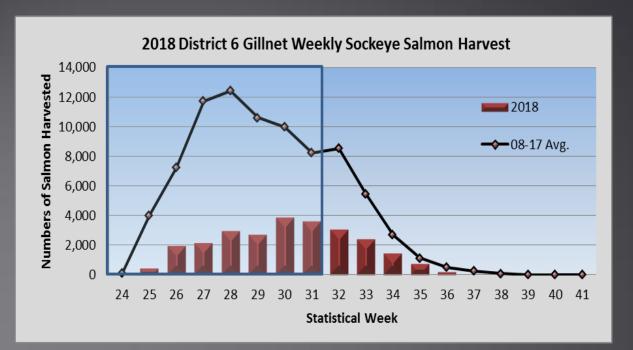


Figure 17a.

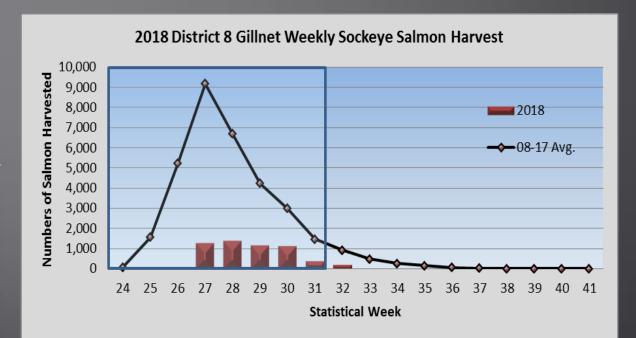
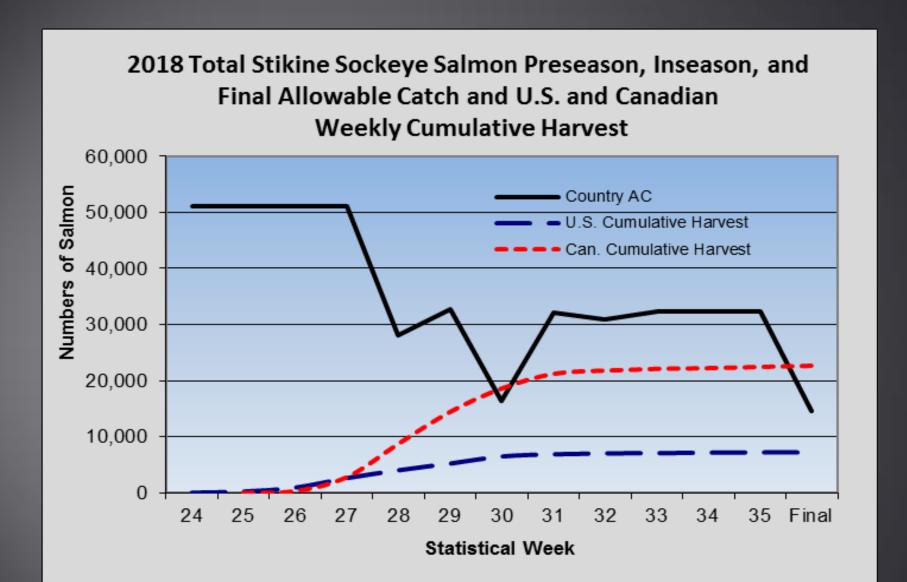
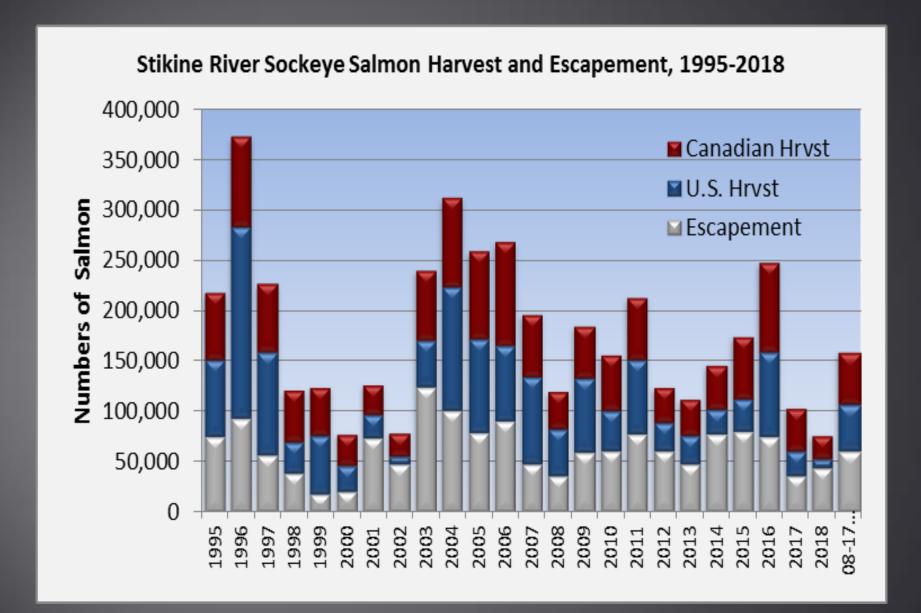


Figure 17b.





#### Sockeye Salmon Escapement

- Stikine
  - Tahltan Lake escapement: 19,000 (within 18,000-30,000 range)
  - Mainstem- $\sim$ 28,200 (within 20,000-40,000 goal range)
- Island Stocks
  - Poor
- McDonald Lake
  - $\sim$  10,000 escapement (below 55,000-120,000 goal range)

## Pink Salmon Management



#### Pink Salmon Management

- Weeks 32 through 34 (August 5-August 25)
- 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

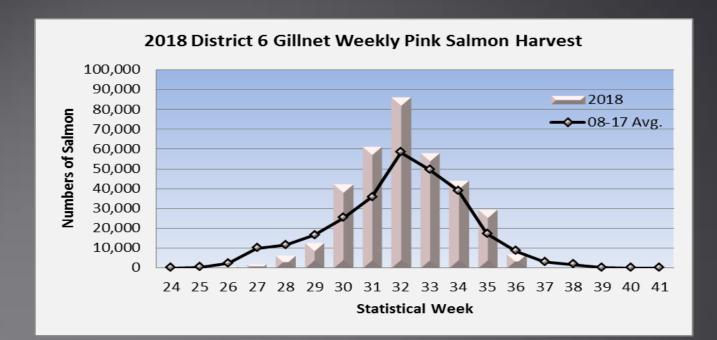


Figure 20a.

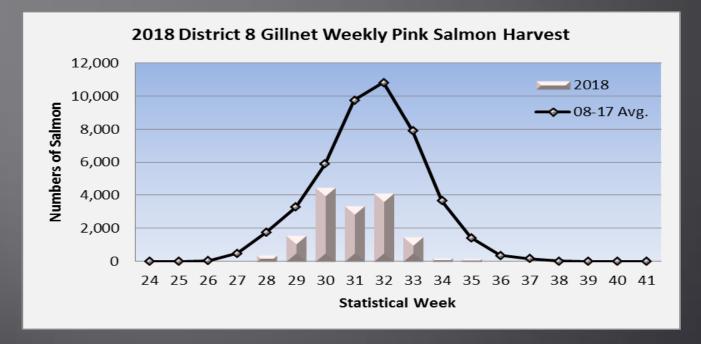


Figure 20b.

## Coho Salmon Management



#### Coho Salmon Management

- Weeks 35 through 39 (August 26-September 29)
- District 6
  - Above average effort for SWs 35–37, below in SWs 38&39
  - Coho salmon harvest below average
  - Harvest rates started strong, but then fell below average soon after peak
  - Run timing a week early
- District 8
  - Effort, harvests, and harvest rates below average
  - Average run timing



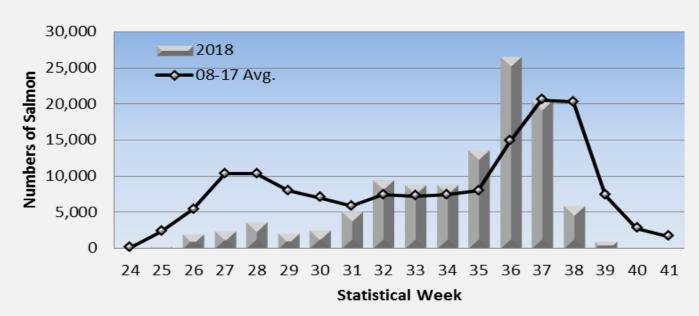


Figure 21a.





Figure 21b.

2018 District 8 Gillnet Weekly Coho Salmon Harvest (SW39 Confidential)

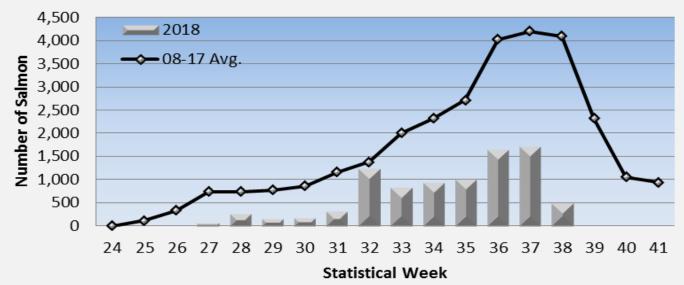


Figure 22a.

District 8 Weekly Gillnet Coho Salmon Hatchery and Wild CPUE, 2018 vs 2008-2017 Avg. (SW39 confidential)

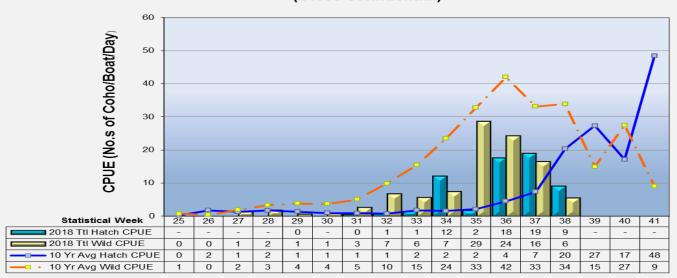


Figure 22b.

#### 2018 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 low

