The statewide Alaska salmon harvest continued to pull ahead of the year-to-date baseline last week, fueled by a surge of pink salmon in Prince William Sound and the long tail of the record-breaking Bristol Bay sockeye salmon run. The statewide harvest across all salmon is now 32% more than 2021 to-date (2020 for pinks).

More than 50% of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game projected total salmon harvest of 160.5 million fish have now been caught, including almost 90% of the projected sockeye harvest.

The record-breaking Bristol Bay sockeye harvest peaked the week before last, (statistical week 28), but fishing remained strong in week 29 with 14.3 million sockeye caught. Based on run timing, there are likely a few more weeks of moderate harvests remaining in Bristol Bay which may lead to a shortage of refrigerated shipping containers toward the end of the season.

In contrast to the strong sockeye salmon runs in Bristol Bay (and elsewhere in Alaska), keta and Chinook salmon harvests are down year-to-date, 25% and 32% respectively. Pink salmon harvests are now well above the 2020 benchmark because of strong Prince William Sound harvests last week.

More Alaska Seafood resources (click for link): alaskaseafood.org
Salmon Harvest by Statistical Week, 2022
(Thousands of Fish per Week)

*Last year uses 2020 pink salmon instead of 2021 (most recent even-year).

Source: Alaska Department of Fish & Game.