

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, July 7 to receive an update on the migration of Early Stuart sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

In-season assessments of Early Stuart sockeye abundance are still variable; however they are currently tracking near the 75% probability level forecast of 165,000 fish. An estimate of Early Stuart run size will be provided at the next Panel meeting. Migration conditions for sockeye entering the Fraser River are presently satisfactory. The discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 4,500 cms on July 6, which is below average for this date. The water temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark was 15 °C, which is near average for this date. Fraser River discharge levels and water temperatures will be monitored closely to determine if specific management actions are required during the in-river migratory period to help achieve sockeye escapement goals.

All commercial fisheries in Panel Area waters remain closed to fishing at the present time.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on July 10, 2009.