

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

The Fraser Panel met Tuesday, July 22nd to review the status of the Fraser River sockeye migration. Increased abundance of Fraser River sockeye has been observed in the Area 20 gillnet test fishery over the last two days. Current assessments suggest that Early Summer-run sockeye are tracking between the 50% and 75% probability level forecasts of abundance and between four to eight days later than normal.

Fraser River discharge level measured at Hope is currently 4,300 cms. Fraser River water temperature (measured at Qualark Creek) was 17.4 °C on July 20 but is forecast to increase to approximately 19 °C by the end of the week.

All commercial fisheries in Panel Area waters remain closed.

The Panel plans to meet again Wednesday, July 23rd.