

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, July 11 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

Very few sockeye have been caught to-date in Fraser River sockeye test fisheries. The Whonnock gillnet test fishery began on June 28, the Qualark gillnet test fishery began on July 1 and the Area 20 gillnet test fishery began on July 7. The Qualark and Mission hydroacoustics programs began July 1 and July 7, respectively. Assessments will improve later this week with the addition of Cottonwood and Area 12 gill net test fisheries.

On July 10, the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 4,976 cms, which is approximately 13% below average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 10 was 17.3°C, which is 1.5°C higher than 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 Panel Area Waters remain closed to commercial salmon fishing.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on Friday, July 14, 2017.

The first Weekly Report will follow the next scheduled Panel meeting.