

Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

The Fraser River Panel met Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup> to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

Test fishing catches and daily escapements continue to track below pre-season expectations. Daily abundances of Summer-run and Late-run sockeye continue to track below median forecast levels, as do daily abundances of pink salmon. At the meeting today, the currently adopted pink salmon run-size estimate of 4,800,000 fish, with a 50% marine timing through Area 20 of August 24, was left unchanged.

On August 30<sup>th</sup> the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 2,025 m<sup>3</sup>/s, which is approximately 20% below average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 30<sup>th</sup> was 18.4°C, which is 1.4°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 and pink salmon escapement goals.

The Panel announced the following regulations for Commercial salmon fisheries in Panel Area waters:

**CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

Remain closed to Commercial salmon fisheries.

**UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

**TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:**

Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: Extend for drift gillnets from 12 p.m. (noon), Friday, September 1, 2017, to 12 p.m. (noon), Tuesday, September 5, 2017. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

Areas 6/7/7A: Open to net fishing, excluding reef nets, from 5 a.m., Friday, September 1, 2017, to 9 p.m., Tuesday, September 5, 2017. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

Areas 7/7A: Open to reef nets from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., daily from Friday, September 1, 2017, through Tuesday, September 5, 2017. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

**ALL CITIZEN FISHERY:**

Areas 7 and 7A: Open to purse seines, with non-retention of sockeye, from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., daily from Friday, September 1, 2017, through Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

Areas 7 and 7A: Open to drift gillnets, with non-retention of sockeye, from 8:05 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., daily from Friday, September 1, 2017, through Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

Areas 7 and 7A: Open to reef nets, with non-retention of sockeye, from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., daily from Friday, September 1, 2017, through Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

Areas 7 and 7A: Open to beach seines, with non-retention of sockeye, from 5 a.m., Friday, September 1, 2017, through 9 p.m., Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.