

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, August 27 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, including an update of the rock slide at Big Bar. The rock slide at Big Bar continues to be a major source of concern for the Panel as migrating sockeye salmon will need to pass this area to reach their spawning grounds.

It is currently estimated that approximately 319,900 sockeye and 297,400 pink salmon have passed the Mission hydroacoustic site. Test fishing catches and daily escapements of sockeye salmon continue to track well below pre-season forecast expectations. No changes were made to the sockeye salmon run size for any management group. Test fishing catches of pink salmon have dropped in recent days. There was no change to the adopted pink salmon run size, but the Panel agreed to manage to the median forecast of 5,018,600 for pink salmon.

On August 26 the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 2,777 cms, which is approximately 4% above average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 26 was 18<sup>0</sup>C, which is 0.7<sup>0</sup>C above 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.

**CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

Remain closed to Commercial salmon fisheries.

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

**TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:**

As previously announced, Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: Open to drift gillnets 12:00 p.m. (noon), Saturday, August 24, 2019, through 12:00 p.m. (noon), Wednesday, August 28, 2019. Sockeye non-retention.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on Friday, August 30, 2019.