

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, July 14 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed, including an update of the rockslide at Big Bar. Natural passage has been limited but fifty-three salmon have passed the slide at Big Bar, likely Chinook salmon, not sockeye, and discharge levels remain high at the site.

It is currently estimated that approximately 15,100 sockeye have passed the Mission Hydroacoustics site. Daily passage at the Mission Hydroacoustics site is tracking slightly below pre-season forecast expectations. Both the Qualark in-river gillnet and the Area 20 marine gillnet test fisheries began on July 11. No changes were made to the Early Stuart run size at today's meeting.

On July 13, the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 8,288 cms, which is approximately 52% above average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 13 was 14.2⁰C, which is 1.9⁰C below 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 17, 2020.