

Friday, July 24, 2020

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, July 24 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 on the rockslide at Big Bar. Natural passage has been limited at the slide, and no sockeye salmon have passed the slide at Big Bar to date; discharge levels remain high at the site.

It is currently estimated that approximately 61,600 sockeye salmon have passed the Mission Hydroacoustics site. Daily passage at the Mission Hydroacoustics site is tracking below pre-season forecast expectations. No changes were made to the Early Stuart run size at today's meeting. The Area 12 and 20 marine gillnet test fisheries were extended to Tuesday, July 28 and Thursday, July 30, respectively.

On July 23, the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 7,832 cms, which is approximately 62% above average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 23 was 15.7°C, which is 1.6°C 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 Tuesday, July 28, 2020.