

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, August 4 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, but some sockeye salmon have passed the slide at Big Bar to date with the assistance of the Whooshh system; discharge levels remain high at the site for this time of year.

It is currently estimated that approximately 122,800 sockeye salmon have passed the Mission Hydroacoustics site. The Early Summer run abundances have been tracking close to the p10 forecast and the run size was reduced to the p10 forecast of 72,000 with an associated Area 20 timing of July 17. The Summer run abundances have been tracking close to the p25 forecast and the run size was reduced to the p25 forecast of 311,000 with an associated Area 20 timing of August 7. The last trips for the Area 12 and 20 marine purse seine test fisheries will occur Wednesday, August 5 and Thursday, August 6, respectively. The end date for the Cottonwood was moved to today, August 4.

On August 3, the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 5,779 cms, which is approximately 40% above average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 3 was 18.4<sup>0</sup>C, which is 0.4<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.

All Panel Area Waters remain closed to commercial salmon fishing.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on Friday, August 7, 2020.