

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, August 11 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 started to increase as discharge levels at Big Bar have dropped closer to the historical average. It is estimated that several thousand sockeye have now passed the slide at Big Bar.

It is currently estimated that approximately 166,500 sockeye salmon have passed the Mission Hydroacoustics site. Overall, the total sockeye run is tracking below the pre-season forecast and closer to abundances associated with the p10 forecast (274,000). No changes were made to the run sizes at today's meeting.

On August 10, the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 4,632 cms, which is approximately 26% above average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 10 was 17.3°C, which is 0.9°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 Friday, August 14, 2020.