

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, September 1 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed. It is currently estimated that approximately 281,400 sockeye salmon have passed the Mission Hydroacoustics site. The Early Stuart run size increased to 16,000 with an Area 20 timing of July 6, the Early Summer-run run size stayed the same at 72,000 with an Area 20 timing of July 15, the Summer-run run size increased to 191,000 with an Area 20 timing of July 28, and the Late-run run size decreased to 14,000 with an Area 20 timing of August 2. The total run size estimate for Fraser River sockeye was 293,000 with an associated Area 20 timing of July 25. The latest update on the rockslide at Big Bar indicates that natural passage continues, with the species composition shifting predominately to sockeye from Chinook.

On August 31, the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 2,757 cms, which is approximately 9% above average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 31 was 16.4°C, which is approximately 0.5°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.

This was the last scheduled in-season Panel meeting for 2020.

For more information, please see the Weekly Report, which can be found on the PSC website here:

<https://www.psc.org/publications/fraser-panel-in-season-information/fraser-river-panel-weekly-reports/>