

Friday, July 14, 2023

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, July 14 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye salmon and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed. Discharge levels are below average throughout the watershed and there are no upstream migration problems reported at the Big Bar slide site.

To date, 339 sockeye salmon have been caught in test fisheries. The in-river gillnet test fisheries at Whonnock and Brownsville Bar (SEF project) began on June 26 and July 12, respectively. The Area 20 and Area 12 marine gillnet test fisheries began on July 10 and July 11, respectively. The Mission hydroacoustics program began July 1. It is currently estimated that 45,100 sockeye have passed the Mission hydroacoustics site.

On July 13 the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 2,682 cms, which is approximately 52% lower than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Hope on July 13 was 19.6<sup>0</sup>C, which is 3.1<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 Tuesday, July 18, 2023.