

Friday, August 9, 2024

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, August 9 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye salmon and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed including an update on the Chilcotin River landslide. The landslide occurred on July 31, approximately 28 km upstream from the confluence of the Fraser River. Water flow breached the blockage on August 5 and continues to pass through. Provincial personnel and external experts are assessing and monitoring the landslide 24/7 as part of a multi-agency coordinated response.

It is currently estimated that 276,200 sockeye have passed the Mission hydroacoustics site. At today's meeting, the Panel adopted an Early Summer-run run size of 140,000 with an associated Area 20 timing of July 14, and a Summer-run run size of 300,000 with an associated Area 20 timing of August 2. A Summer run proportional Management Adjustment of 0.56 was also adopted.

On August 8 the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 2,711 cms, which is approximately 26% below average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark on August 8 was 19.8°C, which is 1.2°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, August 13, 2024.