

Friday, July 8, 2016

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, July 8 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

Very few sockeye have been caught to-date in Fraser River sockeye test fisheries. The Whonnock gillnet test fishery began on June 30, the Qualark gillnet test fishery began on July 1 and the Cottonwood gillnet test fishery began on July 7. Marine gillnet test fisheries are scheduled to begin on Monday, July 11. The Qualark hydroacoustics program began on July 1 and the Mission hydroacoustics program is scheduled to begin on Monday, July 11. Assessments will improve next week with the addition of the marine gillnet test fisheries and the Mission hydroacoustics program.

On July 7 the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was 5,336 cms, which is approximately 9% below average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 7 was 16.4 °C, which is 0.9 °C higher than 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 12, 2016.

The first News Release will follow the next scheduled Panel meeting.