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No. 6

WEEKLY REPORT

August 15, 2025

The Fraser River Panel (Panel) met today to review in-season assessment data on Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon.

Test fishing and stock identification information

The estimated diversion rate of sockeye and pink through Johnstone Strait is 37% and 10%, respectively. DNA analysis of a fish sample recently collected from the Area 20 purse seine test fishery indicated Fraser River sockeye contributions of 3% Early Summer run, 81% Summer run and 15% Late run. Pink salmon catches have been especially high in the Strait of Juan de Fuca in comparison to recent years as well as historical averages. These catches are expected to be about 57% Fraser pinks. Daily in-season test fishing catch updates, both for sockeye and pink salmon, are available on the PSC website in an interactive visual application ([Fraser Panel Data Application](#)).

In-season Assessment Information

Fraser River Sockeye Salmon

The current adopted run size of Fraser sockeye salmon is 9,625,000 which is the largest run size observed since 1997, excluding the dominant 2022 cycle years.

As of August 14, 275,000 Early Summer-run sockeye have passed Mission. Proportions of the Early Summer run have been declining in the marine test fisheries. Except for Chilliwack and Pitt stocks, all components of this management group are continuing to return in numbers greater than the p50 forecast.

Summer run continues to be the dominant component in marine test fisheries with most of these fish being Late Stuart and Chilko. A total of 2,038,200 Summer run are estimated to have passed Mission through August 14. The Panel adopted a Summer-run run size of 7,500,000, with an associated Area 20 timing of August 14 which exceeds the preseason forecast of 2,749,000 and is the largest run size for the Summer run since 2014, or when excluding the dominant 2022 cycle years, the largest run size since 1997.

Late run abundances have increased in the marine test fisheries, but observations in river test fisheries have been limited as some of the Late run may be delaying their entry into the Fraser River. The estimated escapement of Late-run sockeye past Mission through August 14 is 77,900 fish. At the Tuesday meeting, the Panel adopted a Late-run run size of 700,000 with an associated Area 20 timing of August 16 and at the Friday meeting, the Panel adopted a Late-run run-size of 1,000,000 with an associated Area 20 timing of August 20.

Fraser River Pink Salmon

Pink salmon abundance in marine areas remains high and pink salmon are now also being caught in the in-river test fisheries. The estimated escapement of pink salmon past Mission through August 14 is 46,700. The pre-season forecast for Fraser River pink salmon was 27 million and test fishing catches to date are in line with this prediction.

Migration Conditions in the Fraser River

On August 14, the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was 2,290 cubic meters per second (cms), and approximately 30% lower than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Hope on August 14 was 20.5°C, which is 1.9°C higher than average for this date. DFO's Environmental Watch program projects that river temperature will decrease to 18.8°C, while discharge is forecast to decrease to about 2,061 cms over the next 6 days.

High-water temperatures have persisted in the Fraser River over the last several weeks exposing the Summer run to less than ideal migration conditions. However, the 19-day average water temperature for Summer-run sockeye did not exceed the 19.4°C temperature threshold, so a proportional Management Adjustment (pMA) of 0.28 was adopted by the Panel. A Late run pMA of 0.92 was also adopted by the Panel.

At the Chilcotin River, daily salmon counts have increased substantially for salmon ranging in length from 50 to 64 cm. Salmon caught at the Hanceville dip netting platform have confirmed that these are sockeye salmon. Daily mean turbidity in the Chilcotin River downstream of the slide site decreased below 100 NTU on August 10 which has been the lowest daily mean measured at the station since late May. Turbidity downstream of the Chilcotin river confluence remains higher than upstream of the Chilcotin river confluence.

Escapement Update

Visual surveys for the Early Stuart spawning escapement assessment program indicate that sockeye have reached or surpassed peak spawn. While sockeye are in overall good condition, some pre-spawn mortality continues to be reported in high-density spawning areas. Visual surveys began on the Upper Chilliwack River August 5 and sockeye are in the early stages of spawning and appear vigorous and healthy. Few carcasses have been collected to date. The hydroacoustic program on the Nadina River has counted 1,428 sockeye as of August 10. As of August 11, the hydroacoustic sonar program on the Stellako River has counted 9,138 sockeye and most of these fish are assumed to be Nadina sockeye. The Quesnel River and Chilko River hydroacoustic programs have been operational as of August 6 and August 7, and 4,136 and 153 sockeye have been counted past these sites, respectively. The counting fence at Sweltzer Creek (Cultus Lake) became operational on July 30 and as of August 12, one sockeye has been counted.

Regulatory Announcements & Resources

The Panel announced the following regulations for commercial salmon fisheries in Panel Area waters:

CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Pacific Fishery Management Areas 29-3, 29-4, 29-6: Open for Area H troll ITQ sockeye fishery not earlier than 00:01 on August 16 to no later than 23:59 on August 19. Please refer to DFO Fishery Notice for further details.

Pacific Fishery Management Areas Subareas 29-11 to 29-17: Open for Area E gillnet ITQ sockeye fishery not earlier than August 18 to no later than August 21. Open would be daily, during daylight hours only. Please refer to DFO Fishery Notice for further details.

UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

TREATY TRIBAL FISHERY:

Areas 4B, 5, and 6C: Extend for drift gillnet fishing 12 p.m. (noon), Saturday, August 16, 2025 through 12 p.m. (noon), Wednesday, August 20, 2025.

Areas 6, 7, and 7A: Open for net fishing 5 a.m., Sunday, August 17, 2025 through 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

ALL CITIZEN FISHERY:

Areas 7 and 7A: Open for purse seine fishing 5 a.m. through 9 p.m., Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

Areas 7 and 7A: Open for drift gillnet fishing 8 a.m. through 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

Area 7: Open for reef net fishing 5 a.m. through 9 p.m., Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on August 19. Weekly reports in this series will be provided by the Panel through the Commission every Friday during the in-season management period to inform those interested in the progress of the Fraser River sockeye salmon run. Weekly reports and regulatory announcements can be obtained via [Fraser Panel In-Season Information - Pacific Salmon Commission \(psc.org\)](https://psc.org) or by subscribing to our eNews [Pacific Salmon Commission \(list-manage.com\)](https://list-manage.com). Regulations and resources for fishing schedules, test fishing catch and DFO's environmental watch program can be found in Table 1.

Table 1. Regulations & Resources

Fishing Schedule Contacts/Resources	Phone Number/ Website Links
United States fishing schedules (Treaty Tribes)	1-800-562-6142
United States fishing schedules (All Citizen)	1-800-662-9825 Option 1
Canadian fisheries opening and closures	604-666-2828 1-866-431-3474 (toll free)
PSC Daily Test Fishing Catch (recorded message)	604-666-8200 Test Fishing Results - Pacific Salmon Commission (psc.org)
DFO's Environmental Watch program	Fraser River environmental watch Pacific Region Fisheries and Oceans Canada (dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Note: For species other than sockeye or pink salmon, consult the appropriate regulatory agency regarding fisheries regulations in the Fraser River Panel Management Area.

Contacts

Canada: Adam Keizer, Chair, Fraser River Panel

United States: Jason Gobin, Vice-Chair, Fraser River Panel

2025 Run status of Fraser sockeye and pink salmon

Date: Aug. 15, 2025

Week of: Aug. 10 - Aug. 16, 2025	Sockeye				Pink	
	Management Group				Total	Total
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	Fraser	Fraser
Mission passage (includes Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam) ¹	731,900	275,000	2,038,200	77,900	3,123,000	46,700
Catch downstream of Mission	3,900	36,000	334,100	42,200	416,200	106,200
Accounted run-to-date	735,800	311,000	2,372,300	120,100	3,539,200	152,900
Run size adopted in-season ¹	725,000	400,000	7,500,000	1,000,000	9,625,000	na
Run size forecasted pre-season	116,000	221,000	2,136,000	468,000	2,941,000	26,965,000
Area 20 timing adopted in-season	6-Jul	1-Aug	14-Aug	20-Aug		na
Area 20 timing expected pre-season	8-Jul	3-Aug	15-Aug	20-Aug		21-Aug

¹ Run sizes are usually not adopted until after the peak of the run has passed through marine test fishery areas in Juan de Fuca and Johnstone straits.

2025 Catch-to-date by fishery

Date: Aug. 15, 2025

Week of: Aug. 10 - Aug. 16, 2025		Sockeye		Pink	
		Total	Fraser	Total	Fraser
Canada		364,420	358,175	89,104	21,502
	Commercial	0	0	0	0
	B Purse Seine	0	0	0	0
	D Gillnet	0	0	0	0
	E Gillnet	0	0	0	0
	F Troll	0	0	0	0
	G Troll	0	0	0	0
	H Troll	0	0	0	0
	First Nations	350,741	344,496	77,803	20,813
	Food, Social & Ceremonial (FSC)	350,741	344,496	77,803	20,813
	Marine	222,169	215,924	77,803	20,813
	Fraser R.	128,572	128,572	0	0
	Economic Opportunity (EO) & Demonstration (Demo)	0	0	0	0
	Marine	0	0	0	0
	Fraser R.	0	0	0	0
	Recreational	0	0	11,301	689
	Marine	0	0	11,301	689
	Fraser R.	0	0	0	0
	Charter (Albion gillnet test fishery)	278	278	0	0
	Other**	13,402	13,402	0	0
United States		94,693	94,574	150,060	83,672
	Commercial	94,550	94,431	150,060	83,672
	Treaty Tribes (TRB)	70,861	70,861	117,988	64,630
	All Citizen (AC)	23,689	23,570	32,072	19,042
	Treaty Tribes Ceremonial & Subsistence (C&S)	143	143	0	0
	Other**	0	0		
	All Citizen Recreational	0	0	0	0
	Alaska *	na	na	na	na
Panel-approved Test Fisheries		22,432	21,688	3,578	985
	Panel Waters	16,511	16,254	2,221	737
	Non-Panel Waters	5,921	5,434	1,357	249
Total		481,545	474,437	242,742	106,160

* Alaska catch is processed post-season and so is unavailable in-season.

** May include unauthorized directed retention or unauthorized bycatch retention in fisheries directed at other species