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No. 9

WEEKLY REPORT

September 5, 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 marine test fisheries have ended for the season. 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 in-season adopted run size estimate for total Fraser River sockeye is 9,275,000 and as of September 4, the accounted run to date is 8,629,800. The majority of Fraser sockeye have migrated past the Mission site, with the exception of about 512,000 predominantly Late run that continue to delay their upstream migration into the Fraser River. These sockeye are predicted to migrate upstream around September 15. Despite the delay, which may have their upstream migration coincide with cooler water temperatures, it is still anticipated that about half of the Late run will not make it to the spawning grounds due to the adverse environmental conditions (see migration conditions section). Given the adopted Late-run run-size estimate and adopted management adjustment in anticipation of the migration challenges, Late-run sockeye are being managed under a Low Abundance Exploitation rate, meaning there is no harvestable surplus for this management group.

Fraser River Pink Salmon

Like delaying Late run stocks, pink salmon delay their upstream migration into the Fraser River. At the moment, around 1,302,000 pink salmon are estimated to be present in the Strait of Georgia. Passage at the Mission site has remained substantial with estimates of over 500,000 in the last week. The estimated escapement of pink salmon past Mission through September 4 is 10,565,300.

Migration Conditions in the Fraser River

Water temperatures within the Fraser River have been exceptionally high for the time of the year. On September 4, the temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark was 20.8°C, which is 4.1°C higher than average, and 1.6°C higher than previous water temperature records (1991-2020) for this date. On September 4, the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was 1,812 cubic meters per second (cms), and approximately 24% lower than average for this date. DFO's Environmental Watch program projects that river temperature will decrease to 19.5°C which still exceeds seasonal records, while discharge is forecast to decrease to about 1,672 cms over the next 6 days.

At the Chilko River hydroacoustic site, 740,125 sockeye have been counted to date and these estimates continue to be in line with predictions based on the Chilko daily abundance observed at Mission 20 days prior, indicating that the early part of this run did not encounter major migration delays or losses en-route to the spawning grounds. At the Hanceville sonar site a cumulative total of 1,415,345 salmon have been counted since the start of the program on June 25. Pink

salmon have now been observed at Farwell Canyon and will be difficult to differentiate at the Hanceville sonar site as their lengths are similar to sockeye. Daily mean turbidity in the Chilcotin River is the lowest it has been all season at both the Farwell Canyon and Hanceville sites.

Escapement Update

The Scotch Creek fence is operational and 15,772 sockeye have been counted past the fence as of September 3. Visual surveys started on the North/South Thompson system. Sockeye in the upper Barrière River are at peak spawning while sockeye in the South Thompson area are approaching peak spawning. An aerial survey of the upper Bowron River indicate sockeye are at peak spawning. Gates Creek sockeye are in the early stages of spawning and Nahatlatch sockeye are approaching peak spawning. Sockeye in the Pitt River system were observed holding in Corbold Creek. The hydroacoustic program on the Nadina River has counted 31,026 sockeye as of August 29. The Nadina spawning channel became operational September 1 and as of September 3, 1,700 sockeye have been loaded into the channel. Water temperature in the channel is 18.9°C. As of September 2, the hydroacoustic sonar program on the Stellako River has counted 48,155 sockeye and these fish are assumed to be a mix of Nadina and Stellako sockeye. The Quesnel River and Chilko River hydroacoustic programs have counted 185,148 and 740,125 sockeye past these sites, respectively. Visual surveys commenced on the North Thompson on August 21 and sockeye are reported in the early stages of spawning in the Raft River and holding in Lemieux Creek. Ninety tags have been applied to sockeye in the Tachie River mark-recapture project and sockeye appear healthy and vigorous, but about one third have mild body wounds and lesions. Water temperature in the Tachie River is 20°C. Visual surveys also started in the Harrison-Lillooet area on August 21 but no sockeye have been observed in Big Silver or Cogburn creeks. The counting fence at Sweltzer Creek (Cultus Lake) became operational on July 30 and as of September 1, 27 sockeye have been counted. The water temperature in Sweltzer Creek is 24.5°C.

Regulatory Announcements & Resources

The Panel announced the following regulations for commercial salmon fisheries in Panel Area waters however Canada did not approve the U.S. fishery proposal due to conservation concerns for impacts on Late-run sockeye:

CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Remain closed to commercial salmon fishing.

UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Areas 4B, 5, and 6C: Relinquish regulatory control effective 11:59 p.m., Sunday, September 7, 2025.

As previously announced:

TREATY TRIBAL FISHERY:

Areas 4B, 5, and 6C: Open for drift gillnet fishing 12 p.m. (noon), Wednesday, September 3, 2025 through 12 p.m. (noon), Saturday, September 6, 2025. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

Areas 6, 7, and 7A in the area southerly and easterly of a straight line drawn from the Iwersen Dock on Point Roberts in the State of Washington to the Georgina Point Light at the entrance to Active Pass in the province of British Columbia: Open for net fishing 5 a.m., Wednesday, September 3, 2025 through 9 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2025. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on September 9. 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 \(psc.org\)](http://Fraser Panel In-Season Information - Pacific Salmon Commission (psc.org)) or by subscribing to our eNews [Pacific Salmon Commission \(list-manage.com\)](http://Pacific Salmon Commission (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: Sep. 8, 2025

Week of: Sep. 7 - Sep. 13, 2025	Sockeye				Pink	
	Management Group				Total	Total
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	Fraser	Fraser
Mission passage (includes Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam) ¹	731,900	374,700	6,052,900	555,200	7,714,700	11,937,500
Catch downstream of Mission	3,900	35,300	781,900	117,100	938,200	1,150,700
Accounted run-to-date	735,800	410,000	6,834,800	672,300	8,652,900	13,088,100
Run size adopted in-season ¹	725,000	400,000	7,000,000	1,150,000	9,275,000	12,500,000
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	11-Aug	14-Aug		13-Aug
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: Sep. 8, 2025

Week of: Sep. 7 - Sep. 13, 2025		Sockeye		Pink	
		Total	Fraser	Total	Fraser
Canada		906,941	900,189	190,742	84,807
	Commercial	160,098	159,438	59,587	28,015
	B Purse Seine	96,850	96,311	46,510	18,081
	D Gillnet	24,132	24,033	3,547	1,445
	E Gillnet	35,137	35,137	6,447	6,447
	F Troll	0	0	0	0
	G Troll	0	0	0	0
	H Troll	3,979	3,957	3,083	2,042
	First Nations	732,641	726,550	119,482	55,739
	Food, Social & Ceremonial (FSC)	661,685	655,594	97,710	33,967
	Marine	242,837	236,941	84,339	20,596
	Fraser R.	418,848	418,653	13,371	13,371
	Economic Opportunity (EO) & Demonstration (Demo)	70,956	70,956	21,772	21,772
	Marine	0	0	0	0
	Fraser R.	70,956	70,956	21,772	21,772
	Recreational	0	0	11,301	682
	Marine	0	0	11,301	682
	Fraser R.	0	0	0	0
	Charter (Albion gillnet test fishery)	725	725	372	372
	Other**	13,477	13,477	0	0
United States		303,649	303,510	1,383,852	1,072,487
	Commercial	297,248	297,111	1,383,852	1,072,487
	Treaty Tribes (TRB)	217,950	217,935	802,383	599,825
	All Citizen (AC)	79,298	79,175	581,469	472,662
	Treaty Tribes Ceremonial & Subsistence (C&S)	6,401	6,400	0	0
	Other**	0	0		
	All Citizen Recreational	0	0	0	0
	Alaska *	na	na	na	na
	Panel-approved Test Fisheries	33,500	32,738	19,187	12,788
	Panel Waters	23,923	23,655	17,323	12,195
	Non-Panel Waters	9,577	9,082	1,864	593
Total		1,244,090	1,236,437	1,593,781	1,170,081

* 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