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No. 4

WEEKLY REPORT

July 31, 2026

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

Test fishing and stock identification information

For the season to date, purse seine test fishing catches of Fraser sockeye have been relatively low. DNA analysis of a fish sample recently collected from the Area 12 purse seine test fishery indicated Fraser River sockeye contributions of 15% Early Summer run, 58% Summer run and 27% Late run. In the last 5 days, sockeye migrated primarily through Johnstone Strait (79%) rather than Juan de Fuca Strait. Daily in-season test fishing catch updates are available on the PSC website in an interactive visual application ([Fraser River Data Application](#)).

In-season Assessment Information

The abundance of Early Summer run sockeye has increased in the marine area, but not to the level anticipated based on the pre-season forecast of 1,163,700. As of July 30, 56,200 Early Summer-run sockeye are estimated in escapement and catch. While all the Early Summer-run groups have been represented in catch samples from marine test fisheries, overall abundance remains low, especially for Nadina and Early South Thompson stocks, which accounted for 91% of the Early Summer run forecast. At Tuesday's meeting, the Panel adopted an Early Summer-run run size of 540,000 with an associated marine timing of August 5. At Friday's meeting, the Panel adopted an Early Summer-run run size of 200,000 with an associated marine timing of August 4. The Early Stuart run size remains at 46,000.

Proportions of Summer-run continue to increase in the marine areas, mostly dominated by Chilko and Quesnel stocks which are the later timed stocks within this management group. The estimated escapement plus catch of Summer-run sockeye through July 30 is 58,000 fish. Summer-run run size estimates should be available early to mid-August.

Late run proportions are also increasing in the marine areas and some have been observed in the Fraser River. As of July 30, 5,200 Late run sockeye are estimated in escapement and catch. It is expected that part of the Late run may delay their entry into the Fraser River, when migration conditions are more favourable, as has been the case in recent returns of this cycle line.

Migration Conditions in the Fraser River

On July 30, the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was about 3,400 cubic meters per second (cms), and approximately 22% lower than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark on July 30 was 18.4°C, which is 0.1°C higher than average for this date. DFO's Environmental Watch program projects that river temperature will increase to 18.6°C, while discharge is forecast to decrease to about 3,024 cms over the next 10 days. Water temperatures and discharge levels in the Fraser River have remained below the thresholds associated with above-average migration challenges for the Early Summer run. It is predicted that 79% of the Early Summer run will reach the spawning grounds. At Tuesday's meeting the Panel adopted a proportional Management Adjustment (pMA) of 0.27 for Early Summer run.

Escapement Update

Visual surveys for the Early Stuart spawning escapement assessment program began July 25. The majority of Sockeye have been observed in the Middle River system (O'Ne-Ell, Forfar and Van Decar creeks). Sockeye are also holding at the mouths of several other tributaries. Sockeye appear to be vigorous and healthy.

Regulatory Announcements & Resources

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

CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Remain closed to commercial salmon fishing.

UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Remain closed to commercial salmon fishing.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on August 4. 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://psc.org) or by subscribing to our eNews [Pacific Salmon Commission \(list-manage.com\)](http://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 (dfompo.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

United States: Mickey Agha, Chair, Fraser River Panel

Canada: Adam Keizer, Vice-Chair, Fraser River Panel

2026 Run status of Fraser sockeye and pink salmon

Date: Jul. 31, 2026

Week of: Jul. 26 - Aug. 1, 2026	Sockeye				
	Management Group				Total Fraser
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	
Mission passage (includes Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam) ¹	46,000	55,300	55,800	4,500	161,600
Catch downstream of Mission	100	900	2,200	700	3,900
Accounted run-to-date	46,100	56,200	58,000	5,200	165,500
Adopted In-season run size ¹	46,000	200,000	na	na	0
Preseason run size	62,670	1,163,680	4,304,780	2,212,260	7,743,390
Area 20 timing adopted in-season	1-Jul	4-Aug	na	na	
Area 20 timing expected pre-season	4-Jul	3-Aug	13-Aug	20-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.

2026 Catch-to-date by fishery

Date: Jul. 31, 2026

Week of: Jul. 26 - Aug. 1, 2026		Sockeye	
		Total	Fraser
Canada		339	223
	Commercial	0	0
	B Purse Seine	0	0
	D Gillnet	0	0
	E Gillnet	0	0
	F Troll	0	0
	G Troll	0	0
	H Troll	0	0
	First Nations	289	181
	Food, Social & Ceremonial (FSC)	289	181
	Marine	289	181
	Fraser R.	0	0
	Economic Opportunity (EO) & Demonstration (Demo)	0	0
	Marine	0	0
	Fraser R.	0	0
	Recreational	0	0
	Marine	0	0
	Fraser R.	0	0
	Charter (Albion gillnet test fishery)	42	42
	Other**	8	0
United States		0	0
	Commercial	0	0
	Treaty Tribes (TRB)	0	0
	All Citizen (AC)	0	0
	Treaty Tribes Ceremonial & Subsistence (C&S)	0	0
	Other**	0	0
	All Citizen Recreational	0	0
	Alaska *	na	na
Panel-approved Test Fisheries		4,539	3,915
	Panel Waters	2,525	2,316
	Non-Panel Waters	2,014	1,599
Total		4,878	4,138

* 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