

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, September 1 to receive an update on the migration of the Fraser sockeye and pink salmon runs and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

At the meeting today, the run-size estimate of 400,000 Early Summer run sockeye and the 1,700,000 Summer run sockeye was unchanged. The Late run-size estimate of 419,000 sockeye was decreased to 300,000 sockeye with a 50% marine timing through Area 20 of August 23. At the meeting today the Panel approved, for management purposes, a provisional Pink salmon run-size estimate of 6,000,000 fish with a 50% marine timing through Area 20 of August 21.

On August 31 the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was 1,875 cms, which is approximately 26% lower than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 31 was 17.3 °C, which is 0.4 °C higher than average for this date. Fraser River temperatures are forecast to decrease to 15.1 °C by September 6. 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 and pink salmon escapement goals.

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 fisheries.

**UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

**TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:**

Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: As previously announced, open to drift gillnets 12:00 p.m. (noon), Saturday, August 29, 2015, through 12:00 p.m. (noon), Wednesday, September 2, 2015. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

Areas 6, 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to net fishing 5:00 am Monday, August 31, 2015 through 9:00 a.m. Tuesday September 1, 2015. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

**ALL CITIZEN FISHERY:**

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to reef net with non-retention of sockeye from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 1, 2015.

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to purse seine with non-retention of sockeye from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 1, 2015.

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to drift gillnet with non-retention of sockeye 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, September 1, 2015.

(Note: U. S. All Citizen fishers should check the U.S. hotline and WDFW regulations before fishing as there are additional State of Washington regulations, including time restrictions that may be in effect).

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on Friday, September 4, 2015.