

Monday, September 22, 2014

The Fraser River Panel met Monday, September 22 to review stock assessment data on the Fraser River sockeye runs, consider harvest opportunities and review migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

At the meeting today the run-size estimate of 7,800,000 Summer-run sockeye was increased to 7,900,000 fish. The current adopted run-sizes, by management group are 233,500 Early Stuart, 1,900,000 Early Summer-run, 7,900,000 Summer-run and 10,800,000 Late-run sockeye. The total 2014 Fraser River sockeye return is currently estimated to be 20,833,500 fish.

Over the past few days a significant number of Late-run sockeye have migrated upstream past Mission, B.C. Some sockeye continue to delay in the Strait of Georgia. Later upstream migration timing of Late-run sockeye is associated with higher migration survival.

The Panel announced the following regulations for Panel Area waters:

CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Area 29-1 to 6: As previously announced, open to Area H troll ITQ fishery from 12:01 a.m. Wednesday August 6, 2014 until further notice. (Please refer to DFO Fishery Notices for further details).

Area 29-3, 29-4, 29-6, and 29-10: Open to Area B purse seine ITQ fishery in waters deeper than 45 meters from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily beginning Tuesday, September 23, 2014 until further notice. (Please refer to DFO Fishery Notice for further details).

UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:

Area 7A: As previously announced, open to net fishing from 5:00 a.m. Monday, September 22, 2014 until 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 24, 2014.

Area 7A: Extended for net fishing from 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 24, 2014 through 11:59 p.m. (midnight) Saturday, September 27, 2014.

ALL CITIZEN FISHERY:

Area 7A: Open to purse seines from 5:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 24, 2014.

Area 7A: Open to gillnets from 8:35 a.m. until 11:59 pm (midnight), Wednesday, September 24, 2014.

(Note: U. S. Non-Treaty 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 Thursday, September 25, 2014.