

Friday, July 12, 2013

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, July 12 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

At the meeting today, the Fraser River Panel approved a run size estimate of 217,000 Early Stuart sockeye with 50% marine timing through Area 20 of July 4. Assessments of Early Summer-run sockeye abundance should be available later in July after their peak migration through marine areas has occurred.

On July 11, the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was approximately 5,180 cms, which is approximately 12% lower than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 11 was 16.9 °C, which is 1.5 °C higher than average for this date. 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 escapement goals.

All commercial fisheries in Panel Area waters remain closed to fishing at the present time.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, July 16, 2013.