

Friday, August 2, 2013

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, August 2 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

Marine area test fisheries indicate a flat migration of Fraser sockeye through Johnstone and Juan de Fuca Straits over the past week. At the meeting today, the Panel approved an increase in the run size estimate for Early Stuart sockeye from 180,000 to 182,000 fish. Their 50% marine timing through Area 20 is still estimated to be July 2. The run size estimate of 400,000 Early Summer-run sockeye was unchanged at the meeting today. Current assessments suggest that the abundance of Summer-run sockeye is either lower than forecast or their migration timing is later than expected. An in-season assessment of Summer-run sockeye abundance should be available by late next week. Recent stock identification analyses indicate that Late Shuswap sockeye comprise most of the Late-run sockeye currently migrating through the marine approach routes. The migration of pink salmon through the marine assessment areas has been steady over the past week. DNA analyses indicate that Fraser River pink salmon currently comprise a small proportion of the pink salmon presently being harvested in marine area test fisheries.

On August 1, the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was 3,390 cms, which is approximately 25% lower than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 1 was 19.1 °C, which is 1.4 °C higher than average for this date.

CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Remain closed to fishing.

UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:

Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: Extended for drift gillnets from 12:00 p.m. (noon), Saturday, August 3, 2013, to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Wednesday, August 7, 2013.

ALL CITIZEN FISHERY:

Remains closed to fishing.

(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 Tuesday, August 6, 2013.