

Tuesday, July 24, 2012

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, July 24 to review assessment data on Fraser River sockeye salmon, plan fisheries and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed

Sockeye catches in the Area 20 purse seine test fishery increased yesterday, however they remain low in the Johnstone Strait test fisheries. At the meeting today, the run size estimate of 180,000 Early Stuart sockeye was unchanged, while their 50% marine timing through Area 20 is now estimated to be July 4. The Panel approved a run size estimate of 410,000 Early Summer-run sockeye with 50% marine timing through Area 20 of July 12, which is four days earlier than expected. Summer-run sockeye are now the dominant group migrating through marine assessment areas; however, run size assessments will not be available until their expected peak migration period through Juan de Fuca Strait between late July and early August.

On July 23 the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was approximately 7,000 cms, which is approximately 38% above average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 22 was 16.4 °C, which is 0.1 °C lower 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: Open to drift gillnets 12:00 p.m. (noon), Wednesday, July 25, 2012, to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Saturday, July 28, 2012.

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 Friday July 27, 2012.