

Monday, August 15, 2011

The Fraser River Panel met Monday, August 15 to receive an update on the migration of the Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon and to review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

Purse seine test fishing catches of Fraser River sockeye in Johnstone Strait have decreased over the weekend. The diversion rate of Fraser sockeye through Johnstone Strait is currently estimated to be approximately 75%.

There were no changes to run sizes at the meeting today.

On August 14, the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was approximately 5,155 cms, which is about 40% higher than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 14 was 17.4 °C, which is 0.5 °C cooler than average for this date.

The migration of pink salmon through Johnstone Strait has continued at relatively modest levels over recent days. The daily migration of Fraser River pink salmon is expected to increase over the next few weeks as they near their expected peak marine migration period near the end of the month.

The Panel announced the following regulations for Panel Area waters:

CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS

As previously announced:

Area 29: Subareas 29-11 to 29-17 and portions of Subareas 29-3, 29-4, 29-6, 29-7, 29-9 and 29-10: Open to Area E gillnets from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 16, 2011. (Please refer to DFO Fishery Notices for further details).

Area 29 – 1 to 6: Open to Area H troll 12:01 a.m., Tuesday, August 16, 2011, until further notice. (Please refer to DFO Fishery Notices **FN0733-Salmon** for further details).

UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

As previously announced:

TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:

Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: Extend for drift gillnets from 12:00 p.m. (noon) Saturday, August 13, 2011 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) Tuesday, August 16.

Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: Extend for drift gillnets from 12:00 p.m. (noon) Tuesday, August 16, 2011 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) Wednesday, August 17.

As previously announced:

NON INDIAN FISHERY:

Areas 7 and 7A:

Open to purse seines from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, August 15, 2011.

(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 Tuesday, August 16, 2011.