

Friday, July 9, 2010

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, July 9 to receive an update on the migration of Early Stuart sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

At the meeting today, the Fraser River Panel approved an increase in the run size estimate of Early Stuart sockeye from the pre-season forecast of 41,000 fish to 110,000 fish. The 50% migration timing of Early Stuart sockeye through Area 20 is estimated to be July 6, which is 4 days later than the pre-season forecast, and 2 days later than the historical average. Assessments of Early Summer-run sockeye abundance should be available later in July after their peak migration through marine areas has occurred.

River conditions for sockeye entering the Fraser River are presently satisfactory for migration . On July 8 the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was approximately 4445 cms, which is approximately 26% below average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 8 was 15.5 °C, which is slightly above 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.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on Tuesday July 13, 2010.