

Friday, August 6, 2010

The Fraser River Panel met Friday August 6 to review stock assessment data on the Fraser River sockeye runs, plan fisheries and review migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

At the meeting today, the provisional run size estimate of 950,000 Early Summer-run sockeye was increased to an estimate of 1,600,000 fish. The 50% marine migration timing of Early Summer-run sockeye through Area 20 is estimated to be August 2. Summer-run sockeye abundance assessments are ongoing. An estimate of their run size should be available next week after their expected peak migration through Area 20 has occurred. It is too early to provide an assessment of the run size of Late-run sockeye, however, if they are near their forecast level of abundance they will comprise most of the Fraser sockeye migrating through the marine assessment areas in the coming weeks. At the meeting today, the provisional run size estimate of 400,000 Harrison sockeye was unchanged.

On August 5 the discharge of the Fraser River at Hope was about 3,200 cms, which is 22% below average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on August 5 was 19.0 °C, which is 1.4 °C above average for this date. Fraser River water temperatures at Qualark Creek are forecast to increase to approximately 20 °C over the next few days and then decrease to 18.8 °C by August 13. Water temperatures between approximately 19 °C and 20 °C can adversely affect the upstream migration of Fraser sockeye and may cause en route mortality of some of these fish. Migration conditions for Fraser sockeye will be monitored closely over the next several weeks and appropriate management actions will be taken.

#### **CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

Area 20-1, 3, 4: Open to Area B purse seine, ITQ Demonstration Fishery, daily from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sunday, August 8, 2010 to Thursday August 12, 2010 (please refer to DFO Fishery Notices for further details).

Area 18-1, 18-4 and 18-11 and Areas 29 – 1 to 6: Open to Area H troll 12:01 a.m. Sunday, August 8, 2010, until further notice.

Area 29: Portions of 29 – 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 to 17: Open to Area E gillnets from 2 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 10, 2010. (Please refer to DFO Fishery Notices for further details).

#### **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 7, 2010 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) Tuesday, August 10, 2010.

Areas 6,7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to net fishing from 5:00 a.m. Friday, August 6, 2010 to 5:00 a.m. Sunday, August 8, 2010.

##### **NON INDIAN FISHERY:**

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to purse seines from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, August 8, 2010.

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to reefnets from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, August 8, 2010.

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to gillnets from 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. (midnight), Sunday, August 8, 2010.

(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 Monday August 9, 2010.