

Wednesday, August 26, 2009

The Fraser River Panel met Wednesday, August 26 to discuss fisheries management plans for the harvest of pink salmon.

At the meeting today the run size estimates of 175,000 Early Summer-run, 650,000 Summer-run, 60,000 Birkenhead, and 450,000 True Late-run sockeye were unchanged. Present assessments indicate that Fraser River pink salmon are tracking abundance levels exceeding their 75% probability level forecast of 12,490,000 fish.

The Panel announced the following regulations for Panel Area waters directed at the harvest of pink salmon:

CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

Remain closed to fishing.

UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:

TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:

Areas 6, 7, and 7A: Open to net fishing from 5:00 a.m., Friday, August 28, 2009 to 8:00 a.m. Saturday, August 29, 2009.

Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: As previously announced, open to drift gillnets from 12:00 p.m. (noon), Wednesday, August 26, 2009 to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Saturday, August 29, 2009.

NON INDIAN FISHERY:

Area 7: Open to purse seines for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday, August 27, 2009.

Area 7: Open to gillnets for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. (midnight), Thursday, August 27, 2009.

Area 7A: Open to purse seines for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday, August 27, 2009.

Area 7A: Open to gillnets for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 3:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. (midnight), Thursday, August 27, 2009.

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to reefnets for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 26, 2009; 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, August 27, 2009; and from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday, August 28, 2009.

(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 August 28, 2009.