

Friday, August 22, 2008

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, August 22 to review the status of the sockeye runs and receive an update on environmental conditions in the Fraser River.

The marine migration of Fraser River sockeye this season is nearing completion. At the meeting today, the run size estimates of Fraser River sockeye were unchanged: 460,000 Early Summer-run, 990,000 Summer-run, 65,000 sockeye from the Birkenhead stock-group, and 230,000 True Late-run sockeye.

Fraser River water temperatures have been considerably higher than average over the past several days. On August 21, the Fraser River discharge at Hope was about 3,500 cms, which is approximately 200 cms higher than average, while the water temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek was 18.7 °C, which is 1.5 °C warmer than average for this date. Water temperatures are expected to decline over the next week due to generally cooler, wetter weather in the Fraser River watershed.

All commercial fisheries remain closed to fishing in Panel Area waters.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on August 26, 2008.