

Tuesday, July 8, 2008

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, July 8 to receive an update on the migration of Early Stuart sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

In-season assessments of Early Stuart sockeye indicate that they are currently tracking close to the 50% probability level forecast of abundance, which is 35,000 fish. Migration conditions for sockeye entering the Fraser River are presently satisfactory. The discharge of the Fraser River at Hope on July 7 was 6700 cms, which is approximately 11% higher than normal for this date. The water temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 7 was 16.2 °C, which is about 1 °C higher than 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 at the present time.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on July 15, 2008.