

Tuesday, August 26, 2008

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, August 26 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 nearly complete. At the meeting today, the run size estimate of 460,000 Early Summer-run sockeye was decreased to 450,000 fish. The run size estimate of 990,000 Summer-run sockeye was reduced to 980,000 fish. The run size estimate of 65,000 sockeye in the Birkenhead stock-group was decreased to 55,000 fish. The run size estimate of 230,000 True Late-run sockeye was lowered to 190,000 fish (which is the sum of 44,000 Harrison sockeye and 146,000 Weaver/Shuswap sockeye). The estimated 50% migration dates of these Fraser River sockeye runs through Area 20 this season are as follows: July 15 for Early Summer-run; July 25 for Summer-run; August 6 for Birkenhead; and July 31 for True Late-run sockeye (which relates to July 22 for Harrison and August 3 for Weaver/Shuswap sockeye).

Fraser River discharge levels and water temperatures are presently satisfactory for the migration of Fraser River sockeye salmon.

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

This is the final in-season meeting of the Fraser River Panel in 2008.