

Monday, August 27, 2007

The Fraser River Panel met Monday, August 27 to receive an update on the status of the Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon runs and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

Sockeye catches in the marine area purse seine test fisheries have been low over the past few days. At the meeting today the run size estimate for Early Summer-run sockeye remained at 170,000 fish, while the run size estimate for Summer-run sockeye of 825,000 fish was decreased to 700,000 fish. The Panel also approved a change in the run size estimate for true Late-run sockeye from 800,000 fish to 670,000 fish, which was comprised of 470,000 Late Shuswap, and Weaver sockeye and 200,000 Harrison sockeye. The run size estimate for Birkenhead sockeye of 150,000 was unchanged at the meeting today.

Test fishing catches of pink salmon in the marine assessment areas have been lower over the last two days. An in-season estimate of the abundance of Fraser River pink salmon will be provided after the expected peak marine migration timing through marine assessment areas later this week.

On August 26, the Fraser River discharge at Hope was about 2,700 cms, which is slightly below average for this date and the water temperature at Qualark Creek was 17.3 °C, which is 0.6 °C higher than average.

**CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

Remain closed to fishing.

**UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

**TREATY INDIAN FISHERY:**

Areas 4B, 5 and 6C: As previously announced, extended for drift gillnets for pink salmon from 12:00 p.m. (noon), Saturday, August 25, 2007 to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Wednesday, August 29, 2007.

Areas 6, 7, and 7A: As previously announced, open to net fishing for pink salmon from 5:00 a.m., Sunday, August 26, 2007 to 9:00 p.m. Monday, August 27, 2007 southerly and easterly of a straight line drawn from the Iwersen's Dock on Point Roberts in the State of Washington to the Georgina Point Light at the entrance to Active Pass in the Province of British Columbia.

## **NON INDIAN FISHERY:**

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to gillnets for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. (midnight) Tuesday, August 28, 2007 southerly and easterly of a straight line drawn from the low water range marker in Boundary Bay on the International Boundary through the east tip of Point Roberts in the State of Washington to the East Point Light on Saturna Island in the Province of British Columbia.

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open to purse seines for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 28, 2007 southerly and easterly of a straight line drawn from the low water range marker in Boundary Bay on the International Boundary through the east tip of Point Roberts in the State of Washington to the East Point Light on Saturna Island in the Province of British Columbia.

Areas 7 and 7A: As previously announced, open for reefnets for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 28, 2007 southerly and easterly of a straight line drawn from the low water range marker in Boundary Bay on the International Boundary through the east tip of Point Roberts in the State of Washington to the East Point Light on Saturna Island in the Province of British Columbia.

(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, 2007.