

Tuesday, August 28, 2007

The Fraser River Panel met Tuesday, August 28 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 estimates were unchanged: 170,000 Early Summer-run; 700,000 Summer-run; 150,000 Birkenhead, and 670,000 true Late-run sockeye. Some run sizes may be decreased at future Panel meetings if lower than expected numbers of sockeye migrate through marine and river assessment areas.

Test fishing catches of pink salmon in the marine assessment areas have also been generally lower in recent 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.

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

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: Extended for drift gillnets for pink salmon from 12:00 p.m. (noon) Wednesday, August 29, 2007 to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Saturday, September 1, 2007.

Areas 6, 7, and 7A: Open to net fishing for pink salmon from 5:00 a.m., Thursday, August 30, 2007 to 9:00 p.m. Friday, August 31, 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: Open to gillnets for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. (midnight) Wednesday, August 29, 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: Open to purse seines for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye salmon from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 29, 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: Open for reefnets for pink salmon with non-retention of sockeye from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 29, 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 31, 2007.