

Friday, July 7, 2006

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, July 7 to receive an update on the migration of Early Stuart sockeye and review the status of migration conditions in the Fraser River watershed.

It is too early in the marine migration of Early Stuart sockeye to provide an assessment on their run size, although there are indications that their run timing may be late. An update on Early Stuart timing and abundance is expected to occur at the next scheduled Panel meeting on July 11. The sockeye salmon escapement past Mission to date is 8,100 fish, and will be monitored on a daily basis throughout the 2006 migration.

Migration conditions related to high water temperatures are of concern for sockeye entering the Fraser River at this time, although temperatures are forecast to moderate over the coming days. The discharge of the Fraser River at Hope on July 7 was 4,100 cms, while the water temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark Creek on July 7 was 19.0 °C, which is approximately 3° C warmer than average for this date.

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 11, 2006.