

Friday, July 8, 2005

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, 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.

PSC staff advised the Panel that current estimates of Early Stuart sockeye abundance are well below forecast (258,000 fish at the 50% probability level) and that the total run is unlikely to exceed 100,000 fish. An update on Early Stuart run size will be provided at the next Panel meeting on July 12.

Migration conditions for sockeye in the Fraser River are presently satisfactory. The discharge level in the Fraser River (at Hope) is currently 5,350 cms, which is 12% lower than average. The water temperature of the Fraser River (at Qualark Creek) on July 7 was 15.7 °C, which is 0.7 °C warmer than average.

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

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on July 12, 2005.