

Friday, August 12, 2005

The Fraser River Panel met Friday, August 12 to receive an update on the migration of Fraser River sockeye salmon and discuss fisheries plans.

The run size estimate of 250,000 Early Summer-run sockeye was unchanged at the meeting today. The abundance of Summer-run sockeye migrating through Area 20 is still tracking far below the 75% p level abundance even if their marine timing is later than that observed in 1993 and 1997, when the peak abundance in Area 20 occurred on August 16. A preliminary, in-season estimate of Summer-run sockeye run size should be possible next week.

The low abundance of 4 year-old Early Summer-run and Summer-run Fraser sockeye to-date has prevented the commencement of most fisheries that were scheduled during pre-season planning.

On August 11 the discharge level in the Fraser River (at Hope) was approximately 3050 cms and the water temperature of the Fraser River (at Qualark Creek) was 18.1 °C.

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 from 12:00 p.m. (noon), Saturday, August 13, 2005, to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Wednesday, August 17, 2005.

NON INDIAN FISHERY:

Remain closed to fishing.

(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 Tuesday, August 16, 2005.