

Thursday, July 08, 2004

The Fraser Panel met Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup> to review the status of the Fraser River sockeye migration. Early Stuart sockeye have been present in Juan de Fuca Strait and the Fraser River for the past 2 weeks. The abundance of this stock has been tracking considerably below the 50% pre-season forecast level. After review of this information, the Panel approved a provisional estimate for the Early Stuart run-size of 137,000 sockeye which is the 75% p level of the pre-season forecast.

Water levels in the Fraser River have been considerably below normal during the sockeye migration to date. As of July 8 the flow at Hope was 4,400 cubic meters-per-second and the water temperature at Qualark was 16.9 °C on Thursday.

The Panel will meet again, Tuesday July 13<sup>th</sup>.