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**No. 8**

**WEEKLY REPORT**

**August 29, 2025**

The Fraser River Panel (Panel) met today to review in-season assessment data on Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon.

### **Test fishing and stock identification information**

Sockeye and pink catches in marine areas have declined in both Johnstone Strait and Juan de Fuca Strait, indicating both the sockeye and pink salmon run are nearing their end in marine areas. The estimated 5-day average diversion rate of sockeye through Johnstone Strait is 87% and for pink salmon it is 46%. DNA analysis of a sockeye sample recently collected from the Area 12 purse seine test fishery indicated Fraser River sockeye compositions of 70% Summer run and 30% Late run. About 75% of the pink salmon in Area 20 are predicted to be Fraser pinks.

Daily in-season test fishing catch updates, both for sockeye and pink salmon, are available on the PSC website in an interactive visual application ([Fraser Panel Data Application](#)).

### **In-season Assessment Information**

#### **Fraser River Sockeye Salmon**

As of August 28, 7,451,600 Fraser River sockeye salmon have passed Mission and the current in-season run size estimate for total Fraser River sockeye based on adopted run size estimates for the individual management groups is 9,275,000 sockeye. This is three times the pre-season forecast. Observations of Late run in in-river test fisheries has been increasing and approximately 442,000 Late run sockeye are estimated to be delaying their entry into the Fraser River. These sockeye are predicted to migrate upstream around September 12 and as of August 28, 491,000 have passed Mission. The strategy to delay their upstream migration to periods when in-river water temperatures are generally lower improves their chances to successfully make it to the spawning grounds.

On August 29, the Panel adopted updated run sizes of 7,000,000 and 1,150,000 for the Summer and Late-run management groups, respectively, and an associated Area 20 Late run timing of August 14. Given the proportional stock composition for the Late run management group, a proportional Management Adjustment of 1.04 was also adopted.

#### **Fraser River Pink Salmon**

Like delaying Late run stocks, pink salmon delay their upstream migration into the Fraser River. At the moment, around 5,000,000 pink salmon are estimated to be present in the Strait of Georgia. In the last few days there has been a substantial increase in the abundance of pink salmon entering the Fraser River and this has been reflected by the very large daily pink salmon estimates observed at the Mission site, approximately 1,000,000 a day for the last three days. The estimated escapement of pink salmon past Mission through August 28 is 4,524,700. This is the earliest upstream migration of large abundances of pink salmon since enumeration at the Mission site commenced in 2011. The pre-season median (p50) forecast for Fraser River pink salmon was 27,000,000 (12,600,000 at the p10, up to 57,900,000 at the p90). At Tuesday's meeting the Panel reduced the run size to 12,500,000 with an associated Area

20 timing of August 13. This is the earliest timing for pink salmon on record but is in line with the timing observed in the past 5 return years (15-20 August). It continues the recent trend towards earlier pink timing given that the long-term median timing is August 28. The earlier migration timing of pink salmon results in an increased overlap in sockeye and pink salmon migration through marine areas, complicating fisheries access to harvestable surplus of pink salmon while limiting bycatch of Late run sockeye.

### **Migration Conditions in the Fraser River**

On August 28, the Fraser River water discharge at Hope was 1,997 cubic meters per second (cms), and approximately 22% lower than average for this date. The temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark on August 28 was 20.0°C, which is 2.5°C higher than average for this date. DFO's Environmental Watch program projects that river temperature will increase to 20.1°C, while discharge is forecast to decrease to about 1,804 cms over the next 6 days.

At the Chilko River hydroacoustic site, 186,000 sockeye have been counted to date and these estimates are in line with predictions based on the Chilko daily abundance observed at Mission 20 days prior, indicating that the early part of this run did not encounter major migration delays or losses en-route to the spawning grounds. Daily mean turbidity in the Chilcotin River is the lowest it has been all season at both the Farwell Canyon and Hanceville sites.

### **Escapement Update**

Visual surveys began on the Upper Chilliwack River August 5 and sockeye are now past peak spawning. The Scotch Creek fence is operational and 6,067 sockeye have been counted past the fence as of August 27. Visual surveys started on the North/South Thompson system and sockeye in the upper Barriere River are approaching peak spawning. Sockeye in the South Thompson area including the Eagle and Anstey Rivers are holding. The hydroacoustic program on the Nadina River has counted 23,222 sockeye as of August 24. As of August 26, the hydroacoustic sonar program on the Stellako River has counted 39,360 sockeye and most of these fish are assumed to be a mix of Nadina and Stellako sockeye. The Quesnel River and Chilko River hydroacoustic programs have counted 65,553 and 186,036 sockeye past these sites, respectively. Visual surveys commenced on the North Thompson on August 21 and sockeye are reported as holding. Visual surveys also started in the Harrison-Lillooet area on August 21 but no sockeye have been observed in Big Silver or Cogburn creeks. The counting fence at Sweltzer Creek (Cultus Lake) became operational on July 30 and as of August 26, 16 sockeye have been counted.

### **Regulatory Announcements & Resources**

The Panel announced the following regulations for commercial salmon fisheries in Panel Area waters:

#### **CANADIAN FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

Pacific Fishery Management Areas 29-3, 29-4, 29-6: Extend for Area H troll ITQ sockeye fishery not earlier than 00:01 on August 27, 2025, to no later than 23:59 on August 30, 2025. Please refer to DFO Fishery Notice for further details.

#### **UNITED STATES FRASER RIVER PANEL AREA WATERS:**

As previously announced:

#### **TREATY TRIBAL FISHERY:**

Areas 4B, 5, and 6C: Open for drift gillnet fishing 12 p.m. (noon), Wednesday, August 27, 2025 through 12 p.m. (noon), Saturday, August 30, 2025. Sockeye may be retained for ceremonial and subsistence purposes only.

The next in-season meeting of the Panel is scheduled to occur on September 2. Weekly reports in this series will be provided by the Panel through the Commission every Friday during the in-season management period to inform those interested in the progress of the Fraser River sockeye salmon run. Weekly reports and regulatory announcements can be obtained via [Fraser Panel In-Season Information - Pacific Salmon Commission \(psc.org\)](http://psc.org) or by subscribing to our eNews [Pacific Salmon Commission \(list-manage.com\)](http://list-manage.com). Regulations and resources for fishing schedules, test fishing catch and DFO's environmental watch program can be found in Table 1.

Table 1. Regulations & Resources

<b>Fishing Schedule Contacts/Resources</b>	<b>Phone Number/ Website Links</b>
United States fishing schedules (Treaty Tribes)	1-800-562-6142
United States fishing schedules (All Citizen)	1-800-662-9825 Option 1
Canadian fisheries opening and closures	604-666-2828 1-866-431-3474 (toll free)
PSC Daily Test Fishing Catch (recorded message)	604-666-8200 <a href="http://psc.org">Test Fishing Results - Pacific Salmon Commission (psc.org)</a>
DFO's Environmental Watch program	<a href="http://dfompo.gc.ca">Fraser River environmental watch   Pacific Region   Fisheries and Oceans Canada (dfo-mpo.gc.ca)</a>

Note: For species other than sockeye or pink salmon, consult the appropriate regulatory agency regarding fisheries regulations in the Fraser River Panel Management Area.

### **Contacts**

Canada: Adam Keizer, Chair, Fraser River Panel

United States: Jason Gobin, Vice-Chair, Fraser River Panel

2025 Run status of Fraser sockeye and pink salmon

Date: Aug. 29, 2025

Week of: Aug. 24 - Aug. 30, 2025	Sockeye				Pink	
	Management Group				Total	Total
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	Fraser	Fraser
Mission passage (includes Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam) <sup>1</sup>	731,900	373,200	5,852,700	490,600	7,448,400	4,528,000
Catch downstream of Mission	3,900	34,700	748,400	111,600	898,600	940,400
Accounted run-to-date	735,800	407,900	6,601,100	602,200	8,347,000	5,468,400
<b>Run size adopted in-season <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>725,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>7,000,000</b>	<b>1,150,000</b>	<b>9,275,000</b>	<b>12,500,000</b>
Run size forecasted pre-season	116,000	221,000	2,136,000	468,000	2,941,000	26,965,000
<b>Area 20 timing adopted in-season</b>	<b>6-Jul</b>	<b>1-Aug</b>	<b>11-Aug</b>	<b>14-Aug</b>		<b>13-Aug</b>
Area 20 timing expected pre-season	8-Jul	3-Aug	15-Aug	20-Aug		21-Aug

<sup>1</sup> Run sizes are usually not adopted until after the peak of the run has passed through marine test fishery areas in Juan de Fuca and Johnstone straits.

2025 Catch-to-date by fishery

Date: Aug. 29, 2025

Week of: Aug. 24 - Aug. 30, 2025		Sockeye		Pink	
		Total	Fraser	Total	Fraser
<b>Canada</b>		<b>791,834</b>	<b>785,044</b>	<b>177,644</b>	<b>73,388</b>
<b>Commercial</b>		<b>160,098</b>	<b>159,380</b>	<b>59,191</b>	<b>28,635</b>
	B Purse Seine	96,850	96,253	46,510	18,928
	D Gillnet	24,132	24,033	3,547	1,515
	E Gillnet	35,137	35,137	6,447	6,447
	F Troll	0	0	0	0
	G Troll	0	0	0	0
	H Troll	3,979	3,957	2,687	1,746
<b>First Nations</b>		<b>617,556</b>	<b>611,485</b>	<b>106,924</b>	<b>43,755</b>
	Food, Social & Ceremonial (FSC)	552,346	546,275	85,152	21,983
	Marine	238,950	233,073	84,339	21,170
	Fraser R.	313,396	313,201	813	813
	Economic Opportunity (EO) & Demonstration (Demo)	65,210	65,210	21,772	21,772
	Marine	0	0	0	0
	Fraser R.	65,210	65,210	21,772	21,772
<b>Recreational</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,301</b>	<b>770</b>
	Marine	0	0	11,301	770
	Fraser R.	0	0	0	0
<b>Charter (Albion gillnet test fishery)</b>		<b>703</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>228</b>
<b>Other**</b>		<b>13,477</b>	<b>13,477</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>United States</b>		<b>303,083</b>	<b>302,930</b>	<b>1,132,910</b>	<b>873,343</b>
<b>Commercial</b>		<b>297,248</b>	<b>297,117</b>	<b>1,132,910</b>	<b>873,343</b>
	Treaty Tribes (TRB)	217,950	217,942	752,441	572,456
	All Citizen (AC)	79,298	79,175	380,469	300,886
<b>Treaty Tribes Ceremonial &amp; Subsistence (C&amp;S)</b>		<b>5,835</b>	<b>5,813</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other**</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>All Citizen Recreational</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Alaska *</b>		<b>na</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>na</b>
<b>Panel-approved Test Fisheries</b>		<b>32,387</b>	<b>31,623</b>	<b>15,669</b>	<b>10,210</b>
<b>Panel Waters</b>		<b>23,230</b>	<b>22,962</b>	<b>13,900</b>	<b>9,702</b>
<b>Non-Panel Waters</b>		<b>9,157</b>	<b>8,661</b>	<b>1,769</b>	<b>508</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,127,304</b>	<b>1,119,597</b>	<b>1,326,223</b>	<b>956,940</b>

\* Alaska catch is processed post-season and so is unavailable in-season.

\*\* May include unauthorized directed retention or unauthorized bycatch retention in fisheries directed at other species