Fraser River Sockeye In-season Update –July 18, 2025

The below is a summary of the July 18 Fraser Panel Meeting. For specific details please refer to the Fraser Panel distribution from the call. This is the third in-season meeting of 2025 and information is building. Mission hydroacoustic and marine and in-river test fisheries have been running for more than a week with marine seines beginning late next week. Strong, early-season returns for Early Stuarts are being observed across the assessment programs, with variable migrations conditions throughout the watershed. As such the panel adopted an in-season Early Stuart run size of 725,000 with a pMA of 1.86. Information will be further evaluated during the tech meeting on July 24. If you have any questions or notice any errors in the summary, please contact Colin.Schwindt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca so I can make adjustments.

2025 Run Status of Fraser Sockeye:

The information presented in this distribution has been prepared by PSC Secretariat staff and should be considered preliminary until reviewed by the Fraser River Panel

Week of: Jul. 13 - Jul. 19, 2025	Sockeye				
	Management Group				Total
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	Fraser
Mission passage (incldes Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam)	586,100	5,100	900	0	592,100
Catch downstream of Mission	3,400	200	100	0	3,700
Accounted Run To Date	589,500	5,300	1,000	0	595,800
Run size adopted in-season [1]	**na**	**na**	**na**	**na**	**na**
Run size forecasted pre-season	116,000	221,000	2,136,000	468,000	2,941,000
Area 20 timing adopted in-season	**na**	**na**	**na**	**na**	**na**
Area 20 timing expected pre-season	8-Jul	3-Aug	15-Aug	20-Aug	14-Aug
Johnstone Str. Diversion Rate			In-season 5-day average		**10%**
			Preseason forecast of annual rate:		64%

[1] *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.*

- Total run accounted to date is 595,800 Fraser Sockeye almost all of which are Early Stuarts, with small amounts of Early Summers and Summers.
- The Early Stuart run size is currently exceeding all forecasts. Abundance in the marine and lower river declining as the stock migrates up river. Early summers are expected to build in the coming weeks.
- 90% of the run is currently migrating south through Juan de Fuca.

In-season Data Flow

Acoustics

- **Qualark:** Hydroacoustics started on July 1 with the Qualark TF starting on July 2. Average daily passage began strong (>1,000) increasing to 50k, with recent passage starting to decline as E. Stuarts migrate further upstream.
- **Mission:** Hydroacoustic assessments of daily sockeye passage began July 4. Counts also

started strong increasing to a peak of 67k on July 10 with recent passage declining to 30k. Average daily comparable passage (accounting for 2-day offset to Qualark) is 40,000 per day.

Test fishing catch

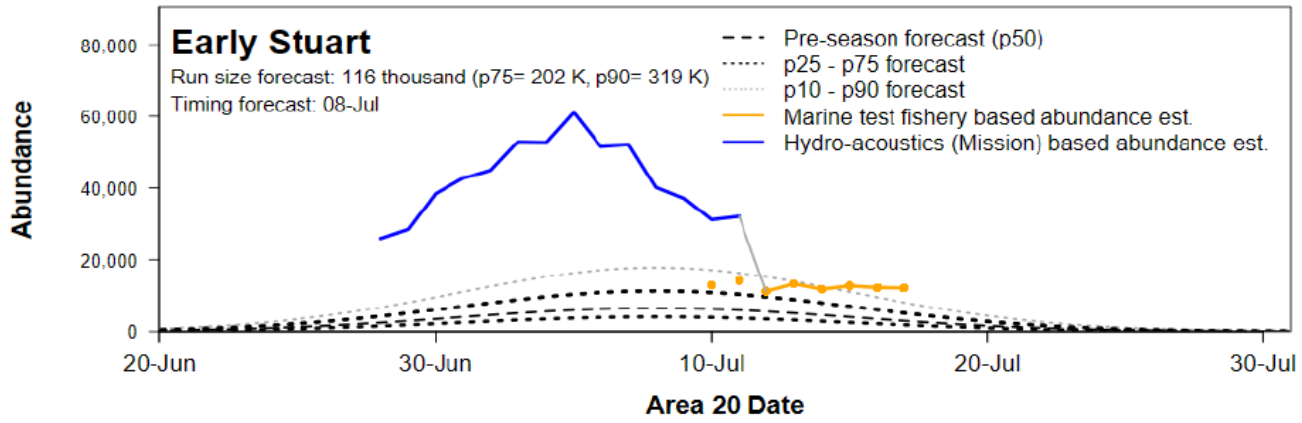
- **Marine Area:** A12 GN started Jul 8 with a peak catch of 69 on July 10. A20 started July 10 with continued strong catches (200 – 300). A20 and A12 purse seines are scheduled to start on July 25 and July 24, respectively.
- **Fraser River:** Whonnock is operational as of June 25 with above average catches observed early with recent catches dropping to near 0. Brownsville began strong on July 10 (207) with recent catches declining as E. Stuarts migrate up river.

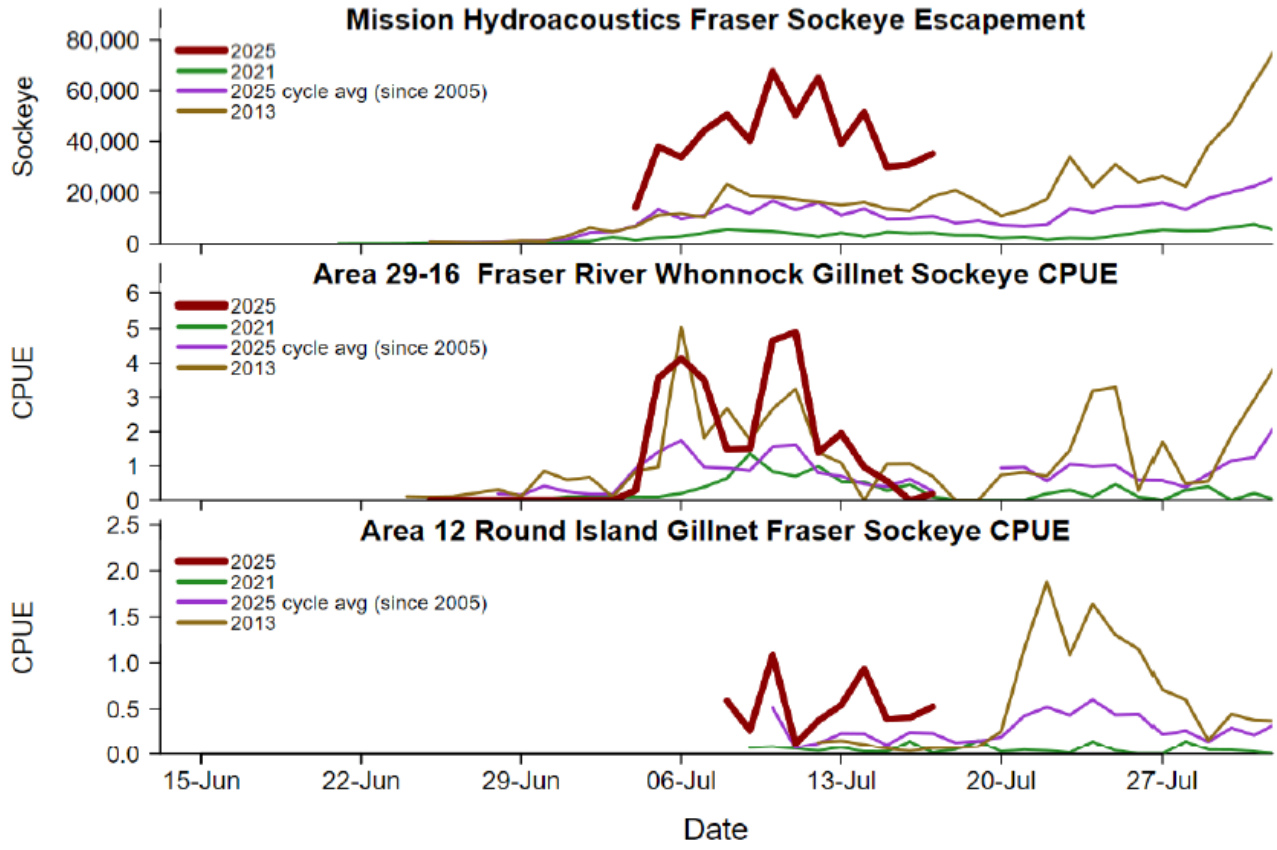
Stock Proportions

- **Marine Area:** Marine samples for July 15 indicate 70% are E. Stuart with E. Summers starting to build.
- **Fraser River**: In river samples for July 15 indicate almost all fish are 4 YO Early Stuarts.

Chilcotin Slide Area Update

- Monitoring of the area is ongoing, weekly updates are provided to the FRP on Fridays
- Several small sloughing events have occurred in the area resulting in short-term increases in turbidity.
- Sonar stations are in place above the area to monitor potential passage delays. No passage delay conditions were observed during the week of July 18

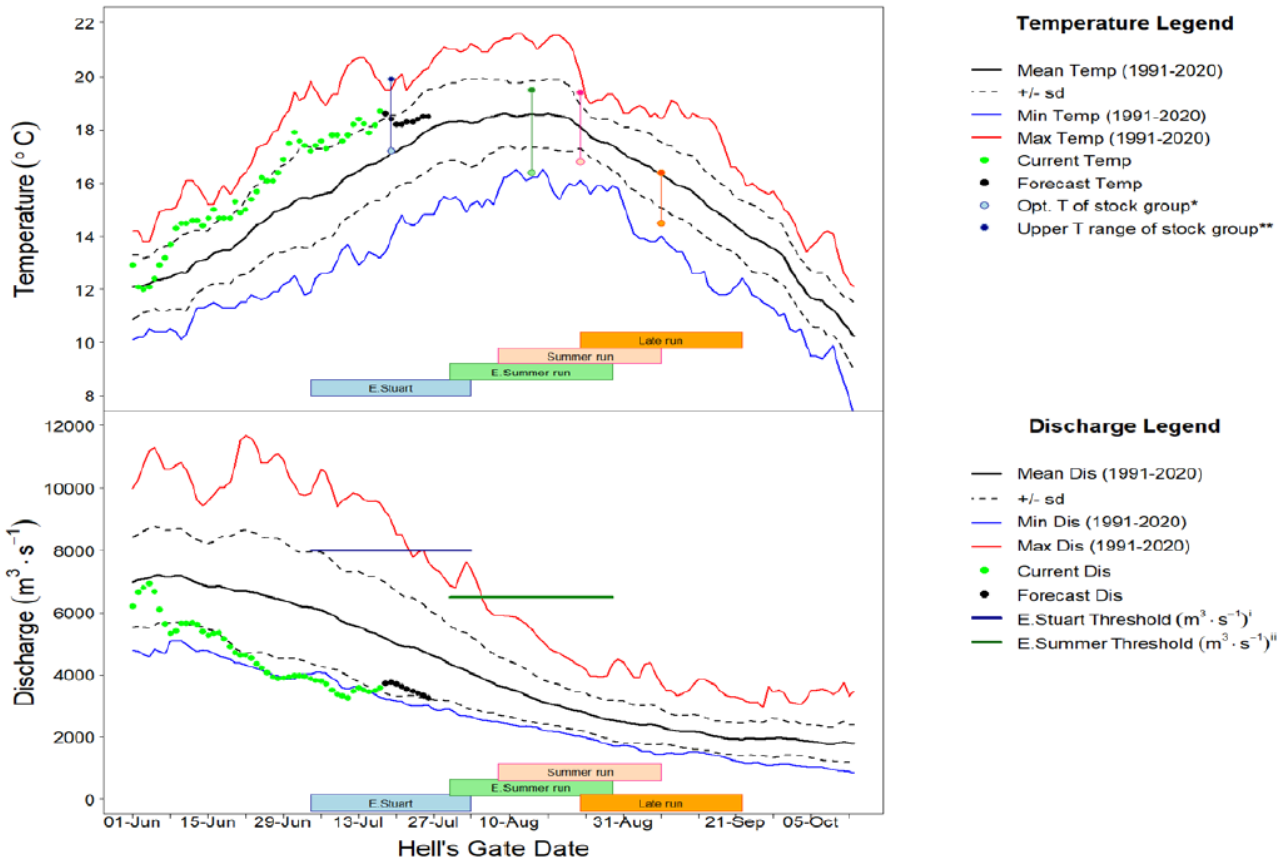



Mission Hydroacoustics Fraser Sockeye Escapement
Sockeye
80,000
60,000
40,000
20,000
0
2025
2021
2025 cycle avg (since 2005)
2013
Area 29-16 Fraser River Whonnock Gillnet Sockeye CPUE
CPUE
6
5
4
3
2
1
0
2025
2021
2025 cycle avg (since 2005)
2013
Area 12 Round Island Gillnet Fraser Sockeye CPUE
CPUE
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
0.0
2025
2021
2025 cycle avg (since 2005)
2013
15-Jun
22-Jun
29-Jun
06-Jul
13-Jul
20-Jul
27-Jul
Date

Environmental Conditions and Management Adjustments

- The high temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark on July 17 was 18.7°C, which is 1.9°C above average. Temps are projected to drop across the watershed next week.
- The Fraser River discharge at Hope was 3,593 m^3/s, which is approximately 32% lower than historical average. Discharge is not posing passage issues at this time.
- High water temperatures combined with low discharge are expected to increase on-route loss as the season progresses.

Fraser River Migration Conditions



Observations Throughout the Watershed

- Catches from Qualark and mid-river inspections indicate the majority of fish (>90%) are in good condition with no signs of marks or damage.

Assessments and Recommendations

Early Stuarts

- Returning higher than expected but migration conditions declined over the past week. An in-season run size of 725,000 with a pMA of 1.86 was adopted on July 18.

Early Summers

- No changes to preseason estimates

Summers

- No changes to preseason estimates

Lates

- No changes to preseason estimates

Management Group	Run Size	Timing A20 50%date	Proportional Mngt. Adjust.[a]	Available Harvest [b]	Allowable Incidental Harvest [c]
Early Stuart (Pre-Season)	116,000	8 July	1.17	0	11,600
Early Stuart (Adopted In Season)	**725,000**	**6 July**	**1.86**	**0**	**72,500**
Early Summers (Pre-Season)	220,000	3 Aug	0.54	9,600	N/A
Early Summers (Adopted In Season)	**No Change**	**No Change**	**No Change**	**No Change**	**No Change**
Summer (Pre-Season)	2,137,000	15 Aug	0.28	235,000	N/A
Summer (Adopted In Season)	**No Change**	**No Change**	**No Change**	**0**	**No Change**
Late (Pre-Season)	468,000	20 August	1.56	0	46,800
Lates (Adopted In Season)	**No Change**	**No Change**	**No Change**	**0**	**No Change**

[a] Proportional Management Adjustment is multiplied by the escapement target to calculate the numerical management adjustment.
[b] Available harvest after deductions. Harvest includes all catch in all fisheries in Canada the United States and test fisheries. CTAC will be assessed in-season.
[c] Incidental allowable harvest in a LAER scenario. Incidental harvest is not a target and would be considered a maximum, includes test fishery catch and may include fishery induced mortalities.

Fishery Recommendations

- no fishery recommendations are being considered at this time.

Other Business

- 2025 Fraser River Panel Management Plan (formerly principles and constraints document) was reviewed by Canadian and American caucuses

Next Meeting

- Next Panel meeting is July 22, 2025.
- First Panel Tech meeting is July 24, 2025.