

## Fraser River Sockeye In-season Update –July 22, 2025

The below is a summary of the July 22 Fraser Panel Meeting. For specific details please refer to the Fraser Panel distribution from the call. This is the forth in-season meeting of 2025 and information is building. Mission hydroacoustic and marine and in-river test fisheries have been running for a few weeks with marine seines beginning later this week. Strong, early-season returns for Early Stuarts are being observed across the assessment programs, with variable migrations conditions throughout the watershed. Only July 18 the panel adopted an in-season Early Stuart run size of 725,000 with a pMA of 1.86. No further recommendation were provided at this time. 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](mailto:Colin.Schwindt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) so I can make adjustments.

### 2025 Run Status of Fraser Sockeye:

#### 2025 Run status of Fraser sockeye and pink salmon

Date: Jul. 22, 2025

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. 20 - Jul. 26, 2025                   | Sockeye          |          |           |         |              |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------|---------|--------------|
|                                                    | Management Group |          |           |         | Total Fraser |
|                                                    | E.Stuart         | E.Summer | Summer    | Late    |              |
| Mission passage (inclds Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam) | 647,000          | 15,600   | 3,500     | 0       | 666,100      |
| Catch downstream of Mission                        | 3,600            | 300      | 300       | 0       | 4,200        |
| Accounted Run To Date                              | 650,600          | 15,900   | 3,800     | 0       | 670,300      |
| Run size adopted in-season <sup>1</sup>            | 725,000          | 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                   | 6-Jul            | 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                            |                  |          |           |         | 27%          |
| Preseason forecast of annual rate:                 |                  |          |           |         | 64%          |

<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.

- Total run accounted to date is 670,300 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.
- 73% 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 16k. Average daily comparable passage (accounting for 2-day offset to Qualark ) is 35,000 per day.

### Test fishing catch

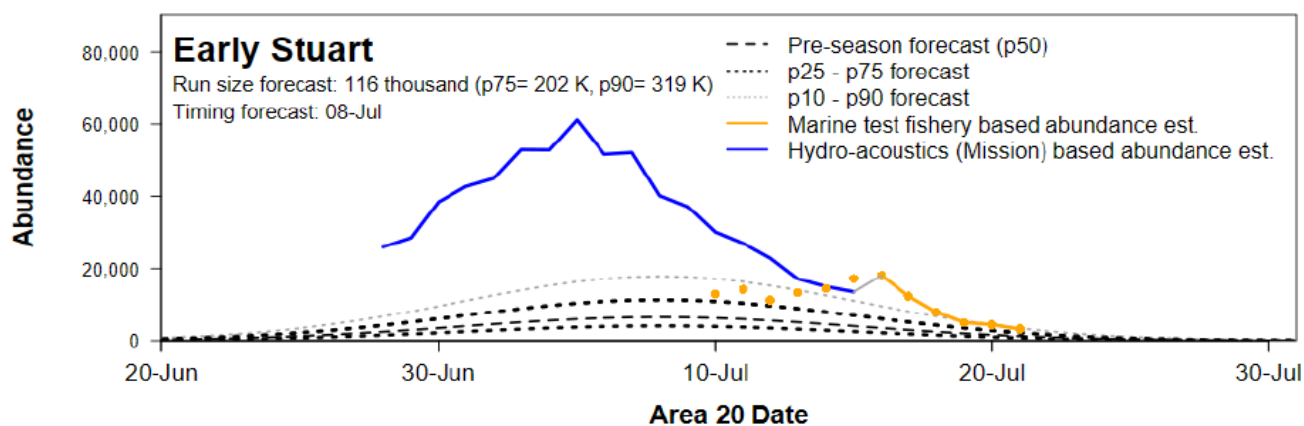
- **Marine Area:** A12 GN started Jul 8 with a peak catch of 69 on July 10 with recent mixed catches. A20 started July 10 with strong catches (200 – 300) early on with recent declines. A20 and A12 purse seines are scheduled to start on July 25 and July 24, respectively.
- **Fraser River:** Whonnock is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

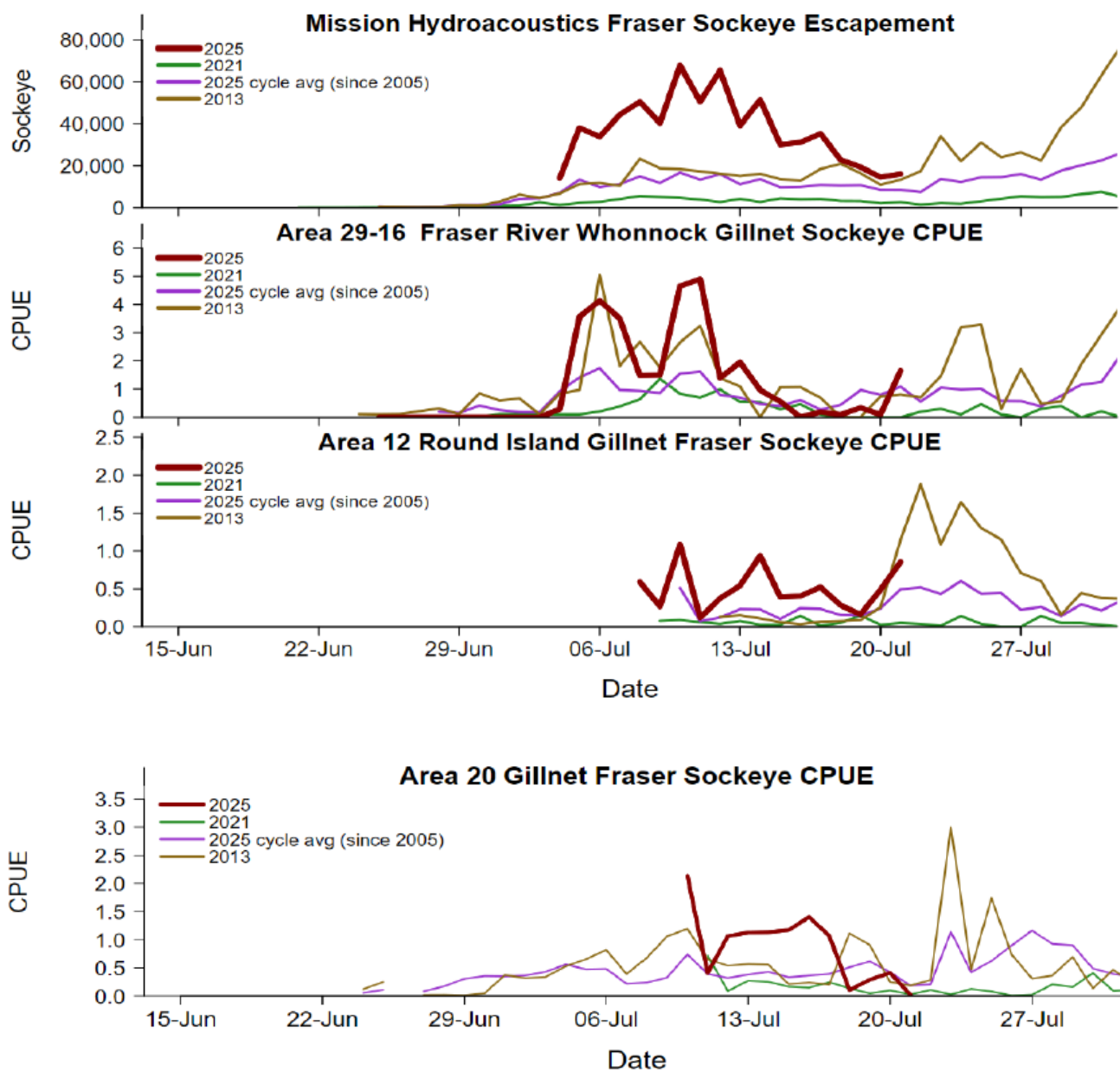
### Stock Proportions

- **Marine Area:** Marine samples for July 15 indicate 50% 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

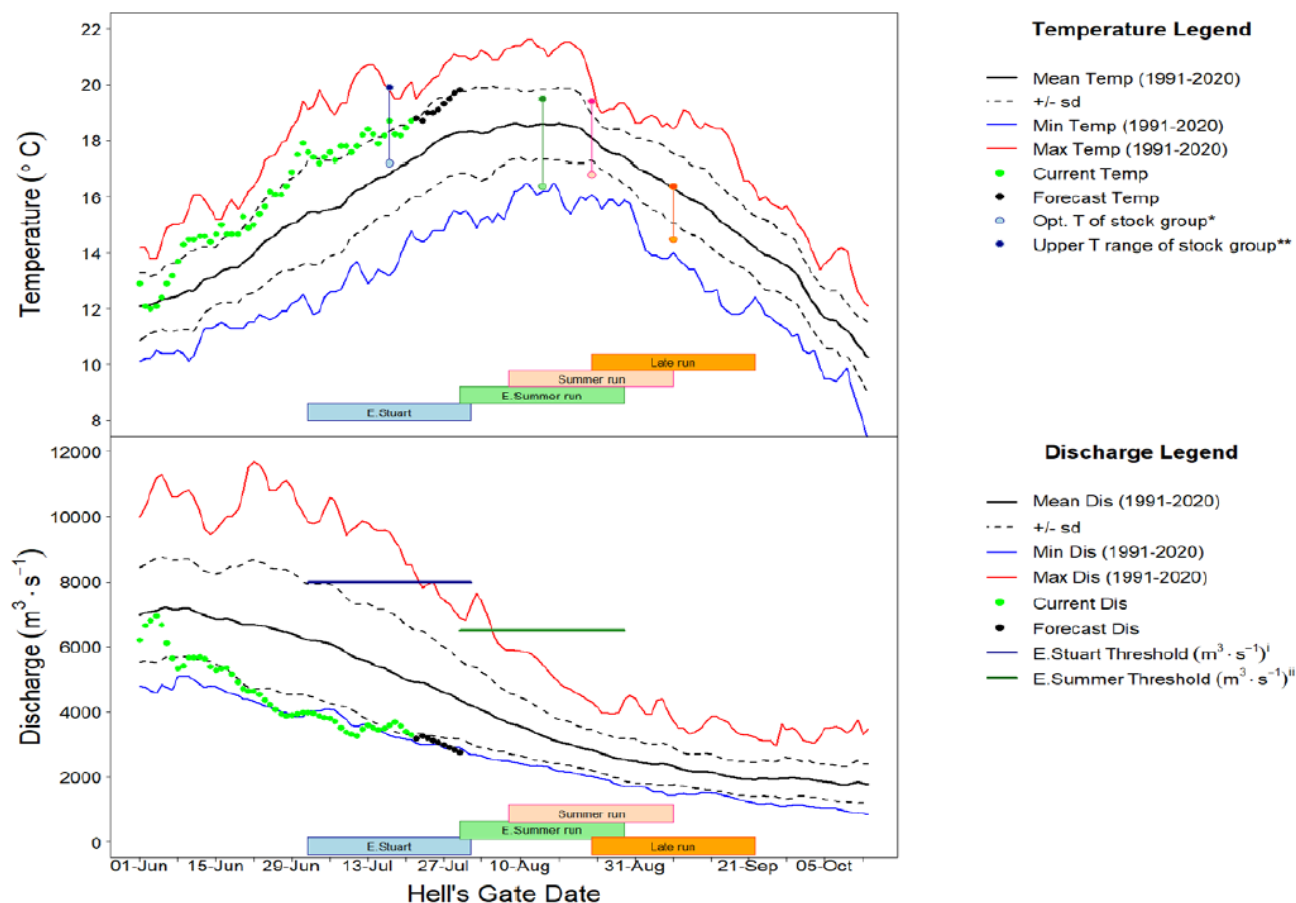




## Environmental Conditions and Management Adjustments

- The high temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark on July 21 was 18.7°C, which is 1.3°C above average. Temps are projected to increase across the watershed this week.
- The Fraser River discharge at Hope was 3,297 m<sup>3</sup>/s, which is approximately 33% 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. <sup>a</sup> | Available Harvest <sup>b</sup> | Allowable Incidental Harvest <sup>c</sup> |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Early Stuart (Pre-Season)                | 116,000          | 8 July             | 1.17                                    | 0                              | 11,600                                    |
| <b>Early Stuart (Adopted In Season)</b>  | <b>725,000</b>   | <b>6 July</b>      | <b>1.86</b>                             | <b>0</b>                       | <b>72,500</b>                             |
| Early Summers (Pre-Season)               | 220,000          | 3 Aug              | 0.54                                    | 9,600                          | N/A                                       |
| <b>Early Summers (Adopted In Season)</b> | <b>No Change</b> | <b>No Change</b>   | <b>No Change</b>                        | <b>No Change</b>               | <b>No Change</b>                          |
| Summer (Pre-Season)                      | 2,137,000        | 15 Aug             | 0.28                                    | 235,000                        | N/A                                       |
| <b>Summer (Adopted In Season)</b>        | <b>No Change</b> | <b>No Change</b>   | <b>No Change</b>                        | <b>0</b>                       | <b>No Change</b>                          |
| Late (Pre-Season)                        | 468,000          | 20 August          | 1.56                                    | 0                              | 46,800                                    |
| <b>Lates (Adopted In Season)</b>         | <b>No Change</b> | <b>No Change</b>   | <b>No Change</b>                        | <b>0</b>                       | <b>No Change</b>                          |

<sup>a</sup> Proportional Management Adjustment is multiplied by the escapement target to calculate the numerical management adjustment.

<sup>b</sup> 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.

<sup>c</sup> 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 adopted by Canadian and American caucuses

## **Next Meeting**

- Next Panel meeting is July 25, 2025.
- First Panel Tech meeting is July 24, 2025.