Fraser River Sockeye In-season Update –Aug 1, 2025

The below is a summary of the Aug 1 Fraser Panel Meeting. For specific details please refer to the Fraser Panel distribution from the call. This is the seventh in-season meeting of 2025 and information strong and building. Mission hydroacoustic and marine and in-river test fisheries have been running for a month now with recent seines showing continued strong results. Strong, early-season returns for Early Stuarts were observed across the assessment programs, with variable migrations conditions experienced by this stock. Only July 18 the panel adopted an in-season Early Stuart run size of 725,000 with a pMA of 1.86. Early Summers continue to track above expectations and today the panel adopted an in-season run size of 300k with a pMA of 0.54. Summers are tracking above p75 with high marine projections expected to observed at Mission next week. Pinks are also building in marine waters with strong early catches. Water temperatures are above average and discharge remains near record lows; continued high temperature could further increase en route loss. No further recommendation were provided at this time. Information will be further evaluated during the tech meeting on Aug 7. If you have any questions or notice any errors in the summary, please contact Colin.Schwindt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca so that adjustments can be made.

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. 27 - Aug. 2, 2025	Sockeye				
	Management Group				Total
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	Fraser
Mission passage (incldS Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam)	732,500	105,200	264,000	3,800	1,105,500
Catch downstream of Mission	3,900	1,000	3,500	100	8,500
Accounted Run To Date	736,400	106,200	267,500	3,900	1,114,000
Run size adopted in-season [1]	**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	**62%**
				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 1.1M Fraser Sockeye of which 736k are Early Stuarts, 106k Early Summers, 268k Summers and a small amount of Lates.
- The Early Stuart run size has exceeded all forecasts. Abundance in the marine and lower river has dropped off; no further updates to this MU are expected.
- Overall, Early Summers are closer to p75 with Chilliwack tracking below and Nadina and Thompson above.
- Summers are building in marine areas with strong early results tracking above p75.
- 62% of the run is currently migrating north through Johnstone Straight.

In-season Data Flow

Acoustics

- **Qualark:** Hydroacoustics have been running for almost a month with strong early results. Average daily passage began strong (>1,000) increasing to 50k, with recent passage increasing again as Summers build in the river.
- **Mission:** counts also started strong increasing with a early peak of 67k on July 10 followed passage declining to 15k. Recent passage has been increasing steadily to 78k as Summers build in river. Average daily comparable passage (accounting for 2-day offset to Qualark) since the last update has increased to 42,000 per day.

Test fishing catch

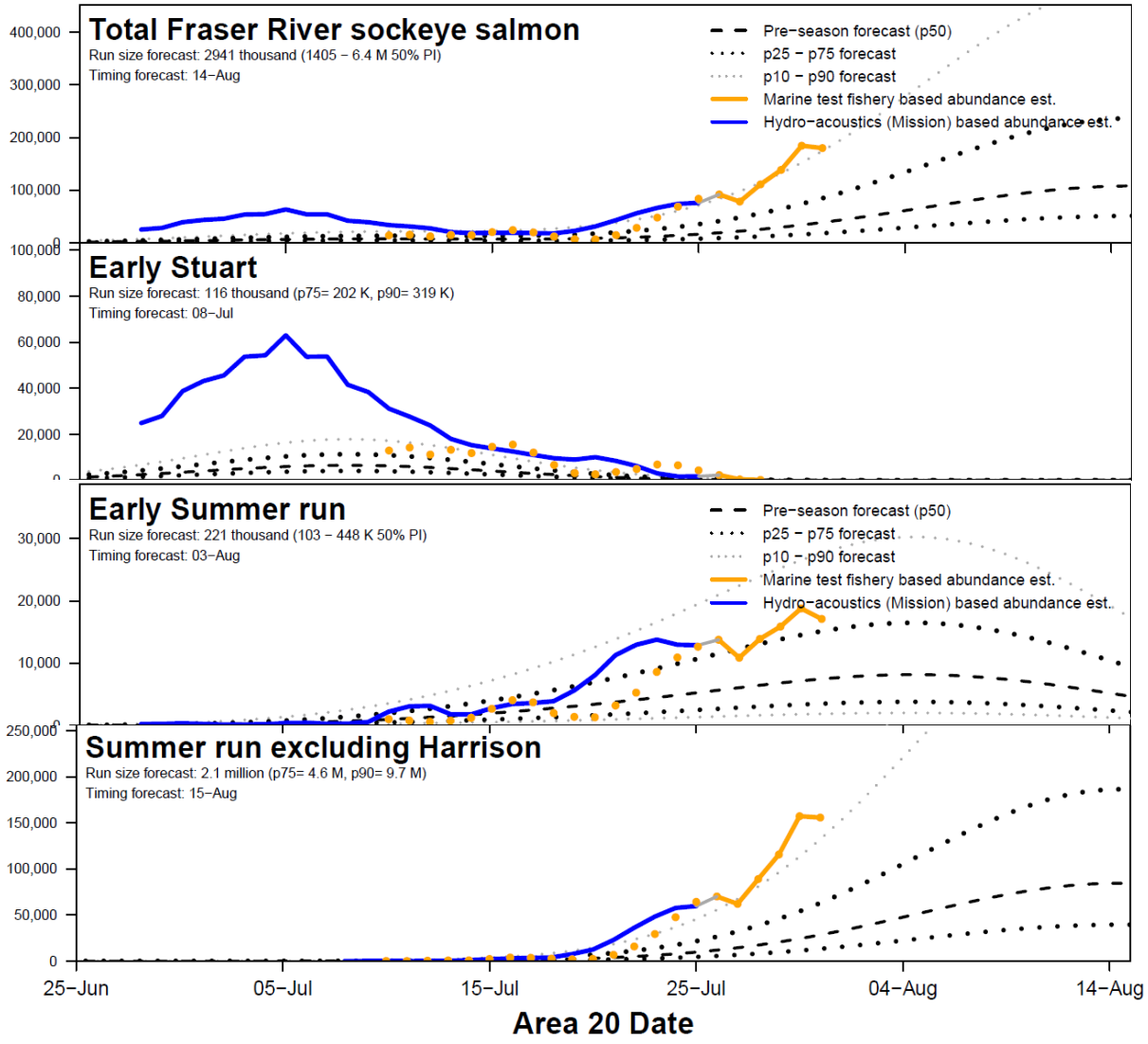
- **Marine Area:** A12 GN started Jul 8 with a peak catch of 69 on July 10 followed by declining catches with recent catches picking up as Summers build; A12 GN is scheduled to terminate Aug 3. A12 Purse seine started on July 24 with strong catches in its first few days with recent catches exceed expectations. A20 GN started July 10 with strong catches (200 – 300) early on with recent increases; A20 GN is schedule to end Aug 5. A20 purse seines started on July 25 with strong catches with recent increases.
- **Fraser River:** Whonnock is operational as of June 25 strong early catches, followed recent variable catches. Brownsville catches also began strong on July 10 (207) as E. Stuarts moved through, and have increased again as Summers build in river.

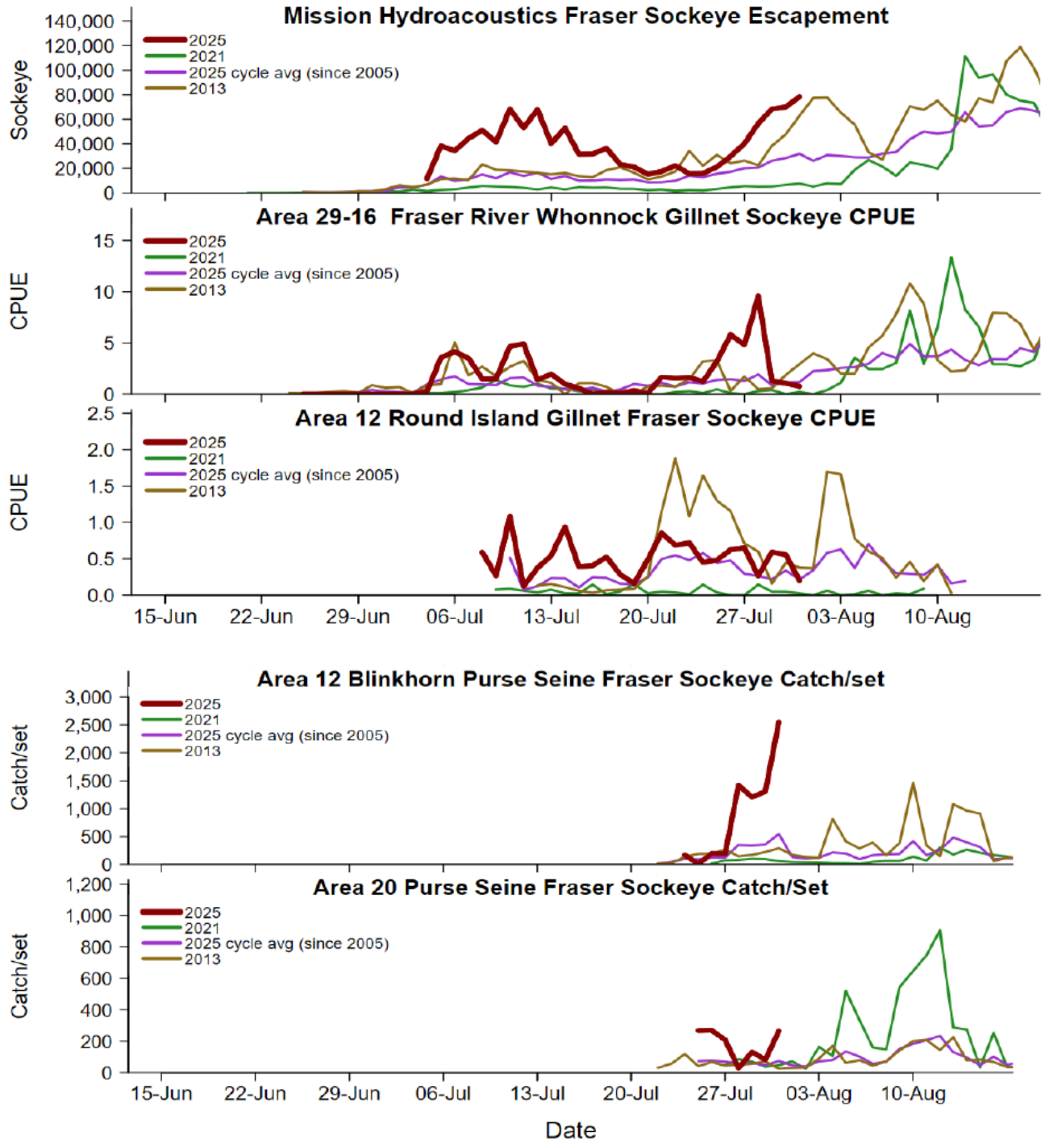
Stock Proportions

- **Marine Area:** Marine samples for July 29 indicate 93%% are Summers with E. Stuart through the area and small amounts (4%) of E. Summers and Lates (2%) observed.
- **Fraser River**: In river samples for July 29 indicate E. Stuarts are largely through (3%) and Summers (75%) and E. Summers (20%) are starting to build. Almost all fish are 4 YO.

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 25

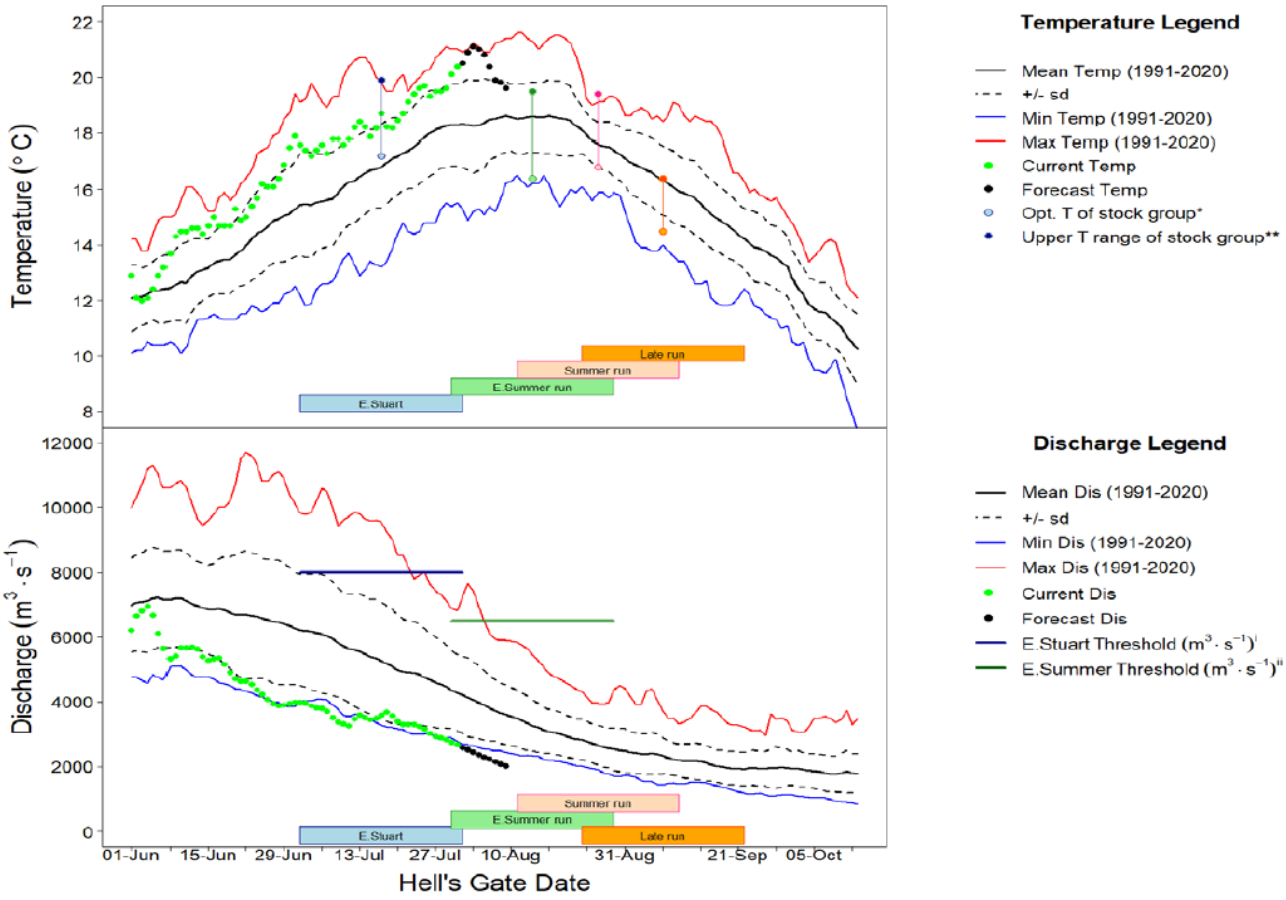

Total Fraser River sockeye salmon
Run size forecast: 2941 thousand (1405 – 6.4 M 50% PI)
Timing forecast: 14–Aug
Pre–season forecast (p50)
p25 – p75 forecast
p10 – p90 forecast
Marine test fishery based abundance est.
Hydro–acoustics (Mission) based abundance est.
400,000
300,000
200,000
100,000
0
Early Stuart
Run size forecast: 116 thousand (p75= 202 K, p90= 319 K)
Timing forecast: 08–Jul
100,000
80,000
60,000
40,000
20,000
0
Early Summer run
Run size forecast: 221 thousand (103 – 448 K 50% PI)
Timing forecast: 03–Aug
Pre–season forecast (p50)
p25 – p75 forecast
p10 – p90 forecast
Marine test fishery based abundance est.
Hydro–acoustics (Mission) based abundance est.
30,000
20,000
10,000
0
Summer run excluding Harrison
Run size forecast: 2.1 million (p75= 4.6 M, p90= 9.7 M)
Timing forecast: 15–Aug
250,000
200,000
150,000
100,000
50,000
0
25–Jun
05–Jul
15–Jul
25–Jul
04–Aug
14–Aug
Area 20 Date


Mission Hydroacoustics Fraser Sockeye Escapement
Sockeye
140,000
120,000
100,000
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
15
10
5
0
Area 12 Round Island Gillnet Fraser Sockeye CPUE
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
0.0
15-Jun
22-Jun
29-Jun
06-Jul
13-Jul
20-Jul
27-Jul
03-Aug
10-Aug
Area 12 Blinkhorn Purse Seine Fraser Sockeye Catch/set
Catch/set
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
Area 20 Purse Seine Fraser Sockeye Catch/Set
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Date

Environmental Conditions and Management Adjustments

- The high temperature of the Fraser River at Qualark on July 31 was 20.4°C, which is 2.1°C above average. Temps are projected to increase slightly across the watershed over the weekend.
- The Fraser River discharge at Hope was 2,227 m^3/s, which is approximately 37% 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

- Updates are provided on Fridays. 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

- An in-season run size of 300,000 with a pMA of 0.54 was adopted on Aug 1.

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)	**300,000**	**July 29**	**0.54**	**69,000**	**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 panel-area 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 Aug 5, 2025.
- Next Panel Tech meeting is Aug 7, 2025.