

Update No. 4
August 14th, 2025

2025 FRASER RIVER SOCKEYE ESCAPEMENT

In-season Update

In-season updates provide a general indication of run timing, relative abundance, fish condition, and behaviour of Fraser Sockeye, as well as the environmental conditions observed on the spawning grounds. Data and observations are derived from stock assessment field studies that implement hydroacoustic, mark-recapture, enumeration fence, and visual assessment methods. These data are not escapement estimates and should not be interpreted as such.

EARLY STUART

Sockeye have been observed in nearly all regularly surveyed spawning tributaries and have reached or surpassed peak spawn. Aerial surveys of the Driftwood system and other remote spawning areas were conducted on August 7-8. Sockeye are in overall good condition, however some pre-spawn mortality continues to be reported in high-density spawning areas. Water levels continue to decrease in all creeks. Counts, carcass recoveries, and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the current reporting period are summarized in Table 2.

EARLY SUMMER RUN

Lower Fraser

Upper Chilliwack River

Cyclic visual surveys began on August 5th. Sockeye in the upper Chilliwack River are in the early stages of spawning, with minimal carcass recoveries to date. The fish appear vigorous and healthy and water levels are estimated at 25–50% of bankfull. Counts, carcass recoveries, and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the current reporting period are summarized in Table 2.

Nechako

Nadina River

The Nadina River hydroacoustic site became operational on July 29. As of August 10th, 1,428 Sockeye have been counted at the Nadina hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of the Nadina River is 16.7°C.

SUMMER RUN**Nechako****Stellako River**

The Stellako River hydroacoustic site became operational on July 25. Sockeye counted at the Stellako hydroacoustic site during this reporting period are assumed to be Nadina Sockeye (Early Summer Run). As of August 11th, an estimated 9,138 Sockeye have been counted at the Stellako hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of the Stellako River is 18.0°C.

Chilcotin**Chilko River**

The Chilko River hydroacoustic site became operational on August 7th. As of August 10th, 153 Sockeye has been counted at the Chilko hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of the Chilko River is 15.0°C.

Quesnel**Quesnel River**

The Quesnel River hydroacoustic site became operational on August 6th. As of August 12th, 4,136 Sockeye has been counted at the Quesnel hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of the Quesnel river is 16.1°C.

LATE RUN**Cultus Lake**

The counting fence at Sweltzer Creek became operational on July 30. As of August 12th, one Sockeye has been counted at the Sweltzer Creek fence (Table 3). The water temperature of Sweltzer Creek is 25.5°C.

The next scheduled update will be on Thursday, August 21st.

Table 1: In-season estimates of Sockeye salmon passage upstream of hydroacoustic sites.

Date	Stellako (including Nadina)	Chilko	Nadina	Quesnel
	Sockeye Count	Sockeye Count	Sockeye Count	Sockeye Count
Jul-25	6	-	-	-
Jul-26	6	-	-	-
Jul-27	0	-	-	-
Jul-28	5	-	-	-
Jul-29	11	-	0	-
Jul-30	56	-	-	-
Jul-31	33	-	0	-

	Stellako (including Nadina)	Chilko	Nadina	Quesnel
Date	Sockeye Count	Sockeye Count	Sockeye Count	Sockeye Count
Aug-01	51	-	0	-
Aug-02	140	-	0	-
Aug-03	138	-	-	-
Aug-04	410	-	3	-
Aug-05	794	-	18	-
Aug-06	291	-	42	-
Aug-07	1,148	12	3	114
Aug-08	1,184	12	57	399
Aug-09	1,337	72	732	470
Aug-10	1,596	57	573	588
Aug-11	1,937	-	-	923
Aug-12	-	-	-	1,643
Aug-13	-	-	-	-
Total	9,138	153	1,428	4,136

One 20 minute file is counted per hour, per SONAR (i.e. 24 files/SONAR/day). These counts are expanded to produce hourly counts which are then summed to produce daily estimates of Sockeye passage. Missing data are not infilled or extrapolated in-season.

Table 2: In-season roving survey data for the current reporting period (August 7- 13, 2025).

Stock	Date	Survey #	Survey Type	Water Temp. (°C)	Live Count	Cumulative Carcasses Recovered ^a
EARLY STUART						
<u>Takla-Trembleur-EStu</u>						
Early Stuart						
15 Mile Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	10.5	599	27
15 Mile Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	10.4	677	198
25 Mile Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	10.5	659	12
25 Mile Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	10	912	112
Ankwill Creek	Aug-07	1	Aerial		6665	0
Baptiste Creek	Aug-10	6	Ground	14	1	0
Bates Creek	Aug-07	1	Aerial		90	0
Bivouac Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	11	420	494
Bivouac Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	11.3	149	576
Blanchet Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	11.4	382	9
Blanchet Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	10.6	278	25
Blanchet North Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	10.5	96	15
Blanchet North Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	11	81	84
Crow Creek	Aug-08	5	Ground	9.1	631	111
Crow Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	9.8	758	328
Driftwood River	Aug-07	1	Aerial		18199	0
Dust Creek	Aug-08	1	Aerial		2765	170
Dust Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	13	2143	576
Fleming Creek	Aug-08	1	Aerial		6350	0
Forfar Creek	Aug-09	6	Ground	10	8766	4066
Forfar Creek	Aug-13	7	Ground	10.2	0	6736
Frypan Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	11	3877	180
Frypan Creek	Aug-08	1	Aerial		1890	180
Frypan Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	11.5	4326	525
Gluske Creek	Aug-08	1	Aerial		6135	0
Hooker Creek	Aug-08	5	Ground	7.8	144	20
Hooker Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	8.1	138	34
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	11.6	1661	48
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-08	1	Aerial		1135	48
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	11.6	2102	259
Kastberg Creek	Aug-07	1	Aerial		0	0
Kazchek Creek	Aug-10	6	Ground	19	1391	230
Kotsine Creek	Aug-07	1	Aerial		1585	0
Leo Creek	Aug-10	6	Ground	15	0	0
Lion Creek	Aug-07	1	Aerial		1085	0
Lovell Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	10.9	2538	52
Lovell Creek	Aug-08	1	Aerial		1265	52
Lovell Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	11.2	2039	389
Macdougall Creek	Aug-08	5	Ground	14.4	0	0
Macdougall Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	15.1	0	0

Stock	Date	Survey #	Survey Type	Water Temp. (°C)	Live Count	Cumulative Carcasses Recovered ^a
Maclaing Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	13.4	694	119
Maclaing Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	13.1	762	218
Middle River	Aug-10	6	Ground	17	43	7
Narrows Creek	Aug-08	5	Ground	12.3	5123	1033
Narrows Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	13.4	3665	1945
O' Ne-Ell Creek	Aug-09	6	Ground	10.2	18953	3650
O' Ne-Ell Creek	Aug-13	7	Ground	11	0	7772
Paula Creek	Aug-10	6	Ground	11.4	3726	1477
Point Creek	Aug-08	5	Ground	8.8	981	220
Point Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	9.4	985	585
Porter Creek	Aug-07	1	Aerial		1753	0
Sakeniche River	Aug-07	5	Ground	15.8	349	13
Sakeniche River	Aug-08	1	Aerial		436	13
Sakeniche River	Aug-11	6	Ground	15	817	105
Sandpoint Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	11.4	213	48
Sandpoint Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	12.1	285	117
Shale Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	11.1	1425	71
Shale Creek	Aug-11	6	Ground	10.7	1527	416
Sidney Creek	Aug-10	6	Ground	10	21633	4140
Sinta Creek	Aug-08	5	Ground	11.1	111	4
Sinta Creek	Aug-12	6	Ground	12.5	291	33
Tildesley Creek	Aug-08	1	Aerial		2750	0
Tliti Creek	Aug-07	5	Ground	10.6	0	0
Van Decar Creek	Aug-09	6	Ground	9.9	6200	1471
Van Decar Creek	Aug-13	7	Ground	11.3	0	4196

EARLY SUMMER

<u>Chilliwack-ES</u>						
Lower Fraser						
Chilliwack Lake	Aug-12	2	Ground		0	0
Chilliwack River - Upper	Aug-12	2	Ground	11	512	2
Depot Creek	Aug-12	2	Ground	12	0	0

Note: These data are not escapement estimates and should not be interpreted as such.

^a Cumulative carcasses recovered over the entire project.

Table 3: Daily fence counts (and captured brood stock) of Sockeye salmon in Sweltzer Creek.

Date	Lake Count	Brood Collected
Jul-30	0	0
Jul-31	0	0
Aug-01	0	0
Aug-02	1	0
Aug-03	-	-
Aug-04	-	-
Aug-05	0	0
Aug-06	0	0
Aug-07	0	0
Aug-08	0	0
Aug-09	0	0
Aug-10	0	0
Aug-11	0	0
Aug-12	0	0
Total	1	0

- : Fence closed.