

Update No. 14
October 23, 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.

SUMMER RUN

Harrison-Lillooet

Harrison River

Cyclic visual surveys on the Harrison River began on October 8. Sockeye are in the early stages of spawning with the majority still migrating or holding. Harrison River surveys only consisted of carcass recovery during this reporting period. Most Sockeye carcasses recovered to date have been near the outlet of Morris Slough (which connects Weaver Creek to the Harrison) and are likely washouts from Weaver Creek. Water levels have remained relatively stable despite some precipitation over the past week. Counts, carcass recoveries and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the reporting period are summarized in Table 1.

LATE RUN

Harrison-Lillooet

Visual surveys

Sockeye in Weaver Creek are in the early stages of spawning, however large numbers are still holding in the creek and downstream in Morris Lake. Water levels increased substantially following a recent rain event but have since stabilized. A small number of Sockeye were able to migrate past the fence into the creek upstream of the channel during the high water. A migration barrier was also created during the rain event which has resulted in large numbers of Sockeye accumulating ~100m downstream of the channel intake pool. Counts, carcass recoveries and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the reporting period are summarized in Table 1.

Weaver Creek Channel

As of October 19, a total of 13,639 Sockeye have been counted into the channel and no Sockeye have been released into the creek upstream of the channel. Sockeye in the channel are in peak spawning. The recent flooding created a migration barrier just downstream of the channel intake pool. Efforts are underway to remove accumulated sediment and improve fish passage. This barrier has resulted in high

densities of Sockeye holding below the berm and has delayed filling the channel to capacity. Water temperatures at the top and bottom of the channel are 11°C.

South Thompson

Visual surveys

Cyclic visual surveys of Late Run Sockeye in the South Thompson system began on October 1. The vast majority of Sockeye in this aggregate are being observed in the lower Adams River. The second aerial surveys of the lower Adams and Little rivers were completed on October 16. Sockeye continue to be at peak spawning in most systems. Counts, carcass recoveries and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the reporting period are summarized in Table 1.

Lower Fraser

Portage Creek

The first visual survey of Portage Creek was conducted on October 17. Sockeye are nearing peak spawning, with many still holding at the Seton River mouth. Water levels are low (<25% bankfull). Counts, carcass recoveries and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the reporting period are summarized in Table 1.

Cultus Lake

As of October 19, 555 Sockeye have been counted through the Sweltzer Creek fence and an additional 205 have been retained for brood (Table 2). The water temperature at Sweltzer Creek is 14°C.

The next scheduled update will be on October 30th.

Table 11: In-season roving survey data for the current reporting period (October 16-22, 2025).

Stock	Date	Survey #	Survey Type	Water Temp. (°C)	Live Count	Cumulative Carcasses Recovered ^a
SUMMER						
<u>Harrison River – River Type</u>						
Harrison-Lillooet						
Harrison River	Oct-16	2	Ground	12.4	0	175
Harrison River	Oct-22	3	Ground	8.9	0	397
LATE						
<u>Harrison (U/S)-L</u>						
Harrison-Lillooet						
Sakwi Creek	Oct-21	2	Ground	8.5	0	0
Weaver ASG	Oct-21	2	Ground	12	0	0
Weaver Creek	Oct-20	4	Ground	9.7	20326 ^b	2958
<u>Seton-L</u>						
Seton-Anderson						
Seton River - Upper	Oct-17	1	Ground		945	0
Seton River - Upper	Oct-21	2	Ground	11.8	1638	30
<u>Shuswap Complex-L</u>						
Late South Thompson						
Adams River - Lower	Oct-16	2	Aerial		53549	1650
Adams River - Lower	Oct-18	5	Ground	11.6	0	3437
Adams River - Lower	Oct-20	6	Ground	10.9	0	5835
Adams River - Lower	Oct-22	7	Ground	10.9	0	8046
Anstey River	Oct-19	2	Ground	6.4	23	1
Celista Creek	Oct-17	1	Ground	5	0	0
Crazy Creek	Oct-17	2	Ground	5.9	0	0
Eagle River	Oct-17	2	Ground	10.3	21	46
Hunakwa Creek	Oct-19	2	Ground	9.9	1	0
Little River	Oct-16	2	Aerial		4345	26
Little River	Oct-21	2	Ground	12.4	2846	146
Lower Shuswap River	Oct-16	3	Ground	10.5	32	8
McNomee Creek	Oct-17	1	Ground	5.7	0	0
Perry River	Oct-17	2	Ground	5.7	0	0
Scotch Creek	Oct-19	2	Ground	6	15	0
Seymour River	Oct-17	1	Ground	6.3	0	0
Shuswap Lake - Anstey Arm Shore	Oct-19	2	Ground		0	0
Shuswap Lake - Main Arm Shore	Oct-21	2	Ground		433	852
Shuswap Lake - Seymour Arm Shore	Oct-17	1	Ground		0	0

Stock	Date	Survey #	Survey Type	Water Temp. (°C)	Live Count	Cumulative Carcasses Recovered^a
Sinmax Creek	Oct-19	2	Ground	7.9	8	0
Yard Creek	Oct-17	2	Ground	6	0	0

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

^a Cumulative carcasses recovered over the entire project.

^b Includes Sockeye that may be counted into the channel in the future.

Table 22: Daily fence counts (and captured brood stock) of Sockeye salmon in Sweltzer Creek.

Date	Lake Count	Brood Collected
Jul-29	0	0
Jul-30	0	0
Jul-31	0	0
Aug-01	0	0
Aug-02	1	0
Aug-03	0	0
Aug-04	0	0
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
Aug-13	0	0
Aug-14	0	0
Aug-15	0	0
Aug-16	0	0
Aug-17	1	0
Aug-18	0	0
Aug-19	1	0
Aug-20	0	0
Aug-21	5	0
Aug-22	4	0
Aug-23	0	0
Aug-24	0	0
Aug-25	0	0
Aug-26	4	0
Aug-27	0	0
Aug-28	0	0
Aug-29	1	0
Aug-30	0	0
Aug-31	2	0
Sep-01	8	0
Sep-02	2	0
Sep-03	4	0
Sep-04	3	0
Sep-05	2	0
Sep-06	3	0
Sep-07	2	0
Sep-08	5	3
Sep-09	11	6
Sep-10	2	2
Sep-11	7	10
Sep-12	4	5

Date	Lake Count	Brood Collected
Sep-13	23	0
Sep-14	32	0
Sep-15	15	10
Sep-16	10	0
Sep-17	10	5
Sep-18	6	9
Sep-19	6	0
Sep-20	5	0
Sep-21	12	0
Sep-22	7	9
Sep-23	2	3
Sep-24	0	6
Sep-25	3	11
Sep-26	7	0
Sep-27	12	0
Sep-28	17	0
Sep-29	8	5
Sep-30	14	0
Oct-01	5	6
Oct-02	5	14
Oct-03	15	16
Oct-04	11	0
Oct-05	1	5
Oct-06	1	36
Oct-07	2	20
Oct-08	7	11
Oct-09	37	13
Oct-10	38	0
Oct-11	39	0
Oct-12	26	0
Oct-13	22	0
Oct-14	16	0
Oct-15	7	0
Oct-16	8	0
Oct-17	20	0
Oct-18	9	0
Oct-19	25	0
Total	555	205

- : Fence closed.