

Fraser River Sockeye In-season Update – July 31, 2026

The below is a summary of the July 31 Fraser Panel Meeting. For specific details please refer to the attached Fraser Panel distribution from the call. This is the seventh in-season meeting of 2026. Mission hydroacoustic and all test fisheries are operational, reporting below average results to date. The Area 13 seine vessel had an incident this week as currently not operational. Early Stuarts are largely through the lower river with spawning surveys beginning this week. Early Summers continue to track well below expectations and on July 31 an in-season run size of 200,000 with a run timing of Aug 4 was adopted by the panel and will be presented in subsequent meetings. Summers are also tracking below expectation for this time of year but it is still early in their migration. Water temperatures are near the median and discharge remains low. No other changes to pre-season estimates of abundance, timing or management adjustments were recommended at today's meeting. 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.

2026 Run status of Fraser sockeye and pink salmon

Date: Jul. 31, 2026

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. 26 - Aug. 1, 2026	Sockeye				
	Management Group				Total Fraser
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	
Mission passage (incls Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam)	46,000	55,300	55,800	4,500	161,600
Catch downstream of Mission	100	900	2,200	700	3,900
Accounted Run To Date	46,100	56,200	58,000	5,200	165,500
Adopted In-season run size ¹	46,000	540,000	na	na	0
Pre-season run size	62,670	1,163,680	4,304,780	2,212,260	7,743,390
Area 20 timing adopted in-season	1-Jul	5-Aug	na	na	na
Area 20 timing expected pre-season	4-Jul	3-Aug	13-Aug	20-Aug	14-Aug
Johnstone Str. Diversion Rate					
In-season 5-day average					79%
Preseason forecast of annual rate					67%

¹ In-season 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 165,500 Fraser Sockeye, the majority of which are now Early Summers, and Summers with Lates building in marine areas.
- Early Stuart return is below expectations with the majority of the run through the lower river and entering the their spawning areas.
- Early Summers are tracking well below expectations, including both Nadina and Early Thompsen stocks, two groups expected to make up the majority of the MU.
- The median forecast for Early Summers was 1.16M and on July 31 the panel adopted a further, downgraded in-season run size estimate of 200K, close to the p10 forecast and in a LAER.
- The in-season 5-day average diversion rate is 79% through Johnstone Strait.

Assessments and Recommendations

Early Stuarts

- An in-season run size of 46,000 with a pMA of 1.08 and an Area 20 run timing of July 1 was adopted on July 17.

Early Summers

- An in-season run size of 540,000 with a pMA of 0.27 and an Area 20 run timing of August 5 was adopted on July 28.
- Early Summer run size continued decline and updated in-season run size of 200,000 with a run timing of Aug 4 was adopted on July 31.

Summers

- No changes to pre-season estimates

Lates

- No changes to pre-season estimates

Management Group	Run Size	Timing A20 50%date	Proportional Mngt. Adjust. ^a	Available Harvest ^b	Allowable Incidental Harvest ^c
Early Stuart (Pre-Season)	63,000	4 July	1.08	0	6,300
Early Stuart (Adopted In Season)	46,000	July 1	1.08	0	4,600
Early Summers (Pre-Season)	1,164,000	31 July	0.27	573,000	N/A
Early Summers (Adopted In Season)	200,000	Aug 5	0.27	0	40,000
Summer (Pre-Season)	4,305,000	10 Aug	0.30	2,467,000	N/A
Summer (Adopted In Season)	No Change	No Change	No Change	0	No Change
Late (Pre-Season)	2,212,000	17 August	0.43	477,000	N/A
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

- FSC fisheries open July 22 until August 5 in all marine areas (Areas 18 & 29-1 to 29-6 only open as of July 26).
- Small-scale FSC fisheries began in the lower river on July 26 and 28 and are expected to continue through the weekend to mid-next week.

Other Business

Next Meeting

- Next Panel meeting is Aug 4, 2026.
- Next Panel Tech meeting is Aug 6, 2026.