Update No. 2
August 6th, 2026

2026 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

Cyclic visual surveys of Early Stuart creeks began on July 25. Sockeye have been observed in most regularly surveyed spawning tributaries, with the highest numbers recorded in Forfar, O'Ne-Ell, and Sidney creeks. The first aerial surveys of remote tributaries to Trembleur and Takla lakes were conducted on August 5. Aerial surveys of the Driftwood system are taking place today (August 6) and will be included in the next update. Sockeye in Middle River tributaries and in Sidney Creek are approaching peak spawning, whereas Sockeye in most Takla Lake tributaries are in the early stages of spawning. Water levels of Middle River tributaries are currently elevated (>50% bankfull) due to recent rain, however streamflows of most other creeks remain moderate (25-50% bankfull). Counts, carcass recoveries, and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the current reporting period are summarized in Table 2.

EARLY SUMMER

Nechako

Nadina River

The Nadina River hydroacoustic site became operational on August 3. As of August 5, six Sockeye have been counted at the Nadina hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of Nadina River is 17.0°C.

SUMMER RUN

Nechako

Stellako River

The Stellako River hydroacoustic site became operational on August 1. Sockeye counted at the Stellako hydroacoustic site during this reporting period are assumed to be Nadina Sockeye (Early Summer Run). As of August 5, an estimated 198 Sockeye have been counted at the Stellako hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of the Stellako River is 15.0°C.

The next scheduled update will be on Thursday, August 13.

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

	Stellako (including Nadina)	Nadina
Date	**Sockeye Count**	**Sockeye Count**
Aug-01	60	-
Aug-02	60	-
Aug-03	18	6
Aug-04	60	-
Aug-05	-	-
Total	198	6

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 (July 30 – August 5, 2026).

Stock	Date	Survey #	Survey Type	Water Temp. (°C)	Live Count	Cumulative Carcasses Recovered[a]
EARLY STUART						
Takla-Trembleur-EStu						
Early Stuart						
15 Mile Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	10.2	0	0
15 Mile Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	9.5	39	0
25 Mile Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	10.5	0	0
25 Mile Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	9.6	0	0
Bivouac Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	12	88	1
Bivouac Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	11.5	292	3
Blanchet Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	10.1	0	0
Blanchet Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	10.3	11	0
Crow Creek	Aug-01	2	Ground	8.9	70	4
Crow Creek	Aug-05	3	Ground	8.3	118	11
Dust Creek	Aug-01	2	Ground	12.8	252	5
Dust Creek	Aug-05	3	Ground	11.8	344	8
Dust Creek	Aug-05	1	Aerial		178	8
Fleming Creek	Aug-05	1	Aerial		11	0
Forfar Creek	Aug-02	3	Ground	9.5	1740	9
Frypan Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	10.3	47	0
Frypan Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	9.9	109	0
Frypan Creek	Aug-05	1	Aerial		68	0
Gluske Creek	Aug-02	2	Ground	9	36	1
Hooker Creek	Aug-01	2	Ground	8	0	0
Hooker Creek	Aug-05	3	Ground	7.1	30	1
Hudson Bay Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	11.8	0	0
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	11.3	43	0
Kazchek Creek	Jul-30	2	Ground	15.6	0	0
Kazchek Creek	Aug-03	3	Ground	16	0	0
Leo Creek	Jul-30	2	Ground	14	0	0

Stock	Date	Survey #	Survey Type	Water Temp. (°C)	Live Count	Cumulative Carcasses Recovered[a]
Leo Creek	Aug-03	3	Ground	14.2	0	0
Lovell Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	10.3	0	0
Lovell Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	10	13	1
Lovell Creek	Aug-05	1	Aerial		14	1
Macdougall Creek	Aug-01	2	Ground	13.9	0	0
Macdougall Creek	Aug-05	3	Ground	13.2	0	0
Maclaing Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	12.8	0	0
Maclaing Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	13	20	0
Middle River	Jul-30	2	Ground	16.5	2	1
Middle River	Aug-03	3	Ground	17.3	0	1
Narrows Creek	Aug-01	2	Ground	13.3	126	0
Narrows Creek	Aug-05	3	Ground	11.6	342	5
O' Ne-Ell Creek	Aug-02	3	Ground	10	1469	16
Paula Creek	Jul-30	2	Ground	9.9	0	0
Paula Creek	Aug-03	3	Ground	9.3	161	3
Point Creek	Aug-01	2	Ground	9.3	32	0
Point Creek	Aug-05	3	Ground	7.3	93	0
Sakeniche River	Jul-31	2	Ground	16.5	0	0
Sakeniche River	Aug-04	3	Ground	15.5	0	0
Sakeniche River	Aug-05	1	Aerial		0	0
Sandpoint Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	12.1	0	0
Sandpoint Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	10	12	1
Shale Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	10.8	0	0
Shale Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	10.1	92	1
Sidney Creek	Jul-30	2	Ground	8.5	810	0
Sidney Creek	Aug-03	3	Ground	9	1401	32
Sinta Creek	Aug-01	2	Ground	12.1	0	0
Sinta Creek	Aug-05	3	Ground	13.2	0	0
Tildesley Creek	Aug-05	1	Aerial		10	0
Tliti Creek	Jul-31	2	Ground	10.3	0	0
Tliti Creek	Aug-04	3	Ground	10.3	0	0
Van Decar Creek	Aug-02	3	Ground	10	639	10

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

[a] Cumulative carcasses recovered over the entire project.