

Update No. 3
August 13th, 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 the Driftwood system and remote tributaries to the northwest arm of Takla Lake were conducted on August 6. Sockeye in most surveyed streams are in the peak of spawning. Water levels in the majority of Middle River tributaries are moderate (25-50% bankfull), however streamflows in Bivouac, Sandpoint, and Sinta creeks are low (<25% bankfull). Counts, carcass recoveries, and water temperatures from surveys conducted during the current reporting period are summarized in Table 2.

EARLY SUMMER

Lower Fraser

Cyclic visual surveys began on August 11th. Sockeye have been observed in the upper Chilliwack River and are in the early stages of spawning. Water levels are moderate at 25–50% 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 August 3. As of August 12, 198 Sockeye have been counted at the Nadina hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of Nadina River is 15.0°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 12, an estimated 2,198 Sockeye have been counted at the Stellako hydroacoustic site (Table 1). The water temperature of the Stellako River is 17.0°C.

Quesnel

Quesnel River

The Quesnel River hydroacoustic site became operational on August 12. At the time of this report, there have not been counts yet completed.

The next scheduled update will be on Thursday, August 20

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August 13, 2026

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

Date	Stellako (including Nadina)	Nadina
	Sockeye Count	Sockeye Count
Aug-01	60	-
Aug-02	60	-
Aug-03	18	3
Aug-04	60	15
Aug-05	234	-
Aug-06	282	-
Aug-07	276	12
Aug-08	171	75
Aug-09	545	93
Aug-10	303	-
Aug-11	189	-
Aug-12	-	-
Total	2,198	198

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 1: 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						
<u>Takla-Trembleur-EStu</u>						
Early Stuart						
15 Mile Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	9.3	48	0
15 Mile Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	9.6	29	0
25 Mile Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	9.9	0	0
25 Mile Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	10.1	0	0
Ankwill Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		39	0
Bivouac Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	11.8	304	76
Bivouac Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	11.2	116	224
Blanchet Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	10.4	0	0
Blanchet Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	10.6	2	0
Blanchet North Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	9.3	0	0
Crow Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	9	97	31
Driftwood River	Aug-06	1	Aerial		290	0
Dust Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		178	8
Dust Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	12.4	323	57
Forfar Creek	Aug-06	4	Ground	9.9	1970	76
Forfar Creek	Aug-10	5	Ground	10	1655	450
Frypan Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	11.3	124	0
Frypan Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	11	54	9
Gluske Creek	Aug-07	3	Ground	9.6	273	9
Gluske Creek	Aug-11	4	Ground	10.3	217	47
Hooker Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	7.8	10	8
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	11	73	0
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	11.5	35	17
Kastberg Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		0	0
Kazchek Creek	Aug-07	4	Ground	16.2	0	0
Kazchek Creek	Aug-11	5	Ground	16.1	0	0
Kotsine Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		0	0
Lovell Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	10	67	4
Lovell Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	10.7	16	5
Macdougall Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	14.3	0	0
Maclaing Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	12.1	14	3
Maclaing Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	12.8	2	6
Middle River	Aug-07	4	Ground	17.5	0	1
Middle River	Aug-11	5	Ground	17.6	0	1
Narrows Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	12.1	13	12
Narrows Creek	Aug-10	5	Ground	10.1	258	58
O' Ne-Ell Creek	Aug-06	4	Ground	10	1860	119
O' Ne-Ell Creek	Aug-10	5	Ground	9.9	1092	379
Paula Creek	Aug-07	4	Ground	11	192	53

Stock	Date	Survey #	Survey Type	Water Temp. (°C)	Live Count	Cumulative Carcasses Recovered ^a
Paula Creek	Aug-11	5	Ground	10.6	94	93
Point Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	8.5	80	5
Porter Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		21	0
Sakeniche River	Aug-08	4	Ground	16.1	0	0
Sakeniche River	Aug-12	5	Ground	15.2	0	0
Sandpoint Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	10.6	15	2
Sandpoint Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	10.8	13	5
Shale Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	10.6	173	5
Shale Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	10.5	107	10
Sidney Creek	Aug-07	4	Ground	9.3	1204	356
Sidney Creek	Aug-11	5	Ground	8.7	426	761
Sinta Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	14	0	0
Van Decar Creek	Aug-06	4	Ground	9.4	724	51
Van Decar Creek	Aug-10	5	Ground	11.8	372	187
15 Mile Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	9.3	48	0
15 Mile Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	9.6	29	0
25 Mile Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	9.9	0	0
25 Mile Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	10.1	0	0
Ankwill Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		39	0
Bivouac Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	11.8	304	76
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Blanchet Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	10.4	0	0
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Hooker Creek	Aug-09	4	Ground	7.8	10	8
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	11	73	0
Hudson Bay Creek	Aug-12	5	Ground	11.5	35	17
Kastberg Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		0	0
Kazchek Creek	Aug-07	4	Ground	16.2	0	0
Kazchek Creek	Aug-11	5	Ground	16.1	0	0
Kotsine Creek	Aug-06	1	Aerial		0	0
Lovell Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	10	67	4
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Narrows Creek	Aug-10	5	Ground	10.1	258	58
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O' Ne-Ell Creek	Aug-10	5	Ground	9.9	1092	379
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Sakeniche River	Aug-12	5	Ground	15.2	0	0
Sandpoint Creek	Aug-08	4	Ground	10.6	15	2
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Van Decar Creek	Aug-10	5	Ground	11.8	372	187

EARLY SUMMER

Chilliwack-ES

Lower Fraser

Chilliwack Lake	Aug-11	1	Ground		0	1
Chilliwack River - Upper	Aug-11	1	Ground	12	352	3

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

^a Cumulative carcasses recovered over the entire project.