



WATERSHED TALK

NEWSLETTER

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2024 WATERSHED TALK NEWSLETTER UPDATE

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Today's issue of the WST contains summary data of the first in-season Fraser River Panel deliberations. This morning the Panel reviewed the run status and pre-season forecasts of Fraser Sockeye, test fishing catches and acoustics summaries, stock identification, water temperatures throughout the Fraser Watershed and discharge/migration passage at Big Bar.

The WST also contains a Fraser Salmon Stewardship and Outreach update. Keep reading to learn about FSMC stewardship opportunities and activities. This week we're sharing an "all- expenses paid" opportunity to attend an Aquatic and Marine Education conference in Mitchosin, BC!

Fraser Panel Weekly Summary for July 12, 2023

Run Status and Pre-Season Forecasts – To date, 22,000 sockeye from the Early Summer management group have passed through Mission (including Pitt, Allouette, and Coquitlam River). The pre-season forecast for the Fraser River is presented in the table below (Table 1).

Test Fisheries and Stock Identification Review- 100 percent of the sockeye caught in test fisheries this week were from the Early Summer management group. The in-river composition of Early Summer sockeye populations includes Chilliwack; Pitt, Allouette, and Coquitlam; and Nadina, Bowron, Gates, Nahatlatch and Taseko Rivers.

Environmental Conditions – Observed discharge at Hope was 4025m³, which is 29% below historical discharge levels. Across the Fraser watershed water temperatures ranged from 1.5°C to 3.3°C warmer than historical means. The forecast in Kamloops and Prince George is for above average air temperatures and little to no precipitation (Prince George anticipates 1mm).

Fish passage and discharge at Big Bar – There have been no upstream migration problems reported at Big Bar - 87 salmon (assumed to be Chinook) were observed 40 km upstream at Churn Creek and 147 salmon were observed below Big Bar at Alfalfa.

Table 1. 2024 Run status of Fraser Sockeye and pink salmon (July 12, 2024)

Week of: Jul. 7 - Jul. 13, 2024	Sockeye				Total Fraser
	Management Group				
	E.Stuart	E.Summer	Summer	Late	
Mission passage (inclds Pitt, Alouette, Coquitlam)	0	22,200	0	0	22,200
Catch downstream of Mission	0	0	0	0	0
Accounted Run To Date	0	22,200	0	0	22,200
Run size adopted in-season ¹	na	na	na	na	na
Run size forecasted pre-season	180	159,000	379,000	29,000	567,000
Area 20 timing adopted in-season	na	na	na	na	na
Area 20 timing expected pre-season	7-Jul	19-Jul	30-Jul	7-Aug	28-Jul
Johnstone Str. Diversion Rate	Annual average to date				na
	Preseason forecast of annual rate:				33%

¹ 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.

Fraser Salmon Stewardship and Outreach Update

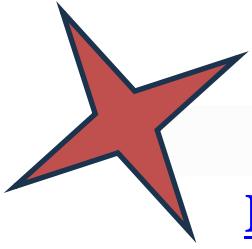
“a profound opportunity to weave the threads of understanding between the wisdom of our Elders and the aspirations of the younger generations, fostering a circle of mutual respect and reverence¹”



Greg, Tina, and Kristin are super excited about the FSMC’s sponsoring of a drop-in room at the 48th [BC Elders Communication Society Elders Gathering¹](#) August 13 and 14 at the

Vancouver Convention Center. The Gathering brings approximately 2000 Elders together from across BC Nations and is “a gateway to understanding the diverse ways of life among various First Nations¹.” This year’s theme is “We are One” and the cultural host Nation is Lil’wat Nation. The Gathering gives us the opportunity to introduce Elders to the FSMC and to promote awareness of the opportunity for Fraser Nations to participate in the co-governance and co-management of Fraser Salmon. Hosting the drop-in room will help the Special Projects team collect Elders perspectives on traditional FSC sharing and on a vision for future FSC sharing and planning. Thank you to Pat Matthew (FSMB member), Tracy Wimbush,

Pete Erickson (FSMC Main Table Directors) and Marcel Shepert (FSC project coordinator) for agreeing to come along with us!



Last Minute Conference Opportunity – Reply by July 17

[2024 Conference—NAME & CaNOE](#)

[RIPPLE EFFECT: MAKING WAVES TOGETHER](#)

[August 10-12, 2024](#)

Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s Stream to Sea Program, in partnership with the [Scout Island Nature Centre](#) and the Pacific Salmon Foundation, have a few sponsored seats (including conference fees, accommodation, and travel) available for an upcoming aquatic and marine educators conference hosted by the Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators and Canadian Network for Ocean Education (August 10-12, Metchosin, BC).

The conference presentations will focus on the following goals:

- Connect with a community that shares wide range of experiences to expand perspectives and broaden impacts of ocean conservation, education and research
- Discover resources and information from communities and organizations that value healthy marine and aquatic ecosystems, and discuss how they can be incorporated into ocean and aquatic education
- Share activities, lessons, and resources that embrace diverse ways of teaching and learning ocean literacy concepts in the classroom and community
- Explore and discuss current issues in marine and aquatic science and the role of place, language and culture in informing solutions

For more information about the conference visit the website linked to the conference name above.

If you’re interested, please email [Tina Chestnut](#) ASAP.

Salmon FACT of The Week:

Atlantic salmon can smell one drop of scent in an area the equivalent of ten Olympic size pools!

Follow us on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100009897519200>

Sign up for all the FSMC distributions here: <https://frasersalmon.us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=52b75e17647b0b4460687b60d&id=d5bde22f9a>

Subscribe to the FSMC calendar by clicking the subscribe to calendar button found at the bottom, right under the calendar by clicking here: <https://frasersalmon.ca/events/>

The next Fraser River Panel meeting is scheduled for **11AM Tuesday, July 16th**
(Tuesdays and Fridays 11am.)

You can also access the webinar for observing the Fraser River Panel meetings:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://psc-org.zoom.us/j/89632608507>

One tap mobile:

8887880099,89632608507# US Toll Free

Telephone:

Dial In:

855 703 8985 Canada Toll Free

Webinar ID: 896 3260 8507

Mid- Fraser River attendees please text your questions during FRP calls to Greg Witzky at 778-694-9154. Can also email them to executivedirector@frasersalmon.ca

Links

With Chinook and sockeye approaching and, in the Fraser, these links may be of interest:

BC River Forecast Centre Website: <http://bcrcfc.env.gov.bc.ca>

Environment Canada's Water Office Website: http://www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/index_e.html

Pacific Salmon Commission Website: www.psc.org

Pacific Salmon Commission Test Fisheries: http://www.psc.org/info_testfishing.htm

Pacific Salmon Commission News and Regulatory announcements: <http://www.psc.org/publications/fraser-panel-in-season-information/fraser-river-panel-regulatory-announcements/>

Fraser River Mission Escapement Reports: <http://www.psc.org/publications/fraser-panel-in-season-information/fish-passage-past-the-psc-hydroacoustic-counting-station-near-mission-bc/>

Fraser River Environmental Watch Reports: <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/habitat/frw-rfo/index-eng.html>

The Albion Test Fishery information can be found at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/fraser/docs/commercial/albionchinook-quinnat-eng.html>