

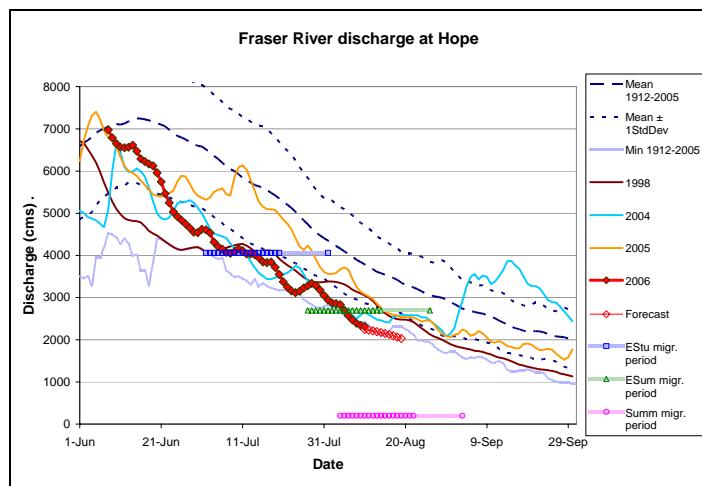
A weekly Aboriginal fisheries newsletter for
fisheries representatives and their organizations

FRASER SALMON UPDATE

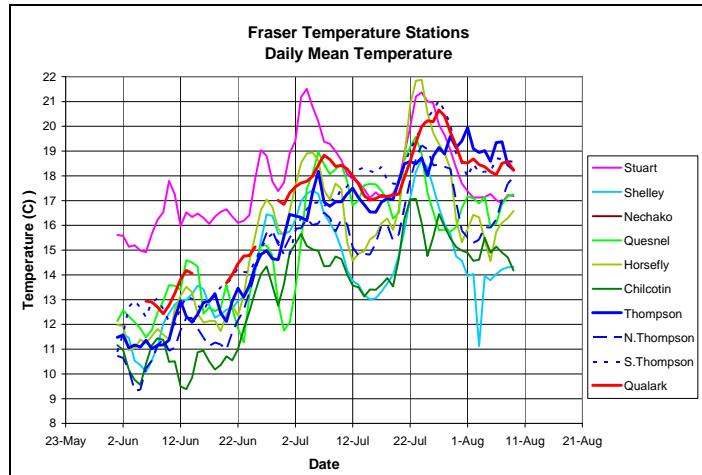
By Pete Nicklin, Assistant Stock Management
Coordinator FRAFS

General Info - The diversion rate for sockeye through Johnstone Strait is still low (30%), meaning there is a higher proportion of sockeye migrating through Juan de Fuca (down the west coast of Vancouver Island). The stock compositions in Area 20 and Area 12 are different and appear to be showing that the later runs are diverting at a higher rate through Johnstone Strait.

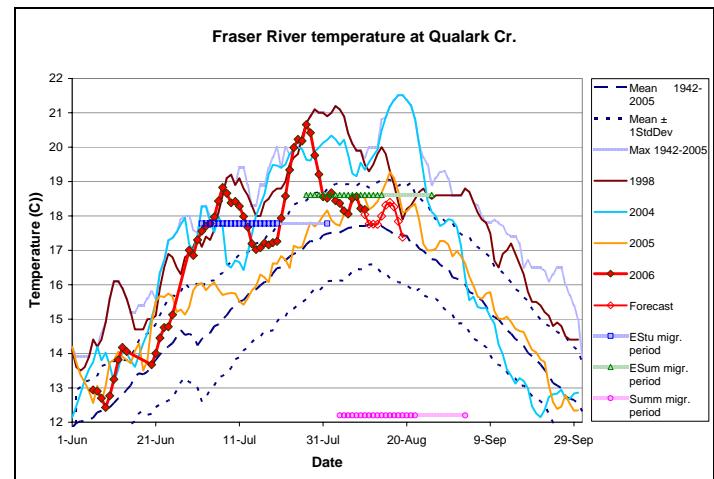
Water conditions in the Fraser are at low discharge levels and warm, but temperatures are forecasted to drop over the next several days.



This graph shows the 2006 discharge (flow) at Qualark (Lower Fraser) compared to other years (the line with diamonds). The mean discharge is shown by the heavy dashed line. Discharge is near record low and forecasted to continue to fall.



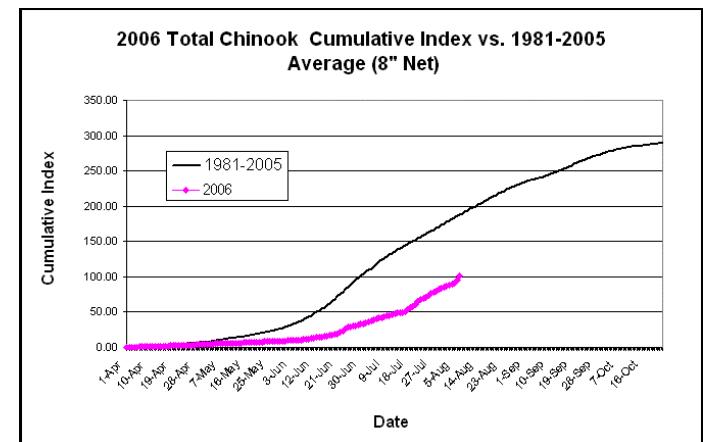
The above graph shows the water temperatures at various locations throughout the Fraser watershed. All areas are currently below 19 degrees Celsius.



The line with the diamonds shows the temperatures at Qualark for 2006. The big dashed line is the mean temperature from 1942 to 2005. Temperatures are still above average, but have moderated and have dropped away from the high temperatures seen at this time in 2004.

Fraser Chinook

The Albion Test Fishery Cumulative catch results for 2006 continue at levels below the 1981 to 2005 average.



The cumulative test fishery catch at Albion for 2006 is the bottom line in this graph. The top line is the average from 1981 to 2005.

Fraser Sockeye

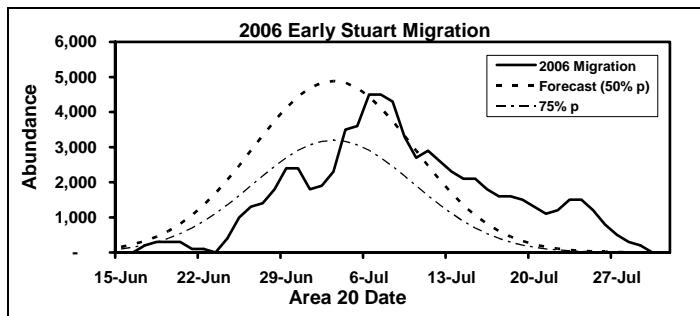
The following information is from information dated August 2 (Early Stuart graph) and August 11. It is important to know that the sockeye information reflects early season information, and things could change rapidly in the next little while.

The PSC provided two sets of graphs for the Early Summers and the Summers based on the use of two different methods of test fishery expansion. The first set of graphs for the Early Summers and the Summers uses the Historical expansion of the test fisheries, adjusted by Mission abundance. The second set of graphs uses the Historical expansion, and assumes a slight delay in migration between the test fisheries and Mission. The Mission adjusted expansion shows a lower overall migration abundance in the graphs.

The Management Adjustment for the Early Summers has been lowered due to the better migration conditions (lower temperatures): the MA is now 254,000. The Quesnel sockeye are still showing far lower in abundance than expected and as a result, the Fraser River Panel will use the 75%P forecast level (4,020,000) for planning purposes for the Summer run aggregate.

Early Stuarts

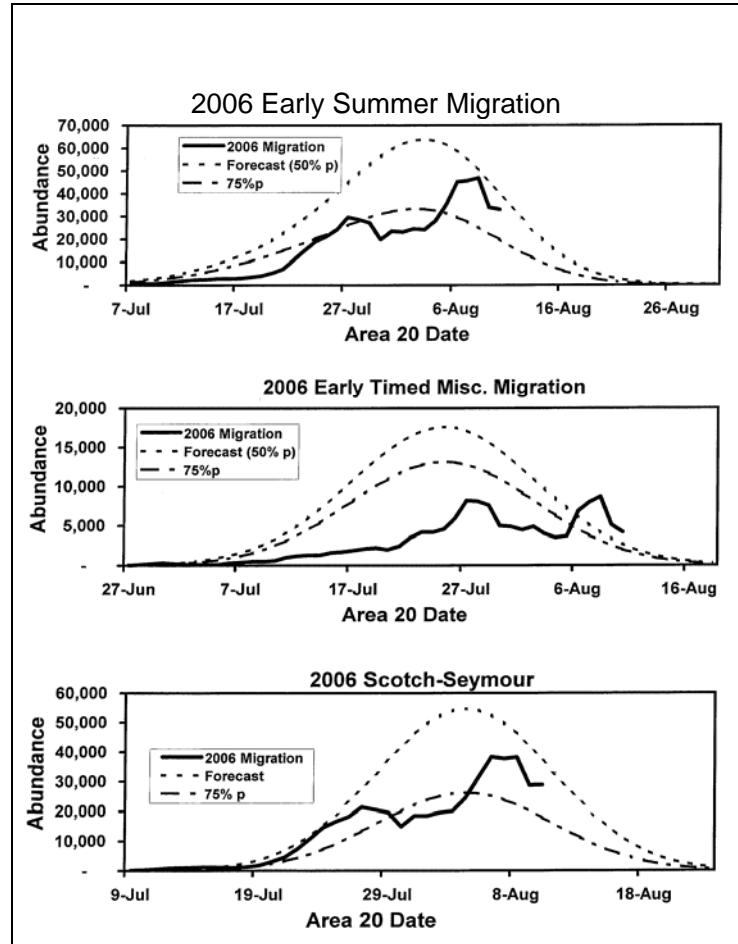
The in-season run size for the Early Stuarts remains at 70,000, which is between the 50%P and 75% forecast levels. The following graph is from August 2, 2006.



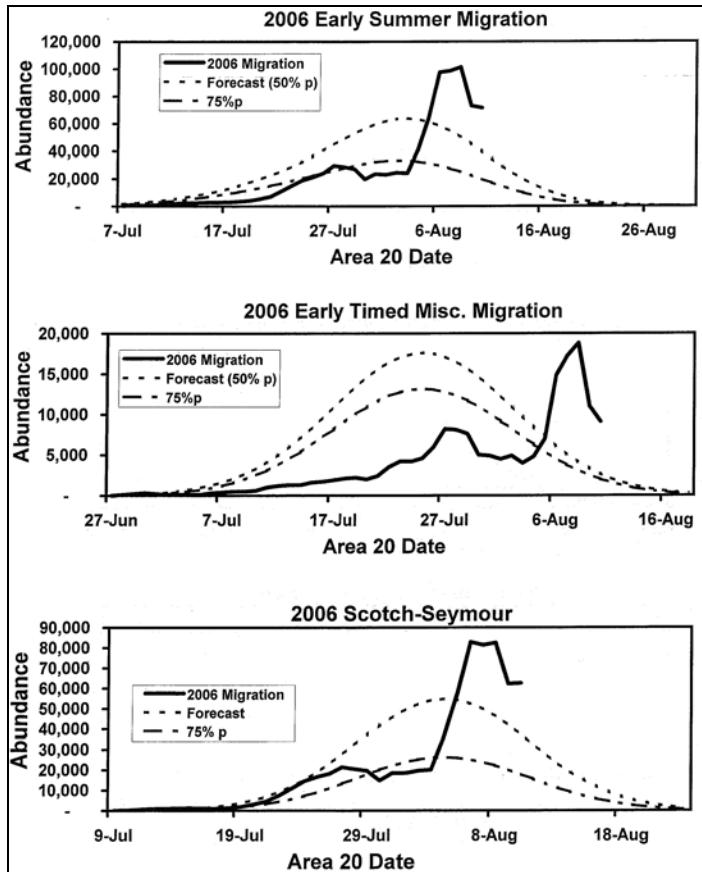
The Early Stuarts have completed their migration past Area 20 and are showing up on the spawning grounds.

Early Summers

The following graphs represent Early Summer sockeye migration based on Historical expansion adjusted by Mission abundance.



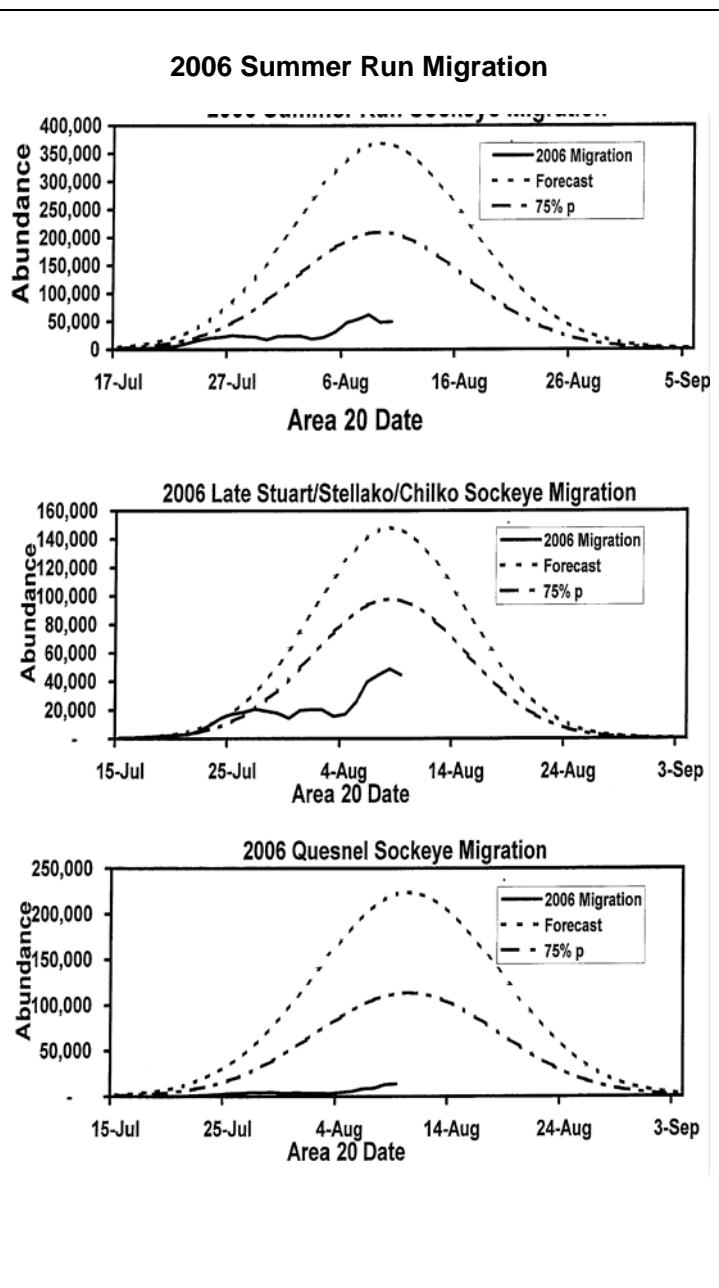
The next set of graphs show the Early Summer migration based on Historical expansion (assuming a slight delay at the mouth of the Fraser).



Summers

The Summer run sockeye are tracking at lower than forecast abundance when considered in aggregate, primarily because of the weaker than expected showing of Quesnel sockeye. An in-season run size update for the Summers should be available next week.

The following set of graphs shows the Summer run migration based on Historical expansion of test fisheries, adjusted by Mission abundance.



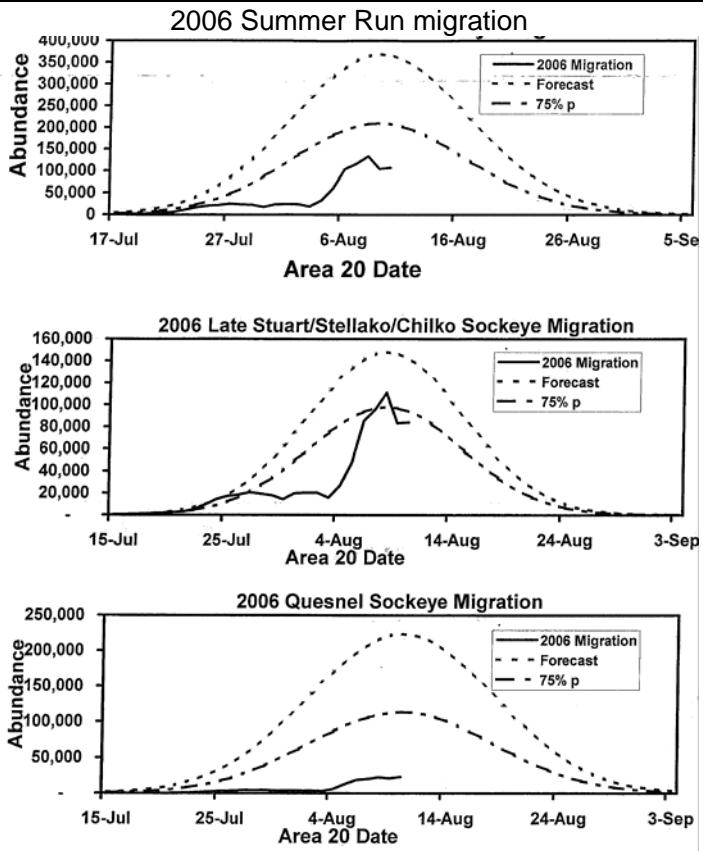
August 11, 2006

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Watershed Talk

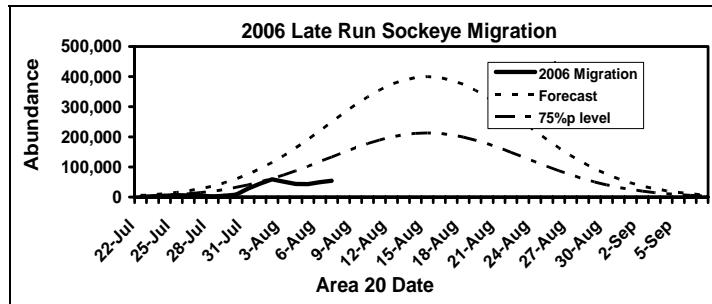
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The following set of Summer run migration graphs shows the Historical expansion of test fisheries (assuming a slight delay at the mouth of the Fraser).



Late Run Sockeye - Although the Lates are showing in the stock ID analysis from the test fisheries, it is still too early to get an in-season run size estimate. The Late Shuswap portion of the Lates is the most abundant Late run stock in the marine test fisheries, which was the pre-season expectation.

The following graph uses the Historical expansion (assumes a slight delay at the mouth of the Fraser).



For more information contact Pete Nicklin @ (250) 392-5888 or by email indiseaent@shaw.ca.

FIRST NATIONS IN-SEASON TELECONFERENCE CALLS

The in-season teleconference calls will be occurring weekly throughout August. Time: 4:00 PM Thursdays:

Dial in number 1-877-385-4099:

Passcode 3196930#.

All calls will be chaired by Mike Staley.

GENERAL INFORMATION

With the sockeye approaching and in the Fraser, these links may be of interest to many.

Upper/Mid/Lower Fraser Catch and Openings: <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fraserriver/firstnations.htm>

Albion Test Fishery (Chinook Gill Net): http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fraserriver/commercial/commercialalbionchnk_e.htm

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

Pacific Salmon Commission News and Regulatory announcements: http://www.psc.org/news_frpnews.htm

Fraser River Mission Escapement Reports: <http://www.psc.org/info/inseasonfraserescapement.htm>

Fraser River Environmental Watch Program: http://www-sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fwh/index_e.htm