

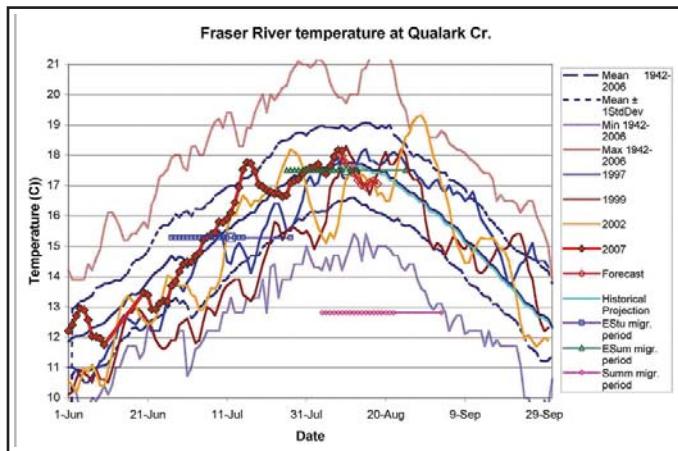
A weekly Aboriginal fisheries newsletter for
fisheries representatives and their organizations

FRASER SALMON UPDATE

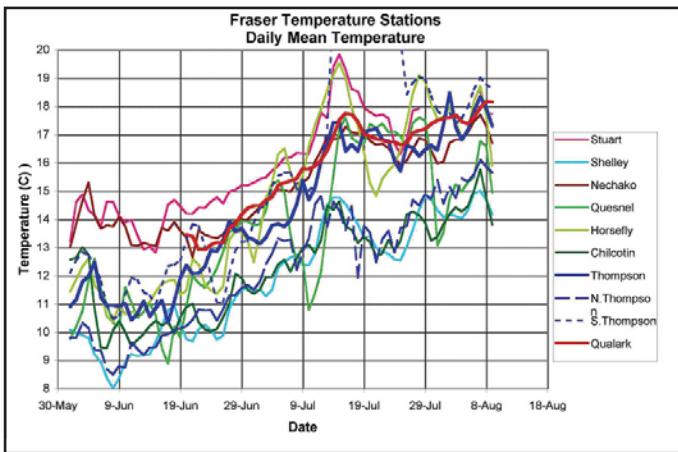
By Pete Nicklin, Watershed Stock Management Coordinator FRAFS

WATER CONDITIONS

Water conditions in the Fraser continue to be satisfactory for sockeye migration from a temperature and discharge point of view. The Fraser discharge at Hope is slightly higher than average, but not extreme. Fraser temperatures at Qualark remain are currently just above 18 degrees Celsius, but are forecast to drop below 18 over the next several days. The following graphs show the 2007 conditions in comparison to other years.

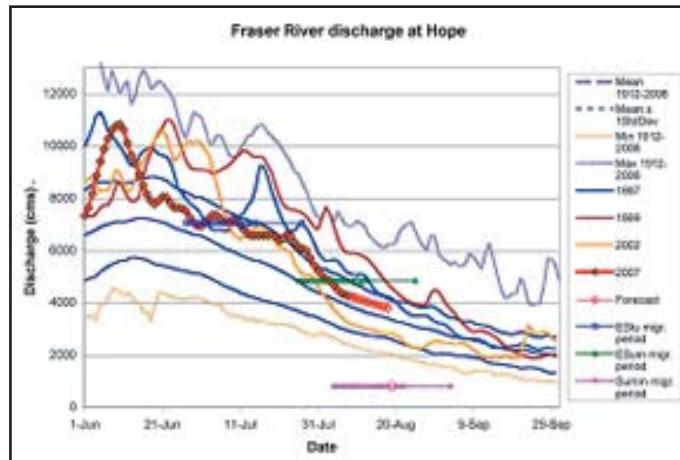


This graph shows the Fraser River temperatures at Qualark Creek (Lower Fraser). The line with the diamonds shows the 2007 temperatures. The open diamond portion of the line shows the forecast temperatures. The current temperature is above 18 degrees, but forecasted to drop below 18 degrees and the historical average for the forecast period.



This graph shows the 2007 daily mean temperatures at various temperature stations throughout the Fraser watershed. The Qualark and South Thompson are currently above 18 degrees.

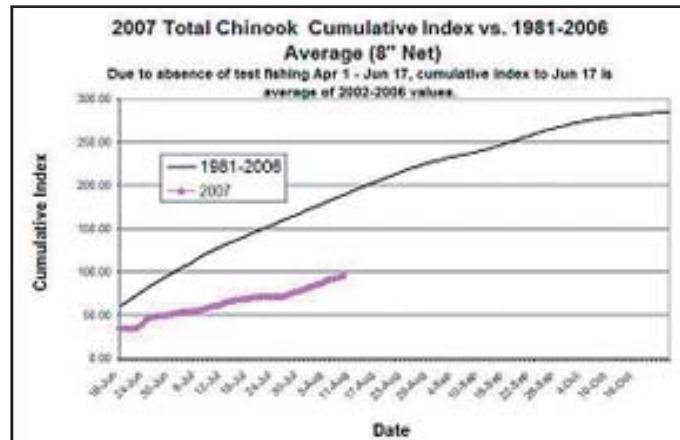
The next graph shows the Fraser River discharge at Hope. The line with the diamonds is the 2007 discharge. Current discharge is approximately 4200 cubic metres per second (cms) and forecast to drop to 3800 cms over the next several days (forecast shown by the open diamond line).



FRASER CHINOOK

The Albion Test Fishery Cumulative catch results for 2007 continue at levels below the 1981 to 2006 average.

With Fraser sockeye returning at low abundances, people will be turning increased attention to Fraser Chinook. Although the Albion test fishery catch has picked up over the last few days, the cumulative catch is still tracking at about half of the 1981-2006 average.



The cumulative test fishery catch at Albion for 2007 is the bottom line in this graph. The top line is the average from 1981 to 2006. The cumulative catch is tracking at just over half the 1981-2006 average, and has been picking up in the last few days. A web link to the Albion Test Fishery page on the DFO website can be found in the General Information section of the Watershed Talk.

FRASER SOCKEYE

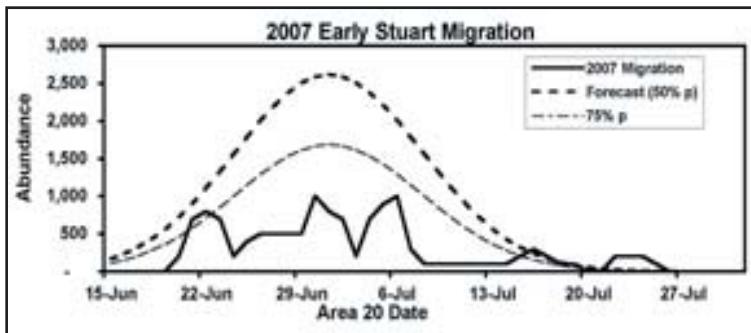
Fraser sockeye are continuing to return in low abundances. DNA analysis in the marine approach areas (Johnstone Strait/Juan de Fuca) is showing expected proportions of sockeye according to their run timing. This appears to indicate that we should not be expecting a late return (as was seen in 2005). 4 year old sockeye also continue to return in much lower abundances than the 50%P forecast.

DFO authorized directed sockeye fisheries for Lower Fraser First Nations commencing on August 10th. The current openings will be targeting both the Early Summer sockeye and Summer sockeye via set and drift nets. (continued...)

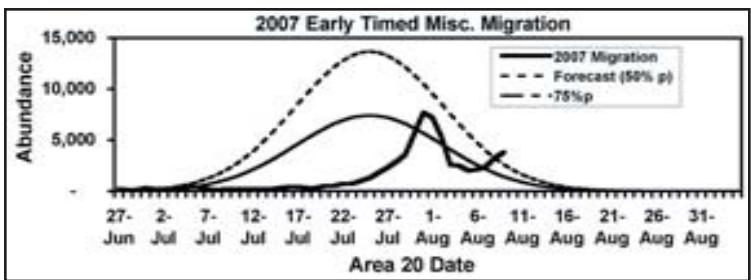
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The Fraser River Panel reduced the run size estimate of the Early Summer run sockeye from 231,000 to 150,000, based on a 50% migration timing of August 3rd through Area 20. The Fraser River Panel also approved the 90%P level forecast for Summer run sockeye (1,261,000) for management purposes.

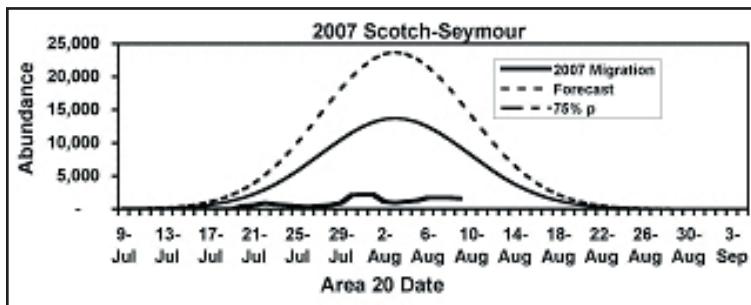
Late-run sockeye appear to be tracking below the 50%P forecast level at this time, and in-river test fisheries are indicating that Late-run sockeye are currently entering the Fraser River with little or no delay.



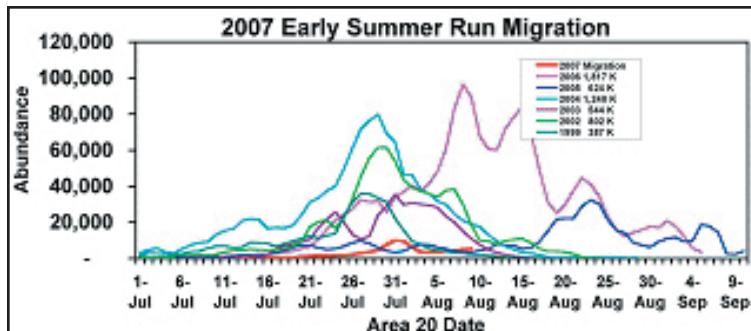
This graph shows the current information for the 2007 Early Stuart migration. The Early Stuarts have completed the marine portion of their migration, and have begun to show on their spawning grounds.



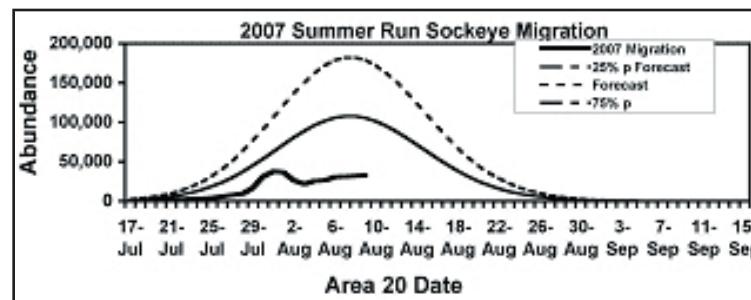
This graph shows the current information for the 2007 Early Summer Misc migration (does not include Scotch/Seymour). There are indications that the early timed portion of the Early Summers may be running late (approx 3 days). The Fraser River Panel has adopted a 150,000 run size estimate for the entire Early Summer aggregate for management purposes, significantly lower than the 75%P forecast level.



This graph shows the Scotch/Seymour portion of the Early Summer aggregate. The Scotch/Seymour component is tracking significantly lower than the 75%P forecast.



This graph shows the 2007 Early Summer run compared to other years. To date the 2007 run is tracking significantly lower than the comparison years.



This graph shows the current information for the 2007 Summer Run migration. Summer sockeye are showing in the marine test fisheries. However, although the Summer run proportions of the test fisheries have been building, overall abundance is substantially lower than the 75%P forecast, and the Fraser River Panel has adopted the 90% forecast level (1,261,000) for management purposes.

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

Fraser Watershed Technical CONFERENCE CALLS

Fraser Panel Liaison Mike Staley will share up-to-date technical information from the Fraser Panel via teleconference on Thursday afternoons at 4:00pm.

NEXT CALLS: AUGUST 16, 2007; AUGUST 23, 2007

In order to participate you will need the following numbers:

Toll Free: **1-877-385-4099**

Vancouver Local: **604-899-2339**

Participant Access Code: **3196930#**

The Watershed Talk is available for download at www.frafs.ca. Next issue: August 17, 2007