

A weekly Aboriginal fisheries newsletter for  
fisheries representatives and their organizations

## Fraser Sockeye - Technical Update

By Mike Staley, FRAFS Biologist

The Fraser Panel met today to review the migration of Fraser sockeye salmon. The test fisheries in the Strait of Juan de Fuca have been operating since June 21 and in the river at Whonnock since June 22. The hydroacoustic program at Mission has been operational since July 5. Prior to that date, the CPUE at Whonnock has been used to estimate migration into the river. Approximately 36,000 sockeye have been estimated past Mission so far this year: 34,000 Early Stuart and 2,000 Early Summer Miscellaneous.

The in-season run size models indicate that the Early Stuart run is larger than the P50 forecast. The Panel adopted an in-season estimate of 110,000, as compared to the preseason P50 forecast of 41,000, with a timing of July 6 through Area 20, as compared to the pre-season forecast of July 2 timing.

Early Summer sockeye, both misc. and Thompson River, have been identified in the Area 20 test fishery. There have also been several Harrison River sockeye identified; these are classed as Late runs, but have arrived early in previous years.

Fraser River discharge at Hope was 4,500 m<sup>3</sup>/s; the river is tracking at about 25% below the average discharge for July 9th.

Fraser River Temperature at Qualark: the forecast remains relatively unchanged compared to Monday's, with continued increases in water temperature. Today's river temperature is 15.8C, but is forecasted to increase to 18.4C by the middle of next week.

With the later timing of migration, the Management Adjustment (MA) models need another 3 days to include the appropriate ratio of data and forecast temperatures and flows. Therefore, the Fraser River Panel has delayed changing the MA until next week.

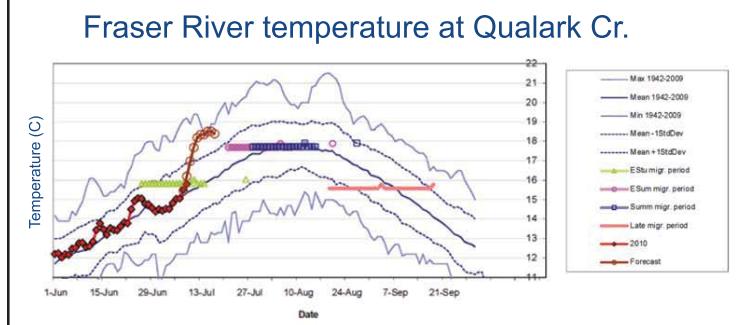
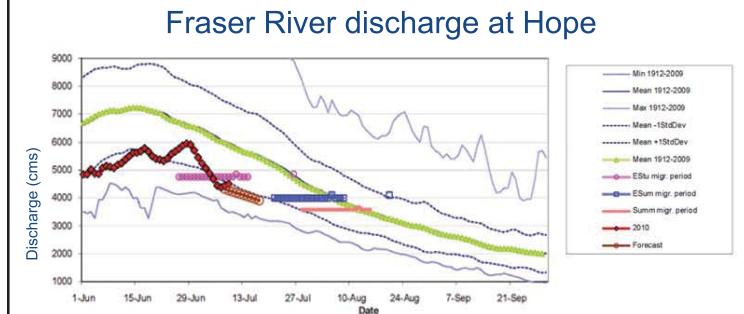
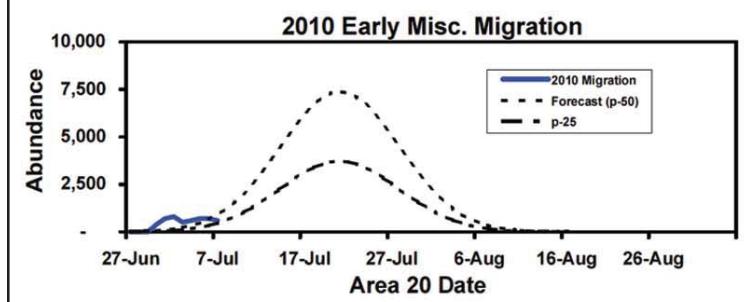
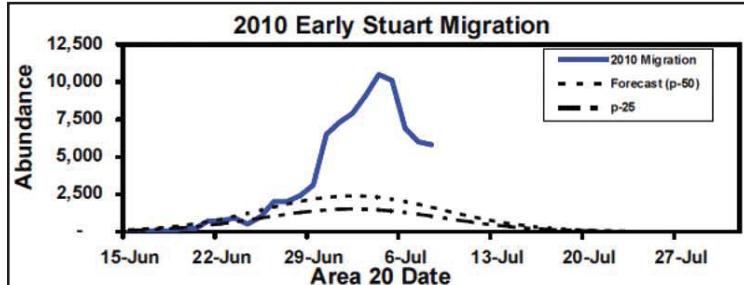
### Announcing New Working Group Name: Island Marine Aquatic Working Group (IMAWG)

The five Vancouver Island & Approach First Nations members of the Fraser River and Approach Working Group (FRAWG) have been organizing Tier One meetings for the marine First Nations who use Fraser Salmon since 2009.

In February 2010, at a meeting in Nanaimo, a more formal Working Group was established, which includes 10 members, including now two from each of the four main areas, as well as the Central Coast. After several months discussion, the Working Group is now known as the Island Marine Aquatic Working Group (IMAWG). The IMAWG includes the 10 First Nations representatives, as well as four persons from DFO.

The IMAWG will sponsor the next Tier One/Tier Two meetings for the Island & Approach First Nations and DFO on Tuesday July 20th and 21st in Nanaimo.

For more information contact Susan Anderson Behn  
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### VISIONS WORKSHOP October 13 & 14, 2010 at Seabird Island Band

**In-Season Technical Update  
Conference Calls - Thursdays at 4:00pm  
Hosted by FRAFS Biologist Mike Staley  
Open to all interested First Nations  
Call in number and access code are distributed weekly  
via the FRAFS email distribution list**