

Considerations for 2020/2021 IFMP Guidance - Fraser Sockeye and IFR Coho
Draft for information purposes – Version TWO March 9, 2020

This information is provided to assist communities with developing their guidance to be provided into the development of the IFMP. While this document provides some information and questions to consider, the list is not exhaustive and advice and guidance on any other topic related to salmon and salmon fisheries is also sought and gratefully accepted.

Fraser Sockeye

There is a second document called the **2020 Draft Escapement Plan - Fraser Sockeye** that provides information on the two draft escapement plans that will be included in the draft 2020/2021 Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) for Southern BC Salmon. Please refer to that document for escapement plan information.

Early Stuart Questions

The proposed dates for the Early Stuart window closure are provided on the following page.

- Do you have any advice on how long (approximately three weeks or four weeks) the window closure should be to protect Early Stuart Sockeye and potentially Early Summer Sockeye in 2020? In some years, a one week extension is added on to the end of the 3-week Early Stuart closure (i.e. for approximately 4 weeks of closure total) with the aim of providing some protection to some of the earliest returning Early Summer sockeye (e.g. Bowron and Taseko). (Note that in-season, the actual dates may be adjusted based on in-season run timing information).
- Do you support the approach taken for Early Stuart sockeye in recent years, and if not, please recommend an alternative approach.

Escapement Plan Questions and Considerations

Some questions you may want to consider when providing feedback on the proposed options include:

- Given recent returns and uncertainty in the forecast are there additional actions that should be considered to address returns at the lower end of the forecast?
- Given the Big Bar slide and a low forecast do you support a more conservative escapement plan or are you concerned that FSC harvest would be limited on other species?
- Are there additional measures that should be considered for specific stocks within the aggregates that are a concern as far as expected escapements, large or weak?
- Given the return forecast distribution and potential constraints to access allowable harvest should additional harvest in terminal areas where surpluses are expected be considered?

Other Question

- Do you have feedback on how to manage FSC sockeye fisheries when there is not enough harvest available to catch the amount as set out in licences issued by DFO?

Early Stuart Sockeye – Proposed Window Closure Dates

Please note that the actual end dates could be later depending on timing of stock as determined in-season by passage at Mission.

Area	Start Date	3-Week End Date	4-Week End Date	Management Actions ³
Areas 111, 121, 123 to 127	19-Jun	15-Jul	22-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 15 (Sn, Gn, Tr).
Area 11	19-Jun	15-Jul	22-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 15 (Gn, Tr), July 25 (Sn) ^{1,2} .
Area 12	19-Jun	15-Jul	22-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 15 (Gn, Tr), July 25 (Sn) ^{1,2} .
Area 13	19-Jun	15-Jul	22-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 15 (Gn, Tr), July 25 (Sn) ¹ .
Areas 14 to 16	19-Jun	15-Jul	22-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 15 (Gn, Tr), August 15 (Sn) ¹ .
Areas 17, 19, 20 and 21	19-Jun	15-Jul	22-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 15 (Sn, Gn, Tr).
Areas 18 and 29	27-Jun	20-Jul	27-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 20.
Steveston-Mission Bridge	27-Jun	20-Jul	27-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 22.
Mission Bridge-Sawmill Cr	29-Jun	22-Jul	29-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 24.
Sawmill Cr-Texas Cr	2-Jul	24-Jul	31-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 24.
Texas Cr-Kelly Cr	2-Jul	24-Jul	31-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before July 28.
Kelly Cr-Deadman	2-Jul	24-Jul	31-Jul	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before August 2.
Deadman-Chilcotin	6-Jul	28-Jul	4-Aug	No Fraser sockeye directed fisheries before August 4 except for potential First Nations FSC allowable harvest in terminal areas.
Chilcotin-Quesnel	6-Jul	28-Jul	4-Aug	
Quesnel-Hixon	6-Jul	28-Jul	4-Aug	
Hixon-Prince George	11-Jul	2-Aug	9-Aug	
Prince George-Stuart R	13-Jul	4-Aug	11-Aug	

¹ Gear restrictions remain in place to protect Sakinaw sockeye until July 25 (Queen Charlotte and Johnstone Straits) and August 15 (northern Strait of Georgia).

² Additional sockeye closures will remain in place in portions of Areas 11 and 12 until late July in waters north of Lewis Point to protect Nimpkish sockeye.

³ Management actions described here are just for Fraser River sockeye-directed fisheries. Any fisheries directed on other stocks or species in the areas and times described may also have measures to limit impacts on Fraser-bound sockeye (e.g. gear restrictions in licence conditions).

Interior Fraser Coho

The objective for Interior Fraser River coho (including Thompson River coho) is to manage Canadian fisheries in a highly precautionary manner with fisheries management measures similar to those in place prior to 2014. This approach is expected to achieve an overall exploitation rate in Canadian waters within the 3 – 5 % range.

- Is their support for the objective as stated above? (same as 2018 and 2019 approach)
- Are there any modifications you would suggest to current management actions?