

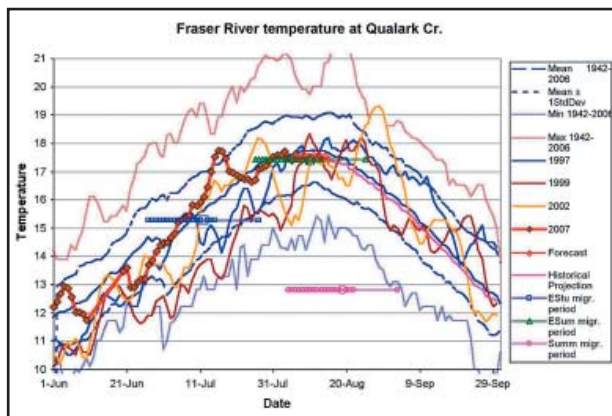
## SPECIAL EDITION

This Special Edition of the Watershed Talk provides the latest information on Fraser sockeye returns as discussed at the Fraser Panel on Tuesday, August 7 (yesterday). This information causes some concerns about the availability of Fraser Sockeye for First Nations' rights-based fisheries at this time. FRAFS will issue its next regular edition of the Watershed Talk this coming Friday, August 10

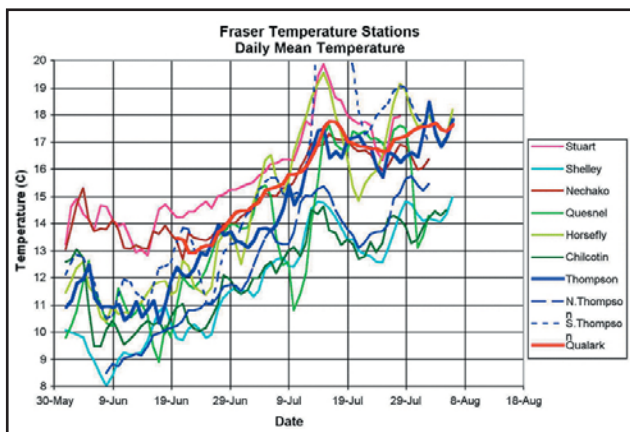
### FRASER SALMON UPDATE - By Pete Nicklin, Watershed Stock Management Coordinator FRAFS

#### WATER CONDITIONS

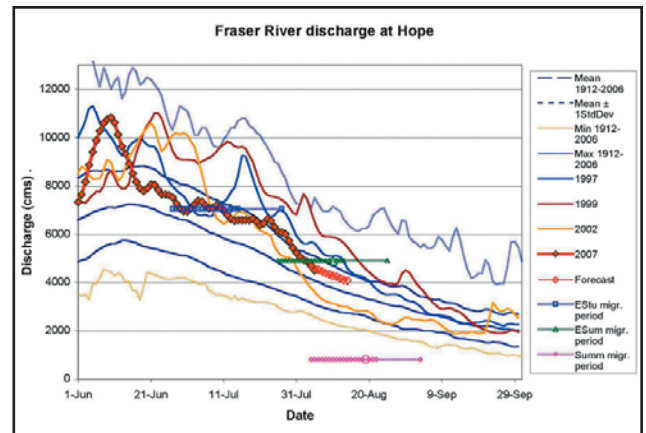
Water conditions in the Fraser continue to be satisfactory for sockeye migration from a temperature and discharge point of view. The Fraser discharge at Hope is slightly higher than average, but not extreme. Fraser temperatures at Qualark remain below 18 degrees Celsius, and are forecast to stay close to 17.5 degrees for the next several days as well. 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 below 18 degrees, and forecasted to stay below 18 for the next several days.



This graph shows the 2007 daily mean temperatures at various temperature stations throughout the Fraser watershed. With the exception of Horsefly, all temperature stations are below 18 degrees.



This graph shows the Fraser River discharge at Hope. The line with the diamonds is the 2007 discharge. Current discharge is approximately 4400 cubic metres per second (cms) and forecast to drop to 4000 cms over the next several days (forecast shown by the open diamond line).

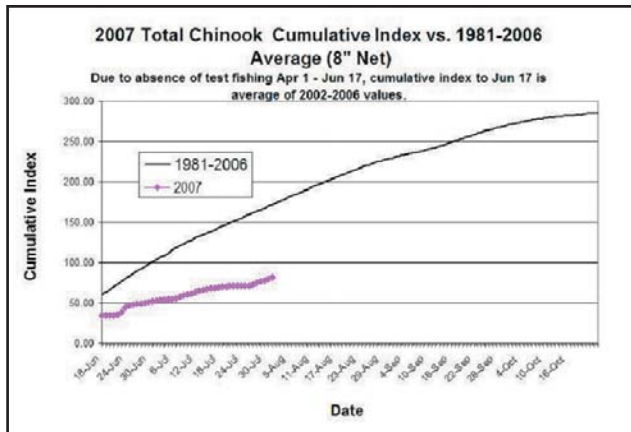
#### FRASER CHINOOK

The Albion Test Fishery Cumulative catch results for 2007 continue at levels below the 1981 to 2006 average. Seals are a problem at the Albion (and Whonnock) test fishery site because they are picking fish off the net.

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 the following graph (pg 2). The top line is the average from 1981 to 2006. The cumulative catch is tracking at about half the 1981-2006 average, but 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.

A weekly Aboriginal fisheries newsletter for  
fisheries representatives and their organizations

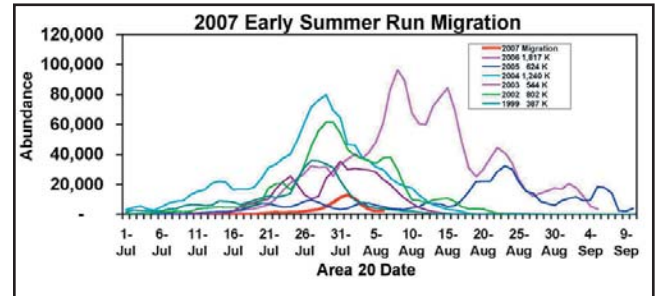


### FRASER SOCKEYE

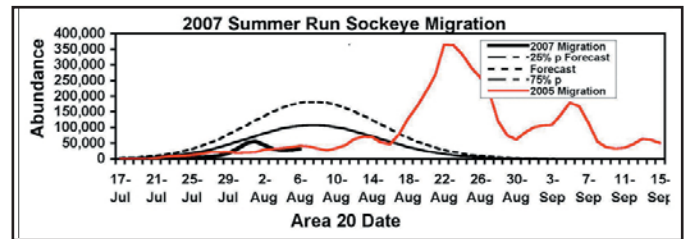
Fraser sockeye are continuing to return in low abundances. DNA analysis in the marine approach areas (Johnstone Strait/Juan de Fuca) is showing expected proportions of sockeye according to their run timing. This appears to indicate that we should not be expecting a late return (as was seen in 2005).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

The apparent weakness in the return of 4 year old sockeye, DNA analysis and abundance indicators are all casting a shadow over people's optimism for the Fraser sockeye return for 2007. All harvest sectors have been affected by the low sockeye return, and there are no commercial or recreational fisheries targeting Fraser sockeye at this time. Fraser First Nations and those First Nations that rely on Fraser sockeye are very concerned about the sockeye return, because at these abundances there will be (and have already been) reductions and closures in FSC fisheries.

early timed portion of the Early Summers may be running late. However, the Fraser River Panel has adopted the 90%P forecast (231,000) for management purposes, and recent information suggests that the Early Summer aggregate may in fact be substantially lower than that.

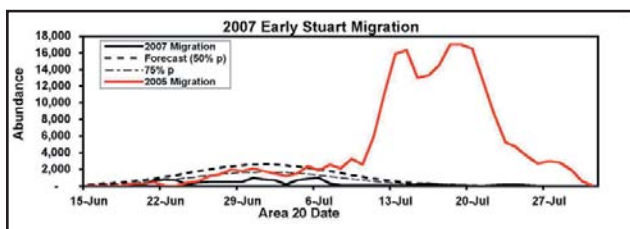


This graph shows the 2007 Early Summer run compared to other years. To date the 2007 run is tracking significantly lower than the comparison years.

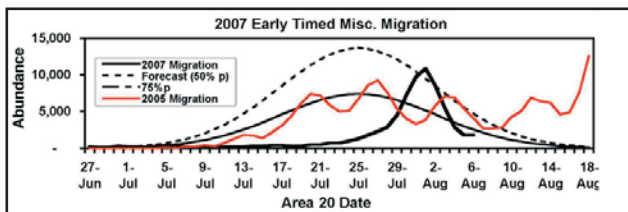


This graph shows the current information for the 2007 Summer Run migration. Summer sockeye are showing in the marine test fisheries, and in increased abundance. However, although the Summer run proportions of the test fisheries have been building, overall abundance is substantially lower than the 50%P forecast.

**For more information contact Pete Nicklin @ (250) 392-5888 or by email [indiseant@shaw.ca](mailto:indiseant@shaw.ca).**



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). The extremely late 2005 migration has been included for comparison. There are indications that the

## 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 9, 2007; AUGUST 16, 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](http://www.frafs.ca). Next issue: August 10, 2007**