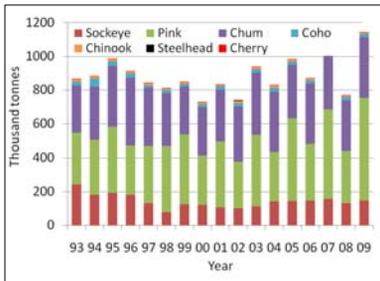


Stock Abundance and Cooperative International Governance of Pacific Salmon



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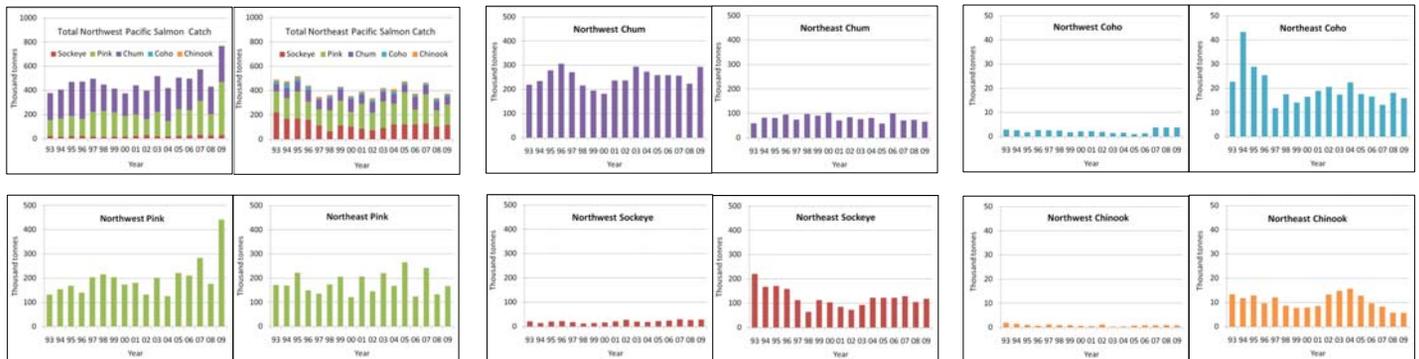


Total catch of Pacific salmon by NPAFC member countries.

In general, the current stock status of Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) in the North Pacific is favourable. In 2009, the total commercial catch was 1.1 million tonnes, which was the highest since 1993. Salmon abundance is different in the Northwest and Northeast Pacific. Recent high abundance of pink and chum salmon results from high production in the Northwest Pacific. Current favourable pink and chum salmon abundance, growth, and/or survival in the Northwest Pacific may be associated with climatic changes and improved ocean habitats. In addition, refined hatchery practices might contribute to high salmon production. The North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) is well positioned to facilitate scientific discovery to improve forecasts of stock abundances under conditions of a changing climate.

Northwest vs. Northeast Pacific Salmon Catches

Northwest Pacific catch is the sum of commercial catches by Japan, Republic of Korea, and Russia. Northeast Pacific catch is the sum of commercial catches by Canada and US. The northwest produces more pink and chum salmon and the northeast produces more sockeye, coho, and Chinook salmon.



NPAFC



The NPAFC was established by the Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean.

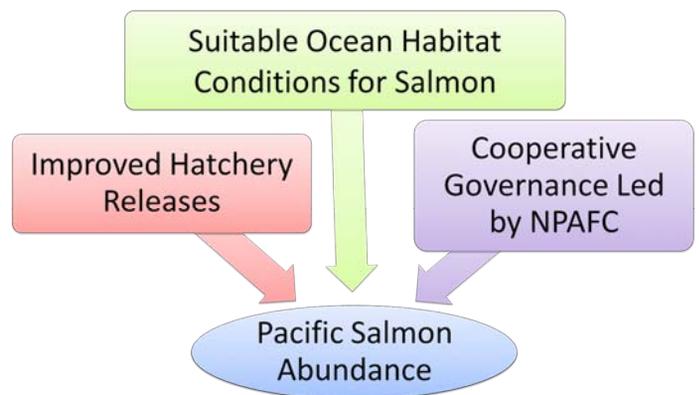
CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Prohibit directed fishing for anadromous fish
- Minimize incidental catch of anadromous fish
- Prohibit retention of incidentally-caught anadromous fish

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH & ENFORCEMENT

- Acquire, analyze, and disseminate scientific information related to anadromous stocks and ecologically-related species in the North Pacific Ocean
- Take action against activities contrary to the provisions of the Convention.

Factors Contributing to High Salmon Abundance



Climate change is associated with warming air and sea temperature, meteorological condition, and sea ice extent that affect carrying capacity of ocean salmon. Recent salmon hatchery practices have improved the quality and quantity of releases. NPAFC provides opportunities for cooperative investigations in ocean distribution, migration, and biological condition of salmon during their marine life history period.