

Releases and recoveries of Coded Wire Tag for Chum Salmon in Korea

by

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Abstract

Korea has released CWT tagged juvenile chum salmon since 2003 and sixty-six CWT chum salmon were recovered at Yangyang hatchery during the spawning seasons in 2005. Among 66 chum salmon, 34 salmon were male and 32 were female. Most salmon sampled were age 3 (92 %), which were released in 2003.

Releases of juvenile chum salmon with CWT

Korea released tagged juvenile chum salmon using coded wire tags (CWT) and clipped adipose fins since 2003 to determine the optimum period of release of juvenile and to collect information on ocean migration of juvenile chum salmon.

In 2006, 100,000 chum salmon with coded wire tag (CWT) and clipped adipose fin were released at Namdae-cheon (Table 1). The intervals of the date of released were about 2~3 weeks, and fry sizes ranged 4.1~4.7 cm FL.

Table 1. Coded Wire Tag (CWT) information released from Korea

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Code number	279001 279002	279003 279004	279005 279006	279007 279008
Date of Released	Feb. 28 and Mar. 19	Mar. 3 and Mar. 25	Mar. 3 and Mar. 17	Mar. 6 and Mar. 23
Range of fork length (cm)	3.7~5.2	4.7~6.6	3.4~5.7	4.1~4.7
Number of released	91,458	100,000	100,000	100,000

CWT recoveries

The CWTs were recovered from the spawning season of 2005, and 66 chum salmon with CWT were collected at Yangyang hatchery. Among 66 chum salmon, 34 salmon were male and 32 were female. Male and female were similar in length and weight. Average fork length of male chum salmon was 59.8 cm and the weight was 2.2 kg while female was 59.9 cm in fork length and 2.3 kg in weight.

Most chum salmon sampled was age 3 released in 2003. Only 5 of 66 were released in 2004. The return rate of chum salmon released in March 2003 was apparently higher (68 %) than that (24 %) in February. Age 2 chum salmon, having CWT 279003 were all male.

Table2. Information on CWT tagged chum salmon caught in 2005

CWT number	# of catch (percent)	female	male	released month and year	age
279001	16 (24%)	10	6	Feb. 2003	3
279002	45 (68%)	22	23	March 2003	3
279003	5 (8%)	-	5	March 2004	2
total	66 (100%)	32	34		