

Preliminary 2015 Salmon Enhancement Production in Japan

by

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Four species of anadromous Pacific salmon (chum, pink, masu, and sockeye salmon) are currently enhanced in Japan. A total of 1,874 million fry, juveniles and smolts were released from Japanese hatcheries in 2015 (Tables 1 and 2). Number of chum salmon fry released in the spring of 2015 was approximately 1,749 million fish. Japanese hatcheries also released 117 million pink salmon fry, 8,912 thousand masu salmon fry, juveniles and smolts, and 218 thousand sockeye salmon fry and smolts in the spring and fall of 2015.

In 2015, the number of adult salmon captured in rivers along the Japanese coasts was 5,144 thousand fish (Table 3), which corresponded to 16,968 metric tonnes in weight (Table 4). The dominant and second dominant species were chum and pink salmon, contributing 95.2% and 4.6% in numbers of all salmon captured in rivers, respectively. Adult masu salmon occur in rivers of both Hokkaido and Honshu, but number of catches was not available in Honshu. The number of adult masu salmon caught in rivers of Hokkaido was approximately 6.9 thousand fish. Anadromous sockeye salmon were caught in three rivers along the Pacific coast of Hokkaido, where the number of catches was 72 fish.

Table 1. Number (in thousands) of anadromous salmon released from Japanese hatcheries in 2015.

| Area | Total | Species | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | | Sockeye | Chum | Pink | Masu |
| Hokkaido | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 604,649 | 218 | 595,479 | 8,589 | 363 |
| Japan Sea Coast | 202,097 | | 197,869 | 1,375 | 2,853 |
| Okhotsk Sea Coast | 347,784 | | 239,952 | 106,675 | 1,157 |
| Honshu | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 570,607 | | 569,733 | | 874 |
| Japan Sea Coast | 149,202 | | 145,537 | | 3,665 |
| Total | 1,874,339 | 218 | 1,748,570 | 116,639 | 8,912 |

Table 2. Weight (in tonnes) of anadromous salmon released from Japanese hatcheries in 2015.

| Area | Total | Species | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | Sockeye | Chum | Pink | Masu |
| Hokkaido | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 753.2 | 2.8 | 745.9 | 2.2 | 2.2 |
| Japan Sea Coast | 238.3 | | 213.4 | 0.3 | 24.7 |
| Okhotsk Sea Coast | 305.7 | | 266.2 | 35.9 | 3.6 |
| Honshu | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 711.5 | | 708.7 | | 2.8 |
| Japan Sea Coast | 138.8 | | 123.3 | | 15.5 |
| Total | 2,147.6 | 2.8 | 2,057.5 | 38.4 | 48.9 |

Table 3. Number (in thousands) of adult salmon caught in rivers along Japanese coasts in 2015.

| Area | Total | Species | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
| | | Sockeye | Chum | Pink | Masu |
| Hokkaido | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 1,661.4 | 0.1 | 1,637.9 | 22.8 | 0.7 |
| Japan Sea Coast | 501.9 | | 500.7 | | 1.2 |
| Okhotsk Sea Coast | 1,643.1 | | 1,421.7 | 216.3 | 5.0 |
| Honshu | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 754.1 | | 754.1 | | NA* |
| Japan Sea Coast | 583.4 | | 583.4 | | NA* |
| Total | 5,143.9 | 0.1 | 4,897.8 | 239.1 | 6.9 |

*NA, Data not available.

Table 4. Weight (in tonnes) of adult salmon caught in rivers along Japanese coasts in 2015.

| Area | Total | Species | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| | | Sockeye | Chum | Pink | Masu |
| Hokkaido | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 5,429.5 | 0.1 | 5,391.7 | 37.0 | 0.7 |
| Japan Sea Coast | 1,700.7 | | 1,698.5 | | 2.2 |
| Okhotsk Sea Coast | 5,194.0 | | 4,788.8 | 398.6 | 6.5 |
| Honshu | | | | | |
| Pacific Coast | 2,573.9 | | 2,573.9 | | NA* |
| Japan Sea Coast | 2,070.2 | | 2,070.2 | | NA* |
| Total | 16,968.2 | 0.1 | 16,523.1 | 435.6 | 9.4 |

*NA, Data not available.