

Preliminary 2016 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 1,898 million fry, juveniles and smolts were released from Japanese hatcheries in 2016 (Tables 1 and 2). Number of chum salmon fry released in the spring of 2016 was approximately 1,767 million fish. Japanese hatcheries also released 123 million pink salmon fry, 7,694 thousand masu salmon fry, juveniles and smolts, and 73 thousand sockeye salmon fry and smolts in the spring and fall of 2016.

In 2016, the number of adult salmon captured in rivers along the Japanese coasts was 3,976 thousand fish (Table 3), which corresponded to 11,642 metric tonnes in weight (Table 4). The dominant and second dominant species were chum and pink salmon, contributing 80.8% and 19.0% 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 268 fish.

Table 1. Number (in thousands) of anadromous salmon released from Japanese hatcheries in 2016.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	650,877	73	631,842	18,542	420
Japan Sea Coast	208,831		205,469	2,162	1,200
Okhotsk Sea Coast	351,895		248,131	102,673	1,091
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	546,152		545,643		509 ^{*1}
Japan Sea Coast	140,161		135,688 ^{*1}		4,473 ^{*1}
Total	1,897,916	73	1,766,773	123,377	7,694

^{*1} Number of chum and masu salmon released from hatcheries in Honshu was estimated from the enhancement plan.

Table 2. Weight (in tonnes) of anadromous salmon released from Japanese hatcheries in 2016.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	791.7	1.8	782.6	4.9	2.3
Japan Sea Coast	237.6		215.4	0.5	21.7
Okhotsk Sea Coast	316.5		280.5	32.6	3.4
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	640.6		640.6		NA ^{*1}
Japan Sea Coast	105.6		105.6 ^{*2}		NA ^{*1}
Total	2,092.0	1.8	2,024.8	38.1	27.4

^{*1} NA, Data not available..

^{*2} Weight data of chum salmon released from hatcheries in Akita and Ishikawa prefectures (approximately 24 million fry) are not included.

Table 3. Number (in thousands) of adult salmon caught in rivers along Japanese coasts in 2016.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	1,045.3	0.3	1,028.8	15.6	0.6
Japan Sea Coast	317.9		313.8		4.1
Okhotsk Sea Coast	1,716.0		974.0	739.8	2.2
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	586.8		586.8		NA*
Japan Sea Coast	310.5		310.5		NA*
Total	3,976.4	0.3	3,213.9	755.4	6.9

*NA, Data not available.

Table 4. Weight (in tonnes) of adult salmon caught in rivers along Japanese coasts in 2016.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	3,225.4	0.3	3,203.4	21.2	0.6
Japan Sea Coast	1,034.0		1,024.9		9.1
Okhotsk Sea Coast	4,459.9		3,268.1	1,189.7	2.2
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	1,870.2		1,870.2		NA*
Japan Sea Coast	1,052.9		1,052.9		NA*
Total	11,642.3	0.3	10,419.4	1,210.8	11.8

*NA, Data not available.