

3-4. Production Trends and Carrying Capacity of Salmon (Poster-27)

Salmon Distribution in the Northern Japan during the Jomon Period

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In Japan, the present southern limit for chum salmon returns is the Tone River in Chiba Prefecture on the Pacific side and the Tedor River in Ishikawa Prefecture on the Japan Sea side. Salmon distributions along the coast of Tohoku Region from Aomori to Fukushima Prefecture on the Pacific side were examined based on archeological evidence during the Jomon Period, 10,000-2,300 years ago. The oldest salmon remains were found in the northern part of the Tohoku Region, such as in Hachinohe in the Initial Jomon Period during 10,000-6,000 years ago. Thereafter, salmon remains were found in Miyako in the Early Jomon Period 6,000-5,000 years ago, in Oofunato in the Middle Jomon Period, 5,000-4,000 years ago, in Rikuzentakada in the Late Jomon, 4,000-3,000 years ago, and Naruse in Senda Bay in the Final Jomon, 3000-2300 years ago. These shifts of salmon remains from north to south reflect the change in salmon distribution due to decreasing temperature after the Jomon Marine Transgression, 6,000-5,000 years ago. Based on this archeological evidence, we discuss implications of these past changes on the future.