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Preliminary 2008 Salmon Enhancement Production in Japan

by

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Preliminary 2008 Salmon Enhancement Production in Japan

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Four species of Pacific salmon (chum, pink, masu, and sockeye salmon) are currently enhanced in Japan. A total of 2,046 million juveniles and smolts were released from Japanese hatcheries in 2008 (Tables 1 and 2). Approximately 1,890 million chum salmon fry were released in the spring of 2008, the almost same level as in the previous year. Japanese hatcheries also released 142 million pink salmon fry, 13,721 thousand juveniles and smolts of masu salmon, and 371 thousand juveniles and smolts of sockeye salmon.

In 2008, a total of 4919 thousand adult salmon were captured in rivers along the Japanese coasts (Tables 3 and 4). Chum and pink salmon accounted for 80.8 % and 18.6 % of the total river catches, respectively. Within Hokkaido, the number of adult returns was 24,619 fishes for anadromous masu salmon, and 562 fishes for anadromous sockeye salmon.

Table 1. Number (in thousands) of anadromous salmon releases from Japanese hatcheries in 2008.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	674,056	371	625,353	47,712	620
Japan Sea Coast	202,496		196,224		6,272
Okhotsk Sea Coast	327,236		231,978	94,099	1,159
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	671,025		670,340		685
Japan Sea Coast	171,576		166,591		4,985
Total	2,046,389	371	1,890,486	141,811	13,721

Table 2. Weight (in tonnes) of anadromous salmon releases from Japanese hatcheries in 2008.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	884.5	5.1	859.8	16.3	3.3
Japan Sea Coast	283.4		224.4		59.0
Okhotsk Sea Coast	320.5		278.0	36.6	5.9
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	941.6		937.1		4.5
Japan Sea Coast	191.0		174.7		16.3
Total	2,621.0	5.1	2,474.0	52.9	89.0

Table 3. Number (in thousands) of adult salmon caught in rivers along Japanese coasts in 2008.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	1,156.3	0.6	1,095.0	59.3	1.4
Japan Sea Coast	171.9		167.9		4.0
Okhotsk Sea Coast	1,789.0		912.1	857.7	19.2
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	1,541.7		1,541.7		**
Japan Sea Coast	206.3		260.3		**
Total	4,919.2	0.6	3,977.0	917.0	24.6

** Data not available.

Table 4. Weight (in tonnes) of adult salmon caught in rivers along Japanese coasts in 2008.

Area	Total	Species			
		Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Masu
Hokkaido					
Pacific Coast	3,846.6	0.8	3,749.9	93.8	2.1
Japan Sea Coast	505.2		496.9		8.3
Okhotsk Sea Coast	4,271.5		2,946.1	1,303.6	21.8
Honshu					
Pacific Coast	5,118.4		5,118.4		**
Japan Sea Coast	908.3		908.3		**
Total	14,650.0	0.8	13,219.6	1,397.4	32.2

** Data not available.