Jón Kristjánsson
Fishery Biologist
Skipasund 90,
Reykjavík

March 1995

Salmon in Haffjardara 1994

Introduction

The salmon parr population in Haffjardara was investigated September 12 th -13 th 1994.
The river was fished with electricity at four sites, from Sheep Pool up to Long Pool. The fish were aged and density of the various year classes estimated. In this report, the results from 1994 are compared with results from previous years obtained by similar methods.

Results

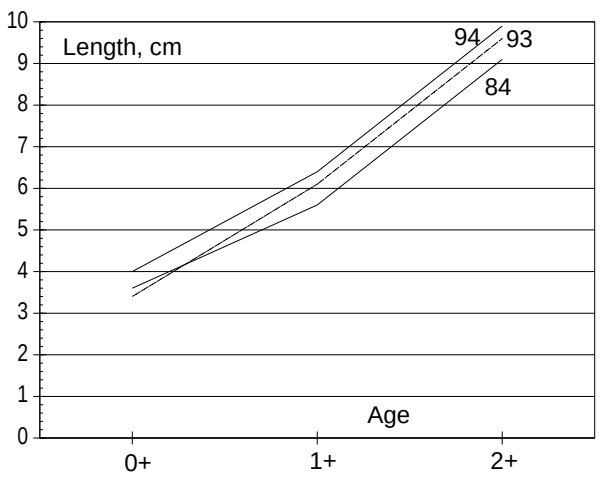
Table 1 shows how many parrs of each year class were caught at each site. The length distribution of the salmon parrs caught at sites 1-3 is shown in fig. 3 and the length distribution of the parrs caught at site 4 is shown in fig. 4.

Table 1. Mean lengths at age, and (numbers) of salmon parrs caught at various sites in Haffjarðará September 12 th -13 th 1995.

Site no	Location	Aereal (m^2)	0+	1+	2+	3+	Density Fish/100 m^2
1	Below Sheep Pool	300	4.3 (5)	6.5 (6)	10.2 (9)		7
2	Home Pool	200	3.9 (11)	6.5 (14)	10.5 (6)		16
3	100 m below Falls Pool	200	4.1 (1)	6.2 (8)	9.1 (7)		8
4	Below Long Pool	70	3.7 (7)	6.1 (5)	7.8 (4)	9.7 (4)	29
Total:			(24)	(33)	(26)	(4)	

The growth is very good, indicating that most smolts leaving the river in the spring of 1995 will be age 3+. The growth of the parrs is better in the lower part of the river (sites 1-3) than in the upper part (site 4). This can be due to the much higher density at site 4. Numbers of large parrs are high, indicating very good state of production. Fry of the year (0+) were found at all sites showing normal recruitment.
Parrs of all ages were larger in 1994 than 1993 and 1984 (fig 1.), again confirming a very healthy state of production.

Fig 1. Mean length of parrs 1994, 1993 and 1984 in the lower part of Haffjardara.



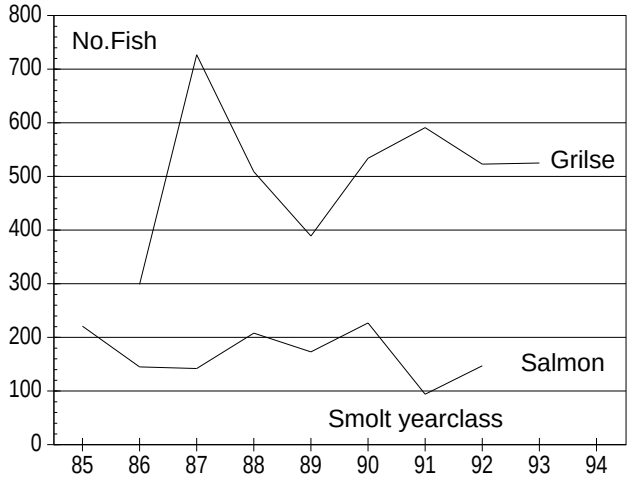
Catch in 1994

The catch in 1993 was 672 fish, 525 grilse and 147 salmons. The average catch in the period 1973-1993 was 662 fish.

Table 2. Catch of grilse (ISW) and salmon (IISW) in Haffjardara 1987-1994

Year	ISW	IISW	Total
1987	300	221	521
1988	730	145	875
1989	519	142	661
1990	391	208	599
1991	538	173	711
1992	591	227	818
1993	523	94	617
1994	**525**	**147**	**672**
Mean:	515	170	684

Fig 2. Catch of grilse and salmon originating from the 1985-1993 smolt year classes.



The catch since 1987, for grilse and salmon separately, is shown in table 2.
The catch of salmon and grilse originating from the 1985-1993 smolt year classes is shown in fig. 2. The grilse catch has been fairly stable the last 4 years, 500-600 fish. The salmon catch has been rather low the last two years.
From the good state of the parr population it can be expected that the grilse catch in 1995 will increase compared to previous years. The salmon catch in 1995 will probably be in the order of 150-200 fish.

Fig 3. Length distribution of salmon parrs at sites 1-3 in Haffjardara September 12 th 1994

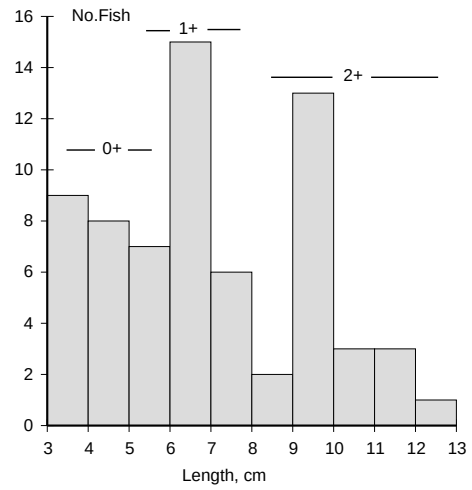


Fig 4. Length distribution of salmon parrs at site 4 in Haffjardara September 13 th 1994

