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Salmon in Haffjardara 2006

Introduction

The salmon parr population in Haffjardara was investigated August 12 and 13, 2006. The river was fished with electricity at 6 sites. The parr were aged and density of the various year classes estimated. During the test fishing, water level was normal and the conditions for electrofishing were good.

Results

Table 1 shows the results from the electrofishing. Fry (age 0+) was found at all sites in the lower part of Haffjardara in high numbers. In the upper part, fry of the year were scarce, not yet emerged from the gravel. Small size of the fry indicate a late hatching compared to previous years. One and two year old parr (1+ and 2+) were found in adequate numbers on the lower part of the river. Growth was normal and the parr was in average condition.

Table 1. Mean length at age, and number of salmon parr caught at various sites in Haffjardara August 12 and 13, 2006. Number of fish in brackets.

Site No.	Location	Date	Area m^2	0+	1+	Year classes 2+	3+	Density Fish/100 m^2
1	Upper Luncheon	12/8	70	3.3 (2)	6.8 (13)	10.2 (6)		30
2	Below Long Pool	12/8	50	2.8 (1)	6.0 (8)	8.5 (2)		22
3	Below Falls Pool	12/8	80	3.0 (11)	5.7 (15)	9.6 (3)		36
4	Home Pool	12/8	80	3.2 (21)	5.8 (9)	9.4 (1)		39
5	Below Sheep Pool	12/8	40	3.6 (10)	6.0 (18)	10.6 (1)		73
6	Sea Pool	13/8	40	3.6 (12)	7.3 (3)			38
Total:			360	(57)	(66)	(13)	(0)	38

The salmon catch in 2006

The total catch in 2006 was 1077 fish.

The catch of grilse and salmon since 1984 is shown in table 2.

Out of the 1077 fish caught in Haffjardara, 749 (70%) were released.

The catch of salmon (II SW fish) was 203 fish, 19% of the total catch.

From 1988, the proportion of II SW salmon in the total catch has been 9-24%.

Since 2003 it has increased from 9 to 19%, fig 3.

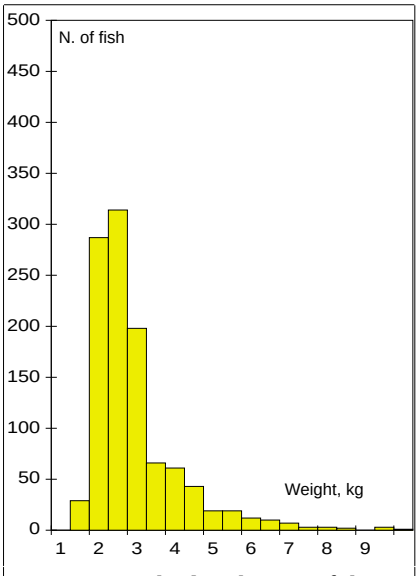


Fig. 1. Weight distribution of the salmon catch in Haffjardara in **2006.**

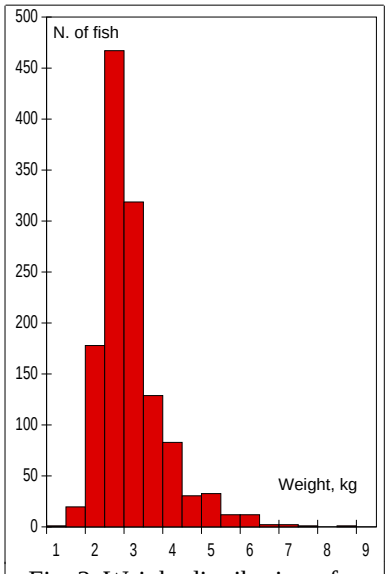


Fig. 2. Weight distribution of the salmon catch in Haffjardara in 2005.

Table 2. Catch of grilse (I SW), salmon (II SW), number and percentage of released fish in Haffjardara 1984-2006.

Year	I SW	II SW	Total	Rel.	% Rel.
84	202	351	553		
85	364	215	579		
86	978	161	1139		
87	309	226	535		
88	744	130	874		
89	533	130	663		
90	475	148	623		
91	594	126	720		
92	703	122	825		
93	550	83	633		
94	567	103	670	4	1%
95	577	155	732	0	
96	533	69	602	24	4%
97	490	70	560	0	
98	678	74	752	193	26%
99	668	122	790	302	38%
00	612	60	672	278	41%
01	465	67	532	246	46%
02	847	96	943	493	52%
03	912	95	1007	525	52%
04	954	179	1133	616	55%
05	1075	215	1290	929	72%
06	**874**	**203**	**1077**	**749**	**70%**
Avg:	639	139	778		

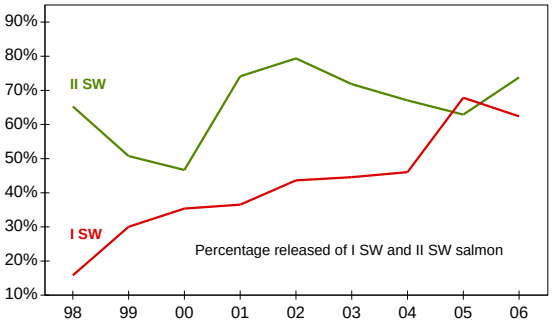


Fig. 4. Percentage of released of I SW and II SW salmon in Haffjardara 1998- 2006.

Year	No. tagged	No. recaptured	% rec.
1999	45	1	2
2000	0	0	0
2001	14	4	29
2002	91	17	19
2003	73	22	30
2004	96	18	19
2005	131	18	14
2006	76	13	17
Total:	**526**	**93**	**17.7**

Table 4. Tagging results 1999-2006.

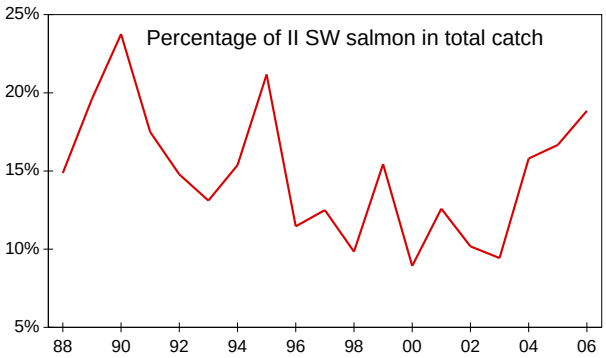


Fig. 3. Percentage of salmon (II SW) in the total catch in Haffjardara 1988- 2006.

Tagging Experiment 2006

From 3/7 to 21/8, 76 fish were tagged and released. 13 (17%) were recaptured in the river 1-61 days after tagging. Results are shown in table 3.

For the first time, a fish was recaptured one year after tagging. All other fish have been recaptured in the same season they were tagged.

In June 2006, a fish tagged in June 2005 was recovered in pool 24 (Falls). It must have left the river as kelt at the end of the winter 2006 and returned to the river few weeks later. This is a known behaviour of kelts.

Nine fish, tagged in 2006, were recaptured above the tagging site, two below and two on the tagging site.

Tagging from 1999

Since 1999, 526 fish have been tagged in Haffjardara. 93 (17.6 %) have been recaptured.

Results of the tagging in 1999-2006 are shown in table 4.

Tagged			Recaptured			
Tag No.	Date	Pool No	Date	Pool No.	Timeout Days	Up/Down N.of pools
76754	29.6.2005	7	26.6.06	24	362	17
84077	3.7.2006	1	8.7.06	7	5	6
84080	6.7.2006	2	17.8.06	2	42	0
84083	8.7.2006	23	6.9.06	33	60	10
84117	9.7.2006	2	28.7.06	33	19	31
84118	9.7.2006	2	1.9.06	2	54	0
84138	3.7.2006	7	5.9.06	17	64	10
85700	21.7.2006	12	2.8.06	2	12	-10
85702	22.7.2006	2	4.9.06	7	44	5
85730	20.8.2006	43	26.8.06	49	6	6
85901*	8.7.2006	1	8.7.(1.9)06	2	0 &(55)	1
85923	10.7.2006	17	28.7.06	2	18	-15
85926	12.7.2006	7	14.8.06	33	33	26
85928	12.7.2006	2	15.8.06	20	34	18

Table 3. Tagged and recaptured salmon in Haffjardara 2006. 'Time out' is the time between tagging and recapture. 'Up/down' is the movement of the fish, how many pools the fish moved up or down (minus sign).
* fish no. 85901 was recaptured twice at the same site, the taggind day and 55 days later.