Repercussions on fishery products and recovery from the nuclear disaster in Fukushima

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Radioactive cesium contamination of marine fishes

- 1 From seawater
- 2 From food organisms



Dispersion process of ¹³⁷Cs in surface seawater simulated by Dr. Tsumune et al. (CRIEPI)



8 April, 2011 13 April 1 May 21 May

Highly contaminated seawater leaked from 1F of FDNPP flowed along the southern coastline, and then gradually dispersed over offshore waters

The fish in the shallower waters south of the 1F were highly contaminated by drinking contaminated seawater. The declining trend of radioactive Cs in the remained fish were much more gradual because of the continued intake of contaminated foods.





¹³⁴⁺¹³⁷Cs concentration in Fishes (January–-September 2012) 2012

Number in parenthesis show number of samples above 100 Bq/kg Numeral below shows percentage.



Summary of ¹³⁴⁺¹³⁷Cs concentration of all the monitoring samples in 10 areas off Fukushima during January–December2012.

ND (not detected) data were expediently dealt as zero during the calculation.

2013

Number in parenthesis show number of samples above 100 Bq/kg Numeral below shows percentage.



Summary of ¹³⁴⁺¹³⁷Cs concentration of all the monitoring samples in 10 areas off Fukushima during January–September 2012. 7

ND (not detected) data were expediently dealt as zero during the calculation.

¹³⁴⁺¹³⁷Cs concentration of offshore seawater (Bq/L) released from NRA and MEXT.

¹³⁷Cs concentration in prey organisms-1 (polychaetes)

High ¹³⁷Cs concentrations have gradually decreased over time.

¹³⁷Cs concentration in prey organisms-2 (plankton, mysids, and euphausiids)

¹³⁷Cs concentrations have decreased over time, and fluctuated within low level (around 10 Bq/kg in mysids).

¹³⁷Cs concentration in prey organisms-3 (gammarids and shrimps)

¹³⁷Cs concentrations have decreased over time, and fluctuated within low level (10–20 Bq/kg).

Quick decrease of radioactive Cs concentration in seawater Gradual decrease of radioactive Cs concentration in prey organisms

Decrease of radioactive Cs concentration In fish species

Month (April 2011 – August 2013)

Samples above 100 Bq/kg have not been found in octopus, squids, sellfish, and shrimp after one year after the accident. Fish of some kinds have still exceeded 100 Bq/kg.

Representative species showing quick decrease of radioactive Cs concentration Non fish species

Cuttlefishes and squids

Shrimps and crabs

Welks and bivalves

Sea cucumbers

Two representative species showing quick decrease of radioactive Cs concentration

Representative fish species showing quick decrease of radioactive Cs concentration

Larval anchovy

Larval sand lance

Skipjack tuna

Pacific saury

broadbanded thornyhead

Greeneye

Lower trophic level + alteration of generations

Migratory fish

Deeper dwelling fish

Two representative fish species showing quick decrease of radioactive Cs concentration

Representative fish species showing high concentrations of radioactive Cs occasionally

Mainly demersal fish species with high site fidelity

Coastal rockfishes

Japanese temperate bass

Coastal flatfishes

Fat greenling

Japanese flounder

Common skate

Differences in Cs concentration for each individual collected in the same location (Fat greenling)

Outliers shown within the same location suggests migration

of contaminated fish from different habitat.

Areas for trial fishing operations

Lifting a ban on shipment for about 40 species which had exceeded the Japanese standard limit

Restart of full-scale fishing operations