

April 2001

Salmon in Haffjardara 2000

Introduction

The salmon parr population in Haffjardara was investigated June 26-30 and August 25, 2000. The river was fished with electricity at five sites in June and two sites in August. The fish were aged and density of the various year classes estimated.

Results

Table 1 shows the results from the electrofishing. Figures 2 and 3 show the length distribution of parr in June. Large numbers of 0+ parr were found in the upper part. It is unusual to find the youngs of the year so early in the season. Density of older parr were low in June. This is probably due to severe flood in March when the fish lodge was surrounded by water. Figure 4 shows the length distribution of parr caught below Long pool in August. The area is recovering since June, growth is good but density is still rather low compared to last 3 years.

Table 1. Mean length at age, and number of salmon parr caught at various sites in Haffjardara June 26-30 and August 25, 2000. Number of fish in brackets.

Site No	Location	Date	Area (m ²)	0+	1+	2+	3+	Density Fish/100 m ²
1	Upper Lunchion	30/6	50	2.5 (16)	5.4 (16)	7.7 (4)		72
2	Below Long Pool	30/6	50		5.4 (1)	7.6 (3)		8
4	Below Falls Pool	26/6	60		4.9 (6)	7.4 (10)		27
6	Home Pool	27/6	50	2.7 (1)	4.8 (6)			14
7	Below Sheep Pool	26/6	80		5.2 (11)	8.7 (9)		25
2a	Below Long Pool	25/8	60	4.0 (9)	6.8 (5)	8.7 (6)		33
4a	Below Falls Pool	25/8	50	4.0 (13)	6.0 (13)	8.0 (2)	9.5 (1)	58
Total:			400	(39)	(58)	(34)	(1)	33

The salmon catch in 2000

The total catch in 2000 was 672 fish, slightly below the 18 year average. The catch of grilse and salmon from 1983 is shown in table 2. The grilse catch in 2000 was good but the salmon catch, fish 4 kg and larger, was low.

Out of the 672 fish caught in Haffjardara, 278 (41%) were released. No fish were tagged year 2000. It is of utmost importance to tag as many of the released fish as possible. Tagging gives important information on migrations, year to year mortality, survival and the overall value of catch and release. If fish will be released in 2001 it is highly recommended to tag as many of them as possible.

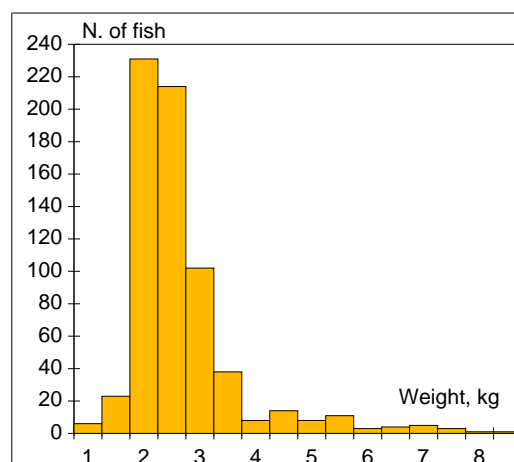


Figure 1. Weight distribution of the salmon catch in Haffjardara in 2000. Weight is in kilos.

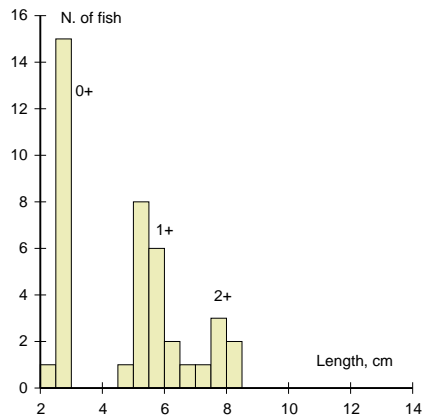


Figure 2. Length distribution of parr caught at Upper Luncheon (site 1, table 1) Haffjardara in late June 2000. Youngs of the year, 0+ are numerous. Growth rate of 1+ and 2+ parr is the same as for the fish in the lower part which is unusual. The density was low, probably due to severe flooding in March.

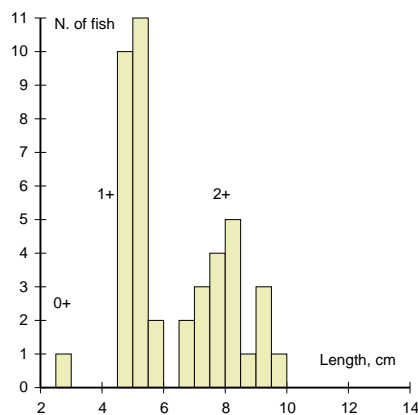


Figure 3. Length distribution of parr caught in the **lower part** of Haffjardara in late June 2000. Apart from the one 0+ fish, only 1+ and 2+ were found. Older parr have left the river.

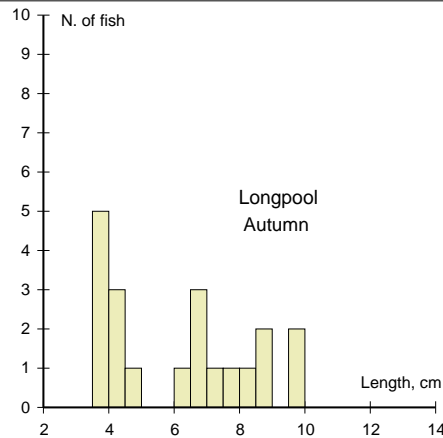


Figure 4. Length distribution of parr caught below Long pool in August. The 0+ have grown to 4-5 cm, 1+ fish is 6-8 sm.

Table 2. Mean lengths at age, and number of salmon parr caught below Long Pool in Haffjardara 1994-2000. Number of fish in brackets. Numbers are low in year 2000, probably a result of severe floods in March 2000.

Area (m2)	Age: 0+	1+	2+	3+	Density /100 m ²	YearDate
70	3.7 (7)	6.1 (5)	7.8 (4)	9.7 (4)	29	199412/9
50	3.4 (6)	6.3 (7)	8.5 (2)	10.2 (2)	38	199510/9
50	3.3 (12)	5.9 (6)	7.4 (5)	9.6 (3)	52	199623/7
50	3.4 (15)	5.5 (11)	7.9 (6)	9.4 (1)	66	199716/8
50	3.8 (5)	6.0 (3)	8.2 (10)	10.4 (2)	46	199822/8
30	3.6 (1)	6.5 (8)	9.0 (4)	12.3 (2)	45	199916/9
60	4.0 (9)	6.8(5)	8.7(6)		33	200025/8

Table 3. Catch of grilse (I SW) and salmon (II SW) in Haffjardara 1983-2000.

Year	I SW	II SW	Total
83	414	211	625
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
95	577	155	732
96	533	69	602
97	490	70	560
98	678	74	752
99	668	122	790
00	612	60	672
Avg:	555	142	697

Table 4. Mean total density of parr in Haffjardara 1994-2000.

Year	Density Fish/100 m ²
94	11
95	27
96	32
97	35
98	40
99	29
00	33