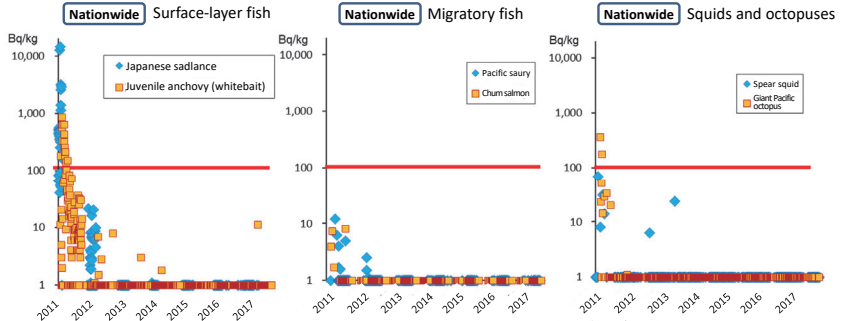


Trends of Radioactive Cesium Concentrations by Fish Species (1/2)

- At present, all samples of surface-layer fish, such as Japanese sand lance and whitebait, migratory fish such as bonito and tunas, chum salmon and Pacific saury, bottom fish such as flounders, flatfishes and cods, as well as squids and octopuses, shrimps and crabs, shellfish and seaweeds, show radioactive cesium concentrations below the standard limit in all prefectures.
- The environment of habitats and feeding habits correlate to changes in radioactive cesium concentrations in the respective groups of fish.



Results of inspections from March 24, 2011, to December 26, 2017, compiled by the Fisheries Agency

MAFF

The above figures show inspection results concerning radioactive cesium concentrations in fish by fish species with different habitats and feeding habits.

Japanese sand lance, whitebait and other species of surface-layer fish showed high radioactive cesium concentrations immediately after the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS, but radioactive cesium concentrations in samples of these fish species at present are all below the standard limit.

Regarding Pacific saury, chum salmon and others that migrate over a wide area in the ocean, radioactive cesium exceeding 100 Bq/kg or exceeding 50 Bq/kg was not detected at all even immediately after the accident.

Marine invertebrates, such as squid and octopus, also showed high radioactive cesium concentrations immediately after the accident, but declines in radioactive cesium concentrations in samples of marine invertebrates were more prompt than in the case of surface-layer fish, and their radioactive cesium concentrations at present do not exceed even 50 Bq/kg. This is considered to be due to the nature of marine invertebrates through which ions freely move in and out to seawater. Due to this nature, radioactive cesium concentrations in marine invertebrates decrease according to radioactive cesium concentration decreases in seawater.

In this manner, the results of the past inspections show correlation between the environment of habitats and feeding habits and changes in radioactive cesium concentrations in the respective groups of fish.

Included in this reference material on March 31, 2013

Updated on February 28, 2018