

(Provisional translation)

Press Release
22 June, 2011
Fisheries Agency of Japan

The Fisheries Agency of Japan decided to allow skipjack fishery operations in the sea area west of longitude 147 degrees east offshore Fukushima Prefecture, and notified it to the relevant fisheries organizations. The decision was made based on the result of inspections on radioactive materials that showed radioactivity level of skipjack tuna samples in the area was below the provisional regulation value.

Result of the inspections on radioactive materials in skipjack tuna in the eastern sea area offshore Fukushima Prefecture

Regarding skipjack tuna fisheries offshore Fukushima Prefecture, the Basic Policy for Inspections on Radioactive Materials in Fishery Products provides to conduct sampling by a research fishing vessel prior to commercial operations. Decision on whether to operate in the area should be based on the result of the analysis.

(The Basic Policy URL: http://www.jfa.maff.go.jp/j/kakou/kensa/pdf/110520_kihonhosin_en.pdf)

Samples of skipjack tuna taken at latitude 37.03 degrees north and longitude 143.37 degrees east, and at latitude 37.03 degrees north and longitude 143.49 degrees east, on 19 June, were analyzed at the Fisheries Research Agency of Japan. The results showed that both radioactive iodine and radioactive cesium were not detectable in the samples. Considering this result, the Fisheries Agency of Japan has decided to allow skipjack fishery operations in the sea area west of longitude 147 degrees east (operations have been already allowed for the area east of longitude 147 degrees east), and notified it to the relevant fisheries organizations.

Sampling inspections of landed skipjack tuna will be continued.

[Reference] Result of analysis

Item: two samples of skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*)

Sampling date: 19 June, 2011

Sampling site: eastern sea area offshore Fukushima Prefecture

N 37° 03, E143° 37

N 37° 03, E143° 49

Result of analysis

Radioactive cesium: not detectable

Radioactive iodine: not detectable

[Note] Provisional Regulation Value for fish and seaweed

Radioactive cesium: 500 Becquerel/kg

Radioactive iodine: 2,000 Becquerel/kg

*Link to results of inspections on radioactive materials in fisheries products conducted by prefectural governments and other organizations

For more information

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