

Why Community-Based Fishery Management (CBFM) Has Been Well Developed in Japan

Legal Organization responsible for Optimum and Democratic Use of Fisheries Resources may be effective for fishery management under any circumstance of fishery.

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1. Political Status of Japan after the world War II

**From a country under Military Government (Top down)
to Democratic country (Bottom up)**

2. Specific Features of Coastal Fishery in Japan

- (1) Unlike Europe and North America Fishery resources are rich in terms of variety of species.**
- (2) A variety of fisheries using different gears aiming at different species have been developed even in a same fishing area.**
- (3) Resulting in conflicts among different groups of fishermen, over capacity and over fishing.**

3. Background for Complete Revision in Fishery Law

- (1) Granting Fishing rights and Licenses to Fishing Societies or individuals based on 1901 Fishery Law referring to actual fishing performances of fishermen as of 1901, which were mostly oriented from traditions occurred during feudal era.**
- (2) With the progress of 45 years till 1945 the above system become obsolete or monopolized, resulting in democratic redistribution of fishing rights.**
- (3) Over use of coastal resources due to an increased fishermen and also mechanization of small boat, resulting in conflict among fishermen.**
- (4) Need to increase income level of coastal fishermen and restoration in the order of fishing operation among fishermen.**

Specific Note

In 1935, Mr. Kanichi Nomura tried to establish a fishery coordination committee with the participation of fishermen.

4.1 1949 Fishery Law and Fishery Coordination Committee

**Fishery Law was completely redrafted by
Mr. Takashi Hisamune *with his whole heart and soul.***

- (1) in compliance with the policy of the Occupied Forces, which intended to make Japan a democratic country. and**
- (2) with reference to the idea of Mr. Kanich Nomura of establishing *a Fishery Coordination Committee* to make optimum and democratic use of fishery resources.**

4.2 Role of A Fishery Coordination Committee (FCC)

- (1) FCC is a public institution established by the fishery law, and its main role is to formulate “a plan to make synthetic use of all fishery resources available in a sea area defined by the law on behalf of fishermen, taking into account the conservation of fishery resources”.
- (2) **FCC** is established in a principle for each prefecture sea area with fifteen (15) members, of which nine are elected among fishermen. Four are men of learning and experience and two represents public interest. These last two groups of members are nominated by the prefecture governor.
- (3) **FCC** organizes a public hearing as many time as possible to listen the voice of fishermen.
- (4) prefecture governor issues fishing right and license based on the plan decided by the FCC.
- (5) **FCC** is authorized to issue an order to regulate fishing operation, whenever necessary.

CONCLUSION

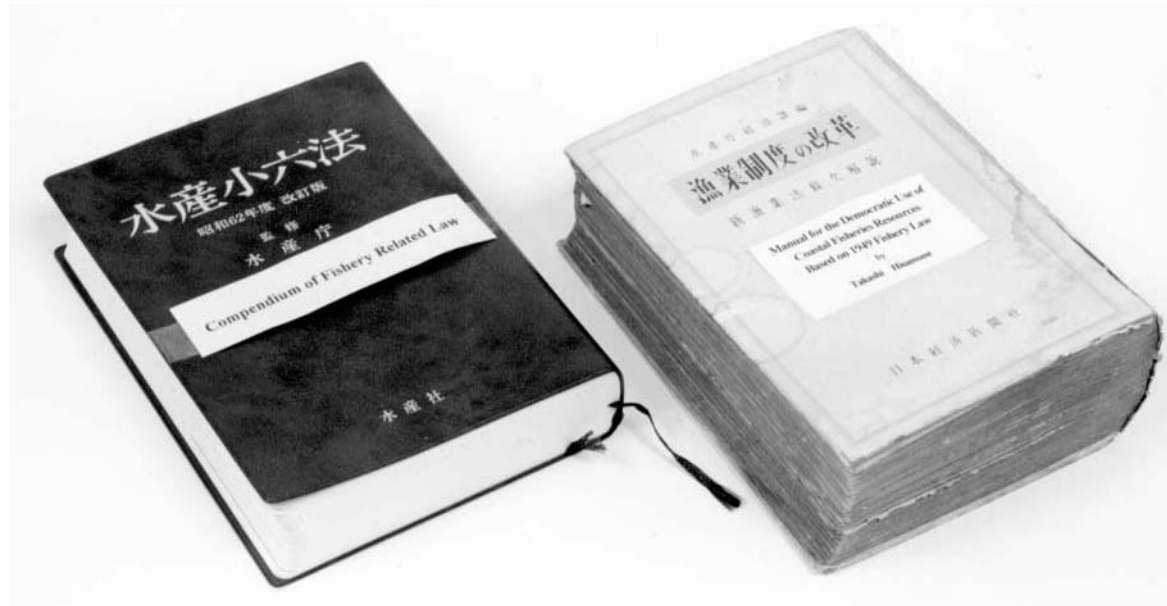
- (1) The development of community based fishery management in Japan has been greatly encouraged by the creation of FCC and its democratic performances. It is not due to a historical development of Japan's fishing right system.
- (2) The 1998 Fishery Census in Japan has identified 1734 fishery management organizations throughout the country.
- (3) Unlike Western countries Japan has little compliance problem.
- (4) A nation-wide campaign with a word of "Resources Management Fishery", which was proposed by Professors Yutaka Hirasawa and Akira Hasegawa is worthwhile to keep the record.
- (5) FCC may be Effective to IQ or ITQ system.



Takashi Hisamune

A man who established 1949 Fishery Law
with his enormous effort and ambition

1915 - 1990



Right : Manual for the Democratic Use of Coastal Fisheries Resources Based on 1949 Fishery Law *by Takashi Hisamune.*

Left : Compendium of Fishery Related Laws