

CHAPTER 14

DIEL FEEDING PATTERN AND FOOD CONSUMPTION OF SELECTED FISH POPULATIONS IN ASIAN RESERVOIRS

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Abstract

For some fish populations in Thai and Sri Lankan reservoirs, the daily food ration, feeding periods, ingestion and evacuation rates were determined using MAXIMS, an iterative computer software utilising 24-hour series of stomach content data obtained from wild populations. The annual relative food consumption rates of individual species were also computed. Results of the analysis indicate that generally daily ration per unit body weight is appreciably higher in herbivorous and detritivorous species than in carnivorous species, which is reflected by the nutritive quality of food items. The results of this analysis are useful for quantifying trophic relationships in reservoir ecosystems.