

JAPAN



1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Key Statistics:

Land mass	378,000 square kilometres
EEZ/land ratio	10.4
Coastline	29,751 kilometres
Population in 2000 (approximately)	127,610,000
Population density (approximately)	340 persons per square kilometre
Gross National Income per capita (1997)	US\$24,070

Other facts: Japan consists of five large islands and a number of smaller islands.

2 ACTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE LAW OF THE SEA CONVENTION

Japan signed the Law of the Sea Convention on 7 February 1983 and ratified the Convention on 20 June 1996. Japan claims the following marine zones of jurisdiction under the Law of the Sea Convention:

- territorial sea: 12 nm from the baseline.

- territorial sea: between 3 nm and 12 nm in five straits - Soya, Tsugaru, Osumi, and the Eastern and Western Channels of Tsushima Strait.
- contiguous zone: 24 nm from the baseline.
- exclusive economic zone: 200 nm from the baseline.
- continental shelf: 200 nm from the baseline.

Japan has marine jurisdictional boundaries with China, the Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic Korea, the Philippines, Russia and the United States of America (for Northern Marianas). In 1978 maritime boundary issues with respect to the continental shelf adjacent to the Republic of Korea were addressed through establishing a boundary and a joint development zone.

3 MARINE INDUSTRIES INFORMATION

The key marine-based industries in Japan are aquaculture, fishing and shipping. In 1998 it was estimated that there were 216,795 people employed in the fish production sector (excluding aquaculture) and 206,201 people were employed in the processing sector (excluding fishmeal and fish oil companies). The gross value of fisheries output in 1998 was US\$16 910 million and the value of fisheries exports was US\$1 162 million. The value of fisheries imports was US\$13 337 million.¹

There is no information available for other marine-based industries.

4 OCEAN RELATED LEGISLATION

Key Ocean Management Related Legislation

Legislation	Description
Law to Partially Amend the Law on the Territorial Sea of 1996	This Law implements the territorial sea regime of the Law of the Sea Convention for Japan.
Law on the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf of 1996	This Law establishes the EEZ and defines the extent of the continental shelf, in accordance with the Law of the Sea Convention.
Law on the Conservation and Management of Marine Resources (1996)	This Law implements the fisheries conservation provisions of the Law of the Sea Convention and lays down detailed regulations relating to the conservation and management of living resources in marine areas of national jurisdiction, and in particular within the EEZ.
Law to Partially Amend the Law on the Protection of Fishery Resources 1996	This Law aims to prevent the spread of fish disease to Japan through imports of marine animals for use in aquaculture or propagation of stocks.
Nature Conservation Law (1972)	The purpose of this law is to conserve areas with outstanding nature by designating these areas as Nature Conservation Areas,

¹ www.fao.org/fi/fcp/en/JPN/profile.htm

	etc.
Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (1992)	The objectives of this Law are to ensure the conservation of endangered species of wild fauna and flora and to contribute to the conservation of natural surroundings for present and future generations.
Wildlife and Hunting Law (2002)	The purpose of this law is to protect and to enhance reproduction of birds, mammals and sea mammals and to control pest animals through the execution of wildlife protection projects and hunting controls.
Law for Promotion and Nature Restoration (2002)	The purpose of this law is to provide the framework of nature restoration in order to restore natural environment damaged in the past to its original state.
Petroleum and Combustible Natural Gas Resources Development Law	This Law governs mining and mining methods for petroleum and inflammable natural gas. It also aims to promote exploration of inflammable natural gas resources.
Basic Environmental Law (1993)	This Law provides the general principles for environmental protection. These principles underlie more detailed and specific rules.
Environmental Impact Assessment Law (1997)	This Law is aimed at ensuring that proper consideration is given to environmental protection issues when a company is endeavoring to undertake a development project and, ultimately, to ensure that present and future generations enjoy healthy and culturally rewarding lives.
Water Pollution Control Law (1970)	This Law prevents the pollution of water in public water bodies such as rivers, lakes and sea by regulating effluent discharged into these areas.
Law Relating To The Prevention Of Marine Pollution And Maritime Disasters 1976	This Law controls the discharge of oil, noxious liquid substances, and garbage into the ocean from vessels in order to prevent marine pollution and maritime disasters.
Waste Management and Public Cleansing Law 1970	This is the general Law for the management of waste. It is a key control on land-based pollution of Japanese waters.
Law on the Control of Export and Import of Specified Hazardous Wastes (1992)	This Law gives effect to the Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.
Maritime Traffic Safety Law	The purpose of this Law is to ensure the safety of ships' traffic by prescribing special modes of navigation and by effecting control for preventing danger to ship traffic in congested areas.

5 LEAD AGENCIES FOR OCEANS GOVERNANCE

(1) Departments/ Ministries

Agency	Ocean Related Function
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries www.maff.go.jp	The Fisheries division within this Ministry is responsible for fisheries policy as well as related issues such as ballast discharge, oil spills and the sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources. In terms of marine fisheries, the Ministry has a Fisheries Agency and a Fisheries Bureau. The Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Council sits under the Ministry.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs www.mofa.go.jp	The primary responsibility of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to negotiate international agreements on Japan's behalf and to issue policy statements regarding global environmental concerns involving Japan. The Treaties, Economic Bureau and Multilateral Cooperation Department are responsible for Japan's international participation in International Instruments dealing with marine issues, the sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources and oil spills.
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport www.mlit.go.jp	This Ministry is committed to ensuring the systematic utilisation, development and conservation of land, the integrated improvement of infrastructure and the pursuit of innovative transport policies. In the marine context it deals with ballast discharge, oil spills and the sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources. The major marine-related bureaus in the Ministry include the Maritime Bureau, the Ports and Harbours Bureau and the Coast Guard.
Ministry of the Environment www.env.go.jp	This Ministry is responsible for the management and conservation of Japan's environment. In terms of marine-related issues the Ministry deals with coastal sewage, marine biodiversity, discharges of ballast from ship, and oil spills.

(2) Bureaus

Agency	Ocean Related Function
Japan Coast Guard (JCG)	The JCG is responsible for the enforcement of marine-related laws. In certain cases the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force is called in.
Maritime Bureau	The Maritime Bureau is responsible for the development and promotion of the maritime transport and shipping industries. In the area of international maritime transport, the Bureau aims to build a free and fair market and increase the competitiveness of Japan's related industries in the market.
Ports and Harbours Bureau	This Bureau aims to create a globally competitive logistics network, to develop and maintain ports that support the living environment, to create a friendly waterfront and create a safe and secure living environment.

(3) Coordinating Bodies

Agency	Ocean Related Function
Council on Ocean Development (COD)	The COD is a 20 member Council that allows government agencies, ocean industry representatives, academic and scientific community representatives and NGOs to discuss needs and uses of the ocean sectors and the implications for the national economy. The COD's primary purpose is to promote ocean development over the long term. It is not a policy coordination body, but does inform and advise national ocean issues and focus the national ocean policy debate in anticipation of future developments.
Inter-Agencies Contact Group on Ocean Development	This Group is responsible for the implementation of multi-agency marine policies produced by the COD. It is a liaison committee rather than a policy forming body. It consists of representatives of the Ministries and Agencies of Foreign Affairs, Education, Economy, Trade and Industry, Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Environment and Fishery.

6 OCEANS GOVERNANCE POLICY FRAMEWORK

Policy	Description
Basic Environment Plan	This Plan is a mandatory requirement of the <i>Basic Environmental Law</i> . It is intended to promote environmental conservation through the cooperation of all sectors of society. Oceans governance matters addressed in the Plan include: integrated coastal zone management and lowering environmental loads in the marine and coastal zone
The Biodiversity Strategy of Japan	This Strategy details Japan's current policies on biological diversity and outlines a strategy for the future.
Basic Policies for Nature Convention	These policies are mandatory requirements under the Nature Conservation Law. They provide the basic policies on conservation of the natural environment and fundamental items concerning Nature Conservation Areas, etc.
National Guidelines for the Conservation of Endangered Species	These Guidelines have been adopted to protect and conserve endangered species and to carry out breeding programs.