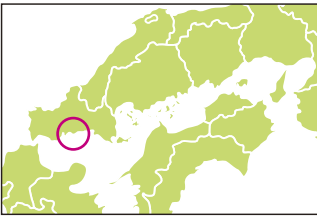


Primary Sponsor:
Yamaguchi Prefecture

Tidal Flat Restoration

Fushino River Tidal Flats



Designation:
None
Location:
Yamaguchi, Yamaguchi Prefecture
Year Initiated: 2002

Fushino River Estuary and Tidal Flats Nature Restoration Committee (as of March 2009)

The Committee works on restoration and maintenance of Fushino River estuarine and tidal flat habitats.
Date Established: 1 Aug. 2004
Members: 57
Date Issued the Overall Plan: 31 Mar. 2005
Date Issued the Implementation Plan: In preparation

Goal Restore 'sato-umi', a shoreline habitat where people can enjoy natural resources in a sustainable way through continuous proper management



The Tidal Flats, downstream of the Fushino River, is a stopover site for migratory birds flying to various destinations and is listed in the Japan's 500 Important Wetlands. It is also home to the threatened horseshoe crab (*Tachypleus tridentatus*), all of which makes the area as a country's critical estuarine habitat.

The Tidal Flats, however, has experienced various alterations - suspended silt inflow; oyster overpopulation due to enrichment of the estuarine water; mud flat compaction because of less frequent clam dredging; and a marked decline of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) beds. Towards restoration and preservation of the Fushino River Estuary and Tidal Flats, various efforts are in progress.

Approaches

- ▶ Improve the substrate environment by crushing oyster shells and modifying sediment texture
- ▶ Establish a mechanism for the sustainable tidal flat management



Horseshoe crab



Plowing and sand addition method



Shell crushing and plowing method



Working on parallel ridge tillage



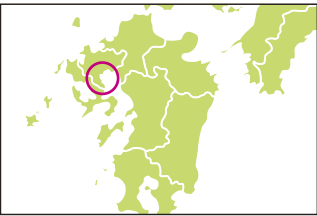
Fencing with thick bamboos

Shell crushing and plowing in the areas of high density of oyster shells Plowing in the sandy areas

Primary Sponsor:
Saga Prefecture

Wetland Restoration

Kashibaru Wetlands



Designation:
None
Location:
Karatsu, Saga Prefecture
Year Initiated: 2002

Kashibaru Wetlands Nature Restoration Committee (as of March 2009)

The Committee works on returning the altered wetland environment due to natural transition to the healthy one.
Date Established: 4 Jul. 2004
Members: 36
Date Issued the Overall Plan: 26 Jan. 2005
Date Issued the Implementation Plan: 31 Mar. 2005 (Kashibaru Wetland Area, sponsored by Saga Prefecture)

Goal Restore the wetland vegetation that existed in the late 1950s and re-establish a healthy relationship between human activity and the environment



Bekkotonbo dragonfly

Kashibaru Wetlands has an area of 120-ha and is the bounty of important wetland plants and insects, where continuous management has controlled the vegetation's natural. However, the Wetlands has suffered a reduction of open water area and conversion to uplands because of being bisected by the road constructed in 1971 and cessation of field burning and sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum palustre*) harvest. Therefore, wetland restoration is in progress to return the wetland environment under alterations, such as the infestation of a few plant species and accumulation of dead plants, to the traditional one.

Approaches

- ▶ Removing vegetation in a step-by-step approach
- ▶ Removing invaded shrub trees
- ▶ Relocating the road that bisects the wetland (under consideration)

Areas for restoration



Accumulation of sphagnum moss is converting the wetlands to uplands



Dredging and vegetation removal were implemented



Increased open water has restored diverse vegetation



Related Web Sites

Fushino River Estuary and Tidal Flats Nature Restoration Committee: : <http://eco.pref.yamaguchi.lg.jp/fushino/index.html>