# Shiretoko

The Shiretoko Peninsula is located in the northeastern part of Hokkaido, and contains sheer cliffs, wetlands and lakes, and steep mountains of about 1,500m formed by volcanic activity. The World Heritage property is an area of approximately 71,100 ha that includes Shiretoko Peninsula, from the central part to the Shiretoko Cape at the tip, and the surrounding ocean.

escarpées d'environ 1.500 m dues à l'activité vollacs. Le site inscrit au Patrimoine mondial est une zone d'environ 71.100 ha qui inclut la péninsule de Shiretoko, depuis sa partie centrale jusqu'au cap de Shiretoko, son extrémité, ainsi que la mer qui l'

## Lake Rausu

**World Heritage property** 

The Sea of Okhotsk is located in the lowest latitude in the work where sea ice can form. The abundant plankton is brought abou by this sea ice and form the basis of a rich marine ecosystem.

Sea ice (drift ice)

Area A: Area for strict protection Area B: Area for conservation and utilization

This is the largest lake in the Shiretoko Peninsula. The deep primeval forests of Erman's birch and Sakhalin fir are dotted with wetlands and snow patches, with the various different alpine plants in each of the seasons. The Lake Rausu Route requires equipment

Shiretoko World Heritage Conservation Center shows the attractions of nature in Shiretoko, as well as instructs rules and manners for enjoying nature in Shiretoko through virtual experiences using tablets and hands-on displays of educational stuffed animals. It also provides real-time information and the latest information on management of the property.

\* Refer to the back cover

Shiretoko World Heritage Conservation Center





Whale watching

Mink whales, Baird's beaked whales, sperm whales, killer whales, Dall's porpoises, Pacific white-sided dolphins, and harbor porpoises are mainly observed here. The peak time to see mink whales is from about May to June, and about August to September for

Pekinnohan





# **Rausu Visitor Center**

The Rausu Visitor Center serves as the gateway to the Rausu side, and displays and explains information related to nature, culture, and usage. It also serves as a central base for the Wildlife Protection Area and for wildlife research.





# Mt. Rausu

This is the main and the highest peak for the volcanic range on the Shiretoko Peninsula, 1,661 m in elevation. It is one of the 100 Famous Japanese



# **Furepe Waterfall**

In this waterfall, underground water flows down from the fissures in a cliff that rises up vertically for approximately 100 m. It is locally known as "Maiden's Tears."



# Yezo sika

This is one of the subspecies of the sika deer that is widely distributed from Vietnam to Far East Asia. They are the largest of the sika deer. In recent years, the increased populations have been causing damage to the forest and grassfands.



# Sea cliffs

On the Shiretoko Peninsula, precipitous cliffs were formed through a combination of volcanic activity and marine erosion. On the western coast-line on the Utoro side, a series of cliffs of up to 200 m, various different waterfalls, and uniquely shaped rocks can be





# Brown bear

The Shiretoko Peninsula is one of the world's highest density or the word's nignest density regions for brown bears. Since they can make use the bounty of the forests and the sea— including herbaceous plants from the coasts and high mountains, fruit and nuts from forests, and the salmons that swim upstream—they have more than 90 varieties of food resources at their dis-

**Shiretoko Goko Lakes** 

Kamuiwakka Waterfall

Since the water contains

sulfur content, it carries the meaning "water of the gods (spirits)" in the Ainu lan-

This is a large eagle that only breeds in the far eastern areas of Russia. It is a rare species, with estimated about 5,000 individuals in the world. There are records of more than 2,000 wintering birds in the Shiretoko Peninsula.

Steller's sea eagle

Mt. lou

Along with Mt. Rausu, this is one of the active volcanoes on the Shiretoko Peninsula. It also is one of the rare volcanoes

in the world that spews out large quantities of high purity dissolved sulfur. It has an el-evation of 1,562 m.

Species facing a growing risk of extinction

Here visitors can see the beautiful scenery of five lakes surrounded by primeval forests dotting the landscape, with the Shiretoko mountain range and primeval forests reflected in the surfaces of the lakes. The periods in which Shiretoko Goko Lakes is open is divided up into three stages: the Bear Aware Season, Ecosystem Aware Season, and the free use period, with visitors being required to apply certain entry procedures or take a lecture depending on the time period to use walks on the ground. Visitors are allowed to freely stroll along the elevated boardwalk on which an electrified fence for repelling bears has been installed. See the Shiretoko Goko Lakes Field House website for details .

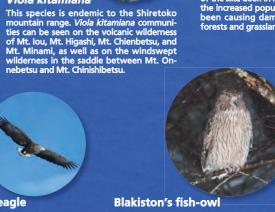
( http://www.goko.go.jp/english/)

Viola kitamiana

# White-tailed eagle

The white-tailed eagle is distributed widely in northern Eurasia, and also breeds on the Shiretoko Peninsula. The nest density in the peninsula is one of the highest in the world, which is a reflection of the ample food resources found there. The number of fledging chicks per clutch is also larger than other

Red List of the Ministry of the Environment Threatened II (VU)
\*Species facing a growing risk of extinction



# Blakiston's fish-owl

This is the world's largest owl. It is rare at the species level with only about 1,000 individuals in the world. There are about 140 birds living in Hokkaido, with about one-fourth of these inhabit the World Heritage Site.

hreatened IA (CR) \*Species facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the very near future



Caution: During the wintertime, the

# Steller sea lion

Large shoals of salmon swim upstream along the rivers to spawn from the end of September until early November. This is a characteristic species that links marine and terres.

that links marine and terres-

Herds of around 100 Steller sea lions which primarily consist of females migrate to the coastal waters of the Shiretoko Peninsula. They mate in the seas adjacent to Russia, and pregnant individuals come here to build up their nutritional reserves in order to give nutritional reserves in order to give birth. In Shiretoko, they feed mainly on Walleye pollock.