

## Comprehensive Efforts toward Regeneration of Forests and Forestry in Fukushima

**Others**

○ In order to ensure safe and secure lives of the residents and regenerate forests and forestry in Fukushima, relevant ministries and agencies carry out the following measures comprehensively in collaboration with the prefecture and municipalities, while obtaining the understanding of the people in Fukushima.

**I. Efforts toward regeneration of forests and forestry**

**1. Efforts for ensuring safe and secure living environment**

- Steadily continue decontamination work for forests near people's houses, etc.
- For residential areas surrounded by forests on three sides, taking measures as necessary, such as decontaminating forests 20m or further from the border or installing barriers to prevent soil runoff

**3. Efforts for regenerating forestry in mountainous areas, etc.**

- Promote a project to conduct tree thinning or other forest maintenance work together with measures concerning radioactive materials, and a demonstration project aiming for regeneration of forestry
- Newly prepare a guidebook on radiation safety that is easy to understand for workers

**II. Future-oriented efforts for research and studies**

- Continuously engage in research and studies for monitoring radiation doses in the forest, understanding behavior of radioactive materials and reducing radiation doses; Continue efforts for regeneration of forests and forestry into the future while utilizing the outcomes of such research and studies in formulating further measure

**III. Information provision and communication**

- Meticulously provide the latest information regarding knowledge on radioactive materials in forests and the national government's efforts toward regeneration of forests and forestry, using such media as relevant ministries' websites and PR magazines
- Continue efforts for ensuring safe and secure lives of the people in Fukushima through maintaining good communication, including dispatching experts

**Picture of Satoyama Forest Restoration Model Project**

Prepared by the Ministry of the Environment

In addition to decontamination work, comprehensive efforts for regenerating forestry and ensuring safe and secure lives of the residents are indispensable for the regeneration of forests and forestry in Fukushima Prefecture. Based on the guideline, "Comprehensive Efforts toward Regeneration of Forests and Forestry in Fukushima," relevant ministries and agencies have been carrying out measures comprehensively in collaboration with the prefecture and municipalities, while obtaining the understanding of the people in Fukushima.

According to the knowledge obtained at the Environment Restoration Panel established in the Ministry of the Environment, it is found that removal of sedimentary organic materials at locations 20m or further from the edge of the forest has little effect in reducing ambient dose rates at the forest edge. Removal of sedimentary organic materials broadly in forests may even make things worse, in ways such as increasing bad effects on trees due to causing erosion of dirt, etc. containing radioactive cesium or impoverishing the soil. Accordingly, under the basic policy to prioritize areas especially necessary from the perspective of protecting human health, decontamination of forests has been conducted within approx. 20m from the edges of the forests adjacent to houses or farmland, etc.

Additionally, it was determined to implement a model project to comprehensively facilitate efforts for restoring *Satoyama* forests including decontamination work. In September and December 2016, the Reconstruction Agency, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the Ministry of the Environment jointly selected a total of 10 municipalities as model districts (Kawamata Town, Hirono Town, Kawauchi Village, Katsurao Village, Soma City, Nihonmatsu City, Date City, Tomioka Town, Namie Town and Iitate Village).

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