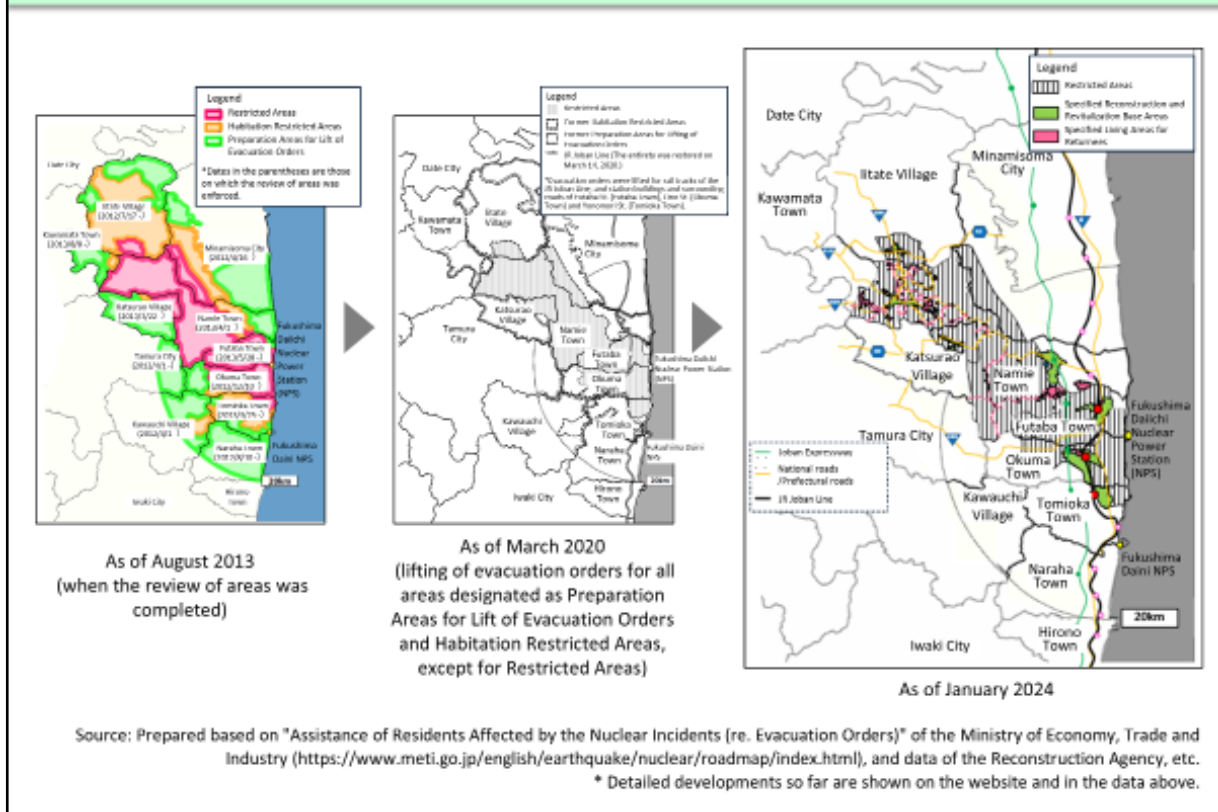


Removal of the Designation of Areas under Evacuation Orders



At the joint meeting of the Reconstruction Promotion Council and the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters held on March 7, 2013, it was pointed out that “a certain view should be indicated within the year” regarding the lifting of evacuation orders. Accordingly, procedures to be followed for lifting evacuation orders were presented based on the discussions over the Cabinet decision on December 20, 2013, titled “For Accelerating the Reconstruction of Fukushima from the Nuclear Disaster.” In order to ease returning residents’ anxiety over health effects of radiation, measures are being taken to reduce radiation exposure and eliminate health concerns (risk communication project). These measures include deployment of counselors, development of counselor support centers, ascertaining and management of personal doses, and radiation monitoring.

In the meantime, evacuation orders were lifted by March 2020 for all areas designated as Preparation Areas for Lift of Evacuation Orders or Habitation Restricted Areas, except for Restricted Areas.

Regarding Restricted Areas, evacuation orders were lifted for the first time for some areas in Futaba Town, Okuma Town and Tomioka Town within the Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas (SRRBA) designated as Restricted Areas, upon the reopening of the entirety of the JR Joban Line in March 2020. Evacuation orders were also lifted for the SRRBA in Katsurao Village and Okuma Town in June 2022, in Futaba Town in August 2022, in Namie Town in March 2023, in Tomioka Town (Yonomori and Osuge Districts) in April 2023, in Iitate Village in May 2023, and in Tomioka Town (in Oragahama and Fukaya Districts) in November 2023. Evacuation orders were thus lifted for the entirety of the SRRBA. In areas other than the SRRBA in Restricted Areas, Specified Living Areas for Returnees were established in Okuma Town, Futaba Town, and Namie Town by January 2024. In order to lift evacuation orders for those Specified Living Areas for Returnees, the national government will continue efforts, such as decontamination work and infrastructure development. Although Kawauchi Village and Hirono Town had recommended evacuation for areas other than Areas under Evacuation Orders designated by the national government, based on their independent determinations, these evacuation recommendations were also lifted on January 31, 2012, and on March 31, 2012, respectively.

The latest information, the current status of evacuees and the details of the Areas under Evacuation Orders in 12 municipalities are posted on the Fukushima Prefecture’s portal site, “Fukushima Revitalization Information Portal Site,” and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry’s website, “Assistance of Residents Affected by the Nuclear Incidents (re. Evacuation Orders).”

“Transition of the evacuation zones -Explanation-,” Fukushima Revitalization Information Portal Site

<https://www.pref.fukushima.lg.jp/site/portal-english/en-1-3-1.html>

“Assistance of Residents Affected by the Nuclear Incidents (re. Evacuation Orders)” of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

<https://www.meti.go.jp/english/earthquake/nuclear/roadmap/index.html>

Included in this reference material on February 28, 2018

Updated on March 31, 2024

Traffic on Major Roads in Restricted Areas



- **Joban Expressway:** The entirety was restored in March 2015.
Source: https://www.e-nexco.co.jp/en/pressroom/head_office/2014/1225/00006647.html
- **JR Joban Line:** The entirety was restored in March 2020.
Source: https://www.jreast.co.jp/press/2019/20200117_ho01.pdf (in Japanese)
- **National roads and prefectural roads:** Transit without carrying and presenting a pass came to be permitted for National Road 6 from September 2014, for National Road 114 from September 2017, and for Prefectural Road 35 from September 2019.

Exposure doses of drivers passing through					
Dose survey period		November 2018 to January 2019	August 2017	November to December 2019	
Section		Japan Expressway: between Hirono IC and Minamisoma IC	National Road 114: between the border of Kawamata Town and Namie IC	National Road 6: in Restricted Areas	Prefectural Road 35: in Restricted Areas
Exposure dose while passing through (μSv)	Automobiles	0.28	1.01	0.39	0.51
	Motorcycles	0.34	-	0.49	0.63

Reference) Exposure dose during a round flight between Tokyo and New York: approx. 80 to 110 μSv

Source: Prepared by the Support Team for Residents Affected by Nuclear Incidents based on the "Results of Radiation Dose Surveys in Restricted Areas along National Roads 114, 399 and 459 and Prefectural Roads 49 and 34" (September 15, 2017), the "Results of Radiation Dose Surveys in Restricted Areas along National Roads 6 and 114 and Prefectural Roads 34, 35, 36, 253 and 256" (January 30, 2020), and NEXCO East's website (<https://jobando.jp/hibakusenryo/hibakuryo.html>) (in Japanese))

In Restricted Areas, transit had been restricted except for temporary entry of residents and transit based on the Special Transit Permission System.

As National Road 6 is a key major road for reconstruction and recovery of Fukushima Prefecture, after completion of decontamination and road repair work, special transit without carrying and presenting a pass came to be permitted for National Road 6 and Prefectural Road 36 on September 15, 2014, as a result of consultations with the relevant municipalities.

The Special Transit Permission System has also been applied to National Road 114 and Prefectural Road 35 based on consultations with the relevant local governments and organizations. From March 2020, motorcycles are also permitted to use some routes, such as National Road 6 and Prefectural Road 35. Furthermore, the entirety of National Road 6 was reopened to foot and bicycle traffic in association with the lifting of evacuation orders for the Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas (SRRBA) in Okuma Town in June 2022 and in Futaba Town in August 2022. The entirety of National Road 114 and Prefectural Road 49 was reopened to foot and bicycle traffic in association with the lifting of evacuation orders for the SRRBA in Namie Town in March 2023. The most recent status of the application of the Special Transit Permission System and the results of dose surveys under the application of the system are published in the form of a notice issued by the Support Team for Residents Affected by Nuclear Incidents, Cabinet Office (<https://www.meti.go.jp/earthquake/nuclear/kinkyu.html>) (in Japanese).

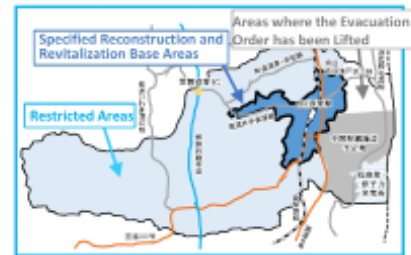
Included in this reference material on February 28, 2018

Updated on March 31, 2024

[Approval of Plans for Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas and Targeted Timing for the Lifting of Evacuation Orders]

Municipality name	Approval date	Targeted timing for the lifting of evaluation orders
Futaba Town	Sep. 15, 2017	Around spring of 2022 (Lifted on August 30, 2022)
Okuma Town	Nov. 10, 2017	By around spring of 2022 (Lifted on June 30, 2022)
Namie Town	Dec. 22, 2017	March 2023 (Lifted on March 31, 2023)
Tomioka Town	Mar. 9, 2018	Around spring of 2023 (Lifted on April 1 and November 30, 2023)
Iitate Village	Apr. 20, 2018	Around spring of 2023 (Lifted on May 1, 2023)
Katsurao Village	May 11, 2018	By around spring of 2022 (Lifted on June 12, 2022)

Example of a Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas (Futaba Town)



"Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Area Reconstruction and Revitalization Plan" by the Reconstruction Agency
<https://www.reconstruction.go.jp/topics/main-cat1/sub-cat1-4/saiseikyoten/20170913162153.html> (In Japanese)

"Radiological Protection Measures at Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas"

(Dec. 12, 2018, by the Cabinet Office's Support Team for Residents Affected by Nuclear Incidents, the Reconstruction Agency, the Ministry of the Environment, and the Secretariat of the Nuclear Regulation Authority)

As Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas are areas where entries have been strictly restricted as Restricted Areas, required measures are to reduce residents' exposure doses and meticulously respond to their worries over radiation.

Under this concept, radiological protection measures should be taken in two stages, the first stage to make preparations for returning and rebuild communities ahead of the lifting of the evacuation order and the second stage to achieve the lifting of the evacuation order for further accelerating related initiatives.

Prepared based on the "Radiological Protection Measures at Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas" (2018) by the Cabinet Office's Support Team for Residents Affected by Nuclear Incidents, the Reconstruction Agency, the Ministry of the Environment, and the Secretariat of the Nuclear Regulation Authority and the "Toward the Lifting of Evacuation Orders and Returning and Inhabitation of Residents for Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas" (2018) by the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters

As radiation doses have decreased in some Restricted Areas, the national government published its policy in August 2016 to develop "reconstruction bases with the aim of lifting evacuation orders and permitting inhabitation in such areas within around five years in light of the status of decreases in radiation doses." In response, the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima was amended in May 2017 and the system for Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas (SRRBA) was established thereby. Plans for reconstruction and revitalization of SRRBA that municipalities (Futaba Town, Okuma Town, Namie Town, Tomioka Town, Iitate Village, and Katsurao Village) had formulated were all approved by May 2018 and their development has been promoted. As a result, evacuation orders were lifted for the SRRBA in Katsurao Village and Okuma Town in June 2022, in Futaba Town in August 2022, in Namie Town in March 2023, in Tomioka Town (Yonomori and Osuge Districts) in April 2023, in Iitate Village in May 2023, and in Tomioka Town (in Oragahama and Fukaya Districts) in November 2023. Evacuation orders were thus lifted for the entirety of the SRRBA.

In December 2018, as moves toward the lifting of evacuation orders for these municipalities had become active, the national government presented its policy to take radiological protection measures for SRRBA in two stages, a stage to prepare for returning and a stage to achieve the lifting of evacuation orders, with the aim of further accelerating efforts for lifting evacuation orders.

In a stage to prepare for returning, the national government will not only ensure steady management of individuals' doses and secure a consultation system, but also minutely obtain doses and other information and provide estimated exposure doses based on detailed dose maps and representative behavior patterns or otherwise take multi-layered measures in cooperation with local governments.

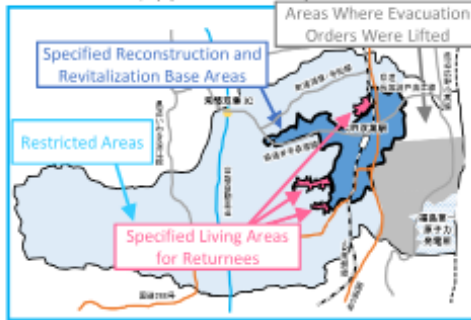
In a stage to achieve the lifting of evacuation orders, as residents spend more time and move around more widely than in the preparatory stage, the national government will take measures to reduce residents' exposure doses based on dose data and individuals' living conditions and risk communication measures to meticulously respond to residents' worries and anxieties, comprehensively and in a multi-layered manner in line with individual local governments' wishes, in addition to steadily managing individuals' doses and securing a consultation system.

Included in this reference material on March 31, 2020
 Updated on March 31, 2024

Development of Specified Living Areas for Returnees

[Specified Living Areas for Returnees in each municipality]

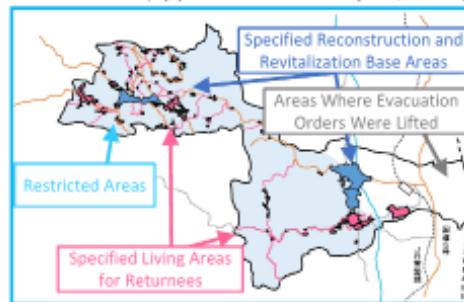
Okuma Town (approved on September 29, 2023)



Futaba Town (approved on September 29, 2023)



Namie Town (approved on January 16, 2024)



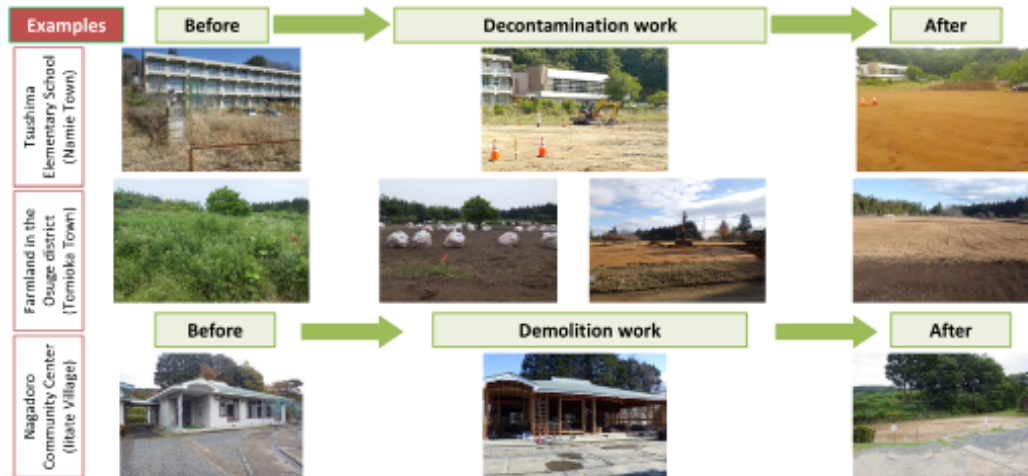
Prepared based on the "Reconstruction and Revitalization Plans for the Specified Living Areas for Returnees," "Current Status of Reconstruction and Future Efforts," etc. of the Reconstruction Agency

Residents who are eager to return to their original residences in areas other than the Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas in Restricted Areas have long been forced to live as refugees and local governments have strongly requested that the national government clarify its policy on the lifting of evacuation orders as early as possible. In consideration of such circumstances, in August 2021, the national government formulated a policy to grasp residents' intention individually and carefully and promote decontamination of areas necessary for returnees in order to enable residents who are eager to return to their original residences to do so during the 2020s (the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters and the Reconstruction Promotion Council). In order to achieve this policy, the national government amended the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima in June 2023, under which a system was created to enable mayors of the municipalities containing Specified Areas under Evacuation Orders to establish Specified Living Areas for Returnees (SLAR) outside the Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas. In the SLAR, each municipality aims to achieve return of residents through lifting of evacuation orders and to assist returnees' reconstruction of livelihoods.

Under this system, Okuma Town and Futaba Town obtained approval from the Prime Minister for their Reconstruction and Revitalization Plans for the Specified Living Areas for Returnees in September 2023 and Namie Town obtained the same in January 2024. Decontamination, infrastructure development, and other initiatives toward the lifting of evacuation orders will be promoted based on these plans. (Approval of the plans: as of the end of January 2024)

Included in this reference material on March 31, 2024

- Works to demolish houses and other buildings and decontamination work have commenced in all of the six towns and villages (Futaba Town, Okuma Town, Namie Town, Tomioka Town, Iitate Village and Katsurao Village). Works have been completed for station squares, kindergartens, gymnasiums and other public facilities. Efforts to restore the environment are thus steadily progressing.
- In order to achieve lifting of evacuation orders for the entirety of the Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas (SRRBA) from around the spring of 2022 to around the spring of 2023, as had been targeted, demolition and decontamination of houses in the areas are being conducted in collaboration with relevant ministries and agencies.
- In the SRRBA, decontamination has been completed for over 90%, and the demolition of houses and other buildings has been completed for approximately 84% out of the total number of applications (as of the end of November 2023).
- In September 2023, for some areas in Futaba Town and Okuma Town, Reconstruction and Revitalization Plans for the Specified Living Areas for Returnees were approved, and decontamination and demolition of houses and other buildings were commenced in December 2023.



Prepared by the Ministry of the Environment

For Restricted Areas, relevant municipalities formulated plans for Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas (SRRBA) and environmental development (decontamination and development of infrastructure, etc.) in those areas based on the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima. After obtaining approval for the formulated plans from the Prime Minister, they are to make efforts to achieve the lifting of evacuation orders within five years.

The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) carried out decontamination work and the demolition of houses and other buildings in the SRRBA based on those plans. Evacuation orders were lifted for the SRRBA in Katsurao Village and Okuma Town in June 2022, in Futaba Town in August 2022, in Namie Town in March 2023, in Tomioka Town (Yonomori and Osuge Districts) in April 2023, in Iitate Village in May 2023, and in Tomioka Town (in Oragahama and Fukaya Districts) in November 2023. Evacuation orders were thus lifted for the entirety of the SRRBA.

At present, decontamination work has been completed for over 90%, and the demolition of houses and other buildings has been completed for approximately 84% out of the total number of applications (as of the end of November 2023). Specified waste from demolished houses and other buildings is to be disposed of after volume reduction for disposal at the controlled landfill site managed by the Futaba District Broader Municipality Association (Clean Center Futaba). In August 2019, the MOE, the Association and Fukushima Prefectural Government concluded the basic agreement thereon. In June 2023, transportation of specified waste was commenced.

For areas other than the SRRBA, the national government amended the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima in June 2023, under which a system was created to enable mayors of the municipalities containing Specified Areas under Evacuation Orders to establish the Specified Living Areas for Returnees (SLAR). In the SLAR, each municipality aims to achieve return of residents through lifting of evacuation orders and to assist returnees' reconstruction of livelihoods. With the aim of commencing pioneering decontamination work within FY2023, in September 2023, for some areas in Futaba Town and Okuma Town, Reconstruction and Revitalization Plans for the Specified Living Areas for Returnees were approved, and decontamination and demolition of houses and other buildings were commenced on December 20, 2023.

Included in this reference material on March 31, 2021
Updated on March 31, 2024