



# *Forests Rivers Sea & Satoyama*

**Reconnecting with  
Nature, and the Future**

*Green Reconstruction:  
Creating a new National Park*

興復陸三





Goishikaigan Coast (Ofunato City)



Rural landscape (Ofunato City)





Myojinzaki (Yamada Town)

## Interconnecting with Nature: the very foundation of Living

The Pacific Coastal region of Tohoku District is endowed with both a picturesque natural landscape and world-renowned fishing grounds offshore. This fertile natural bounty has always provided for the people through its local industries. However, this same natural environment also has its harsh side, in the form of bitter winters and periodic tsunamis. In order to coexist with these forces of nature, and the threats therein, the people of the region have accumulated knowledge, skills and culture accordingly.

The recent devastating earthquake and accompanying tsunami along the Pacific Coast of Tohoku, was hugely destructive not only to the people and properties that fell in its wake, but also to the natural environment along the whole coastal area. Nature, we have been reminded, can be a menace as well as provider.

For those who experienced it, the disaster was turning point in their lives. It has caused many to rethink how we and the threatening aspects of nature can coexist.

Immediately after the disaster, the people of the region rose to the challenge of recovery, working and supporting each other along the way. People now share a common awareness of the importance of maintaining bonds between each other, as they live under the threat of renewed nature's manifestations of nature and its dangers.

In order to prepare for future earthquakes and tsunamis, we need to pay more attention to nature and its own powers of recovery, utilizing those strengths as we proceed together towards reconstruction of a sustainable community lifestyle, in which future generations can live rich and fruitful lives in harmony with nature.

Nature foot path in  
Kitayamazaki (Tanohata  
Village)



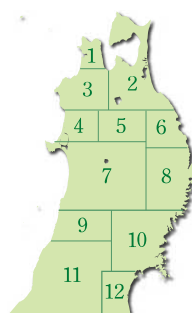
Dogtooth violets(*Erythronium  
japonica*) in bloom



Ascending salmon



Tanesashikaigan Coast •  
Nakasuka (Hachinohe City)



### Pictures on the cover

1. Hachinohe Line (Hachinohe City)
2. Kabushima Island (Hachinohe City)
3. Hidejima Island and daffodil (*Hemerocallis middendorffii* var. *esculenta*) (Miyako City)
4. Okubo Valley (Ofunato City)
5. Hand picked seaweed (Noda Village)
6. Jodogahama Beach (Miyako City)
7. Picking seaweed in Jodogahama Beach (Miyako City)
8. Unosu Cliff (Tanohata Village)
9. Brant Goose (*Branta Bernicla*) (Kesennuma City)
10. Oranda Island (Yamada Town)
11. *Machilus Thunbergii* in Kiyosaki (Ishinomaki City)
12. Solitary pine tree with hope (Rikuzentakata City)

# Green Reconstruction: Creating a new National Park

## Basic Principle

### Forests Rivers Sea & Satoyama

Walking together with the natural environment fostered by the Forests Rivers Sea & Satoyama, towards reconstruction

Through various measures, such as establishment of the new Sanriku Fukko (reconstruction) National Park, the reconstruction aims to maintain the natural environment and traditional lifestyle of the region for future generations, an environment fostered through linkages between the Forests, Rivers, Sea & Satoyama. Throughout the reconstruction, both the blessings and threats that nature brings will be studied.



Main access routes between Tokyo and the Sanriku Region

#### Legends

- Airport
- Shinkansen (Bullet Train)
- Expressway
- Primary National Highway
- Prefectural Highway
- Sanriku coastal Highway (partially opened)
- Railway (partially reopened · Bus route)

## Basic Concept

**Make the most of the blessings that Nature provides**

Strive for a tourism industry that emphasizes the uniqueness of Tohoku, as seen in the harmony existing between Nature and the people's lifestyle, as well the cultural value placed on the bounty that Nature provides.

**Study the Threats from Nature**

Study and promote the natural threats to the region learned from this recent earthquake and tsunami, to better prepare for the recurrence of such natural disasters in the future.

**Strengthen interconnections between the forests, rivers, sea and Satoyama**

Following the Fukko (reconstruction), restore and protect the natural ecosystems that sustain the livelihoods of the region, and strengthen the interconnections between the forests, rivers, sea and Satoyama.

## Creation of the reconstruction area



Kesennuma Oshima Island  
(Kesennuma City)

### Project 1

## Establishment of the new Sanriku Fukko (reconstruction) National Park (Restructuring of Natural Parks)

Sanriku Fukko (reconstruction) National Park will be established with areas of outstanding natural beauty, such as the Rikuchukaigan National Park at its core. As for the reconstruction, the promotion of wise use of the natural environment, with greater efforts at consultation with the region, will contribute to the region's development.

This reconstruction will on an unprecedented scale, promote new measures, such as provision of places for utilizing local culture and lifestyle, studying and reviewing the way to prepare for the threat of natural disasters, and how to deal with the waste arising from those disasters.

In order to hasten the reorganization of the new national park, revisions to regional classifications will be progressively introduced, placing priority on maintaining conservation. Management plans, park boundaries, and conservation policies will be revised to ensure the rich ecosystems remain intact, in accordance with the changes in the natural environment brought about as reconstruction proceeds.

The park will be assigned the provisional name Sanriku Fukko (reconstruction) National Park, in the light of the contributions made by many people, including those from outside Japan. In the future, as the reconstruction proceeds, a more appropriate name will be considered.

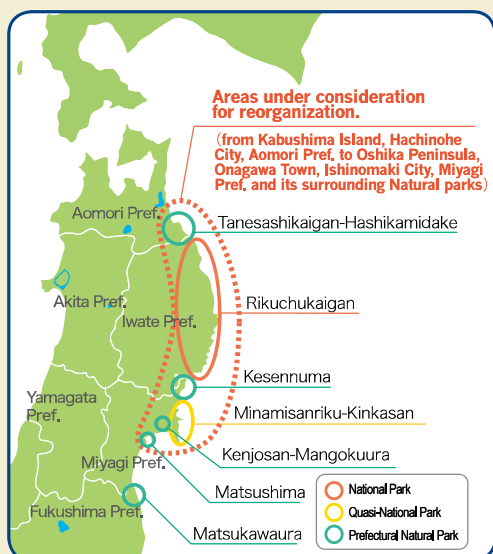


*Lilium maculatum* in Kitasamuraihama Beach (Kuji City)

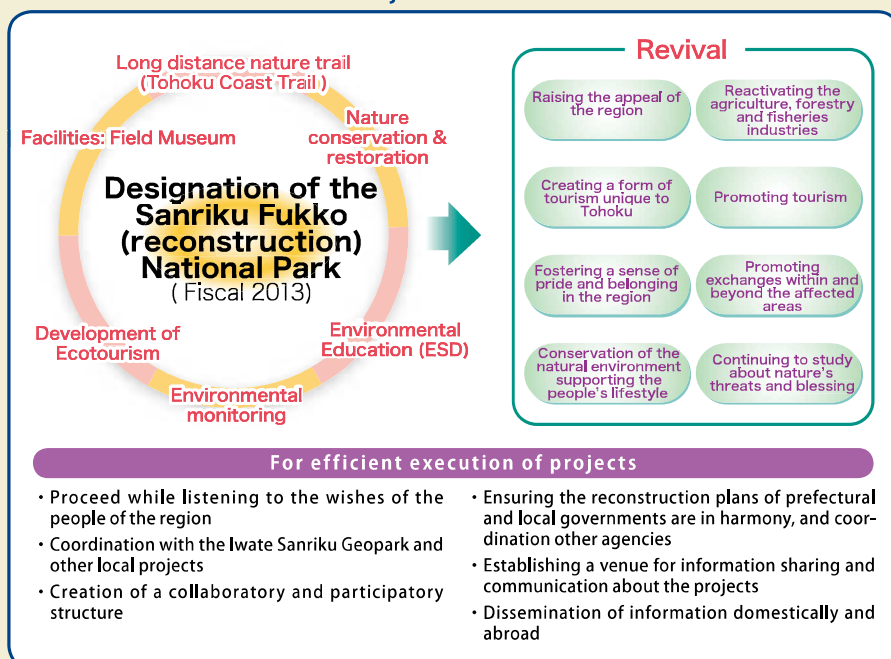


Sunrise at the  
Tanesashikaigan Coast

### Concept Map of Reorganization of Natural Parks



### Aim of "Green Reconstruction Project"





## Project 2

# Long distance nature trail: Tohoku Coast Trail



Way to Jodogahama  
Beach(Miyako City)



Kabushima Island (Hachinohe City)

A long distance nature trail to be tentatively known as the “Tohoku Coast Trail” will be created to further deepen interchange between the north and south of the region.

The trail will be set up by utilizing the existing network of foot-path and forest roads, progressively building up as each region becomes sufficiently prepared. Sections of the trail within inhabited areas will also serve as evacuation routes in the event of natural disasters.

The trail will appeal to multiple users : those who prefer a “through hike” , walking non-stop through the trail from start to finish, as well as those who prefer to do a “section hike”, exploring individual segments of the trail. In order to facilitate this and other multiple forms of utilization the trail, location of signboards, toilets and parking areas will be incorporated. Access to existing tourist locations, as well as train, bicycle and boat access will also be considered.

In addition, maintenance, management approaches, publicity campaigns to promote utilization will be considered on a wide variety of topics.

