

**Nature School
at Mt. Fuji National Park Area
:the case of educational program
held by Japanese private
company**

**Seiji Yamato
Oji Holdings Corporation**

**Oji Holdings,
former Oji paper has 190,000ha of
company land in Japan.
The largest land holder among
private companies.**

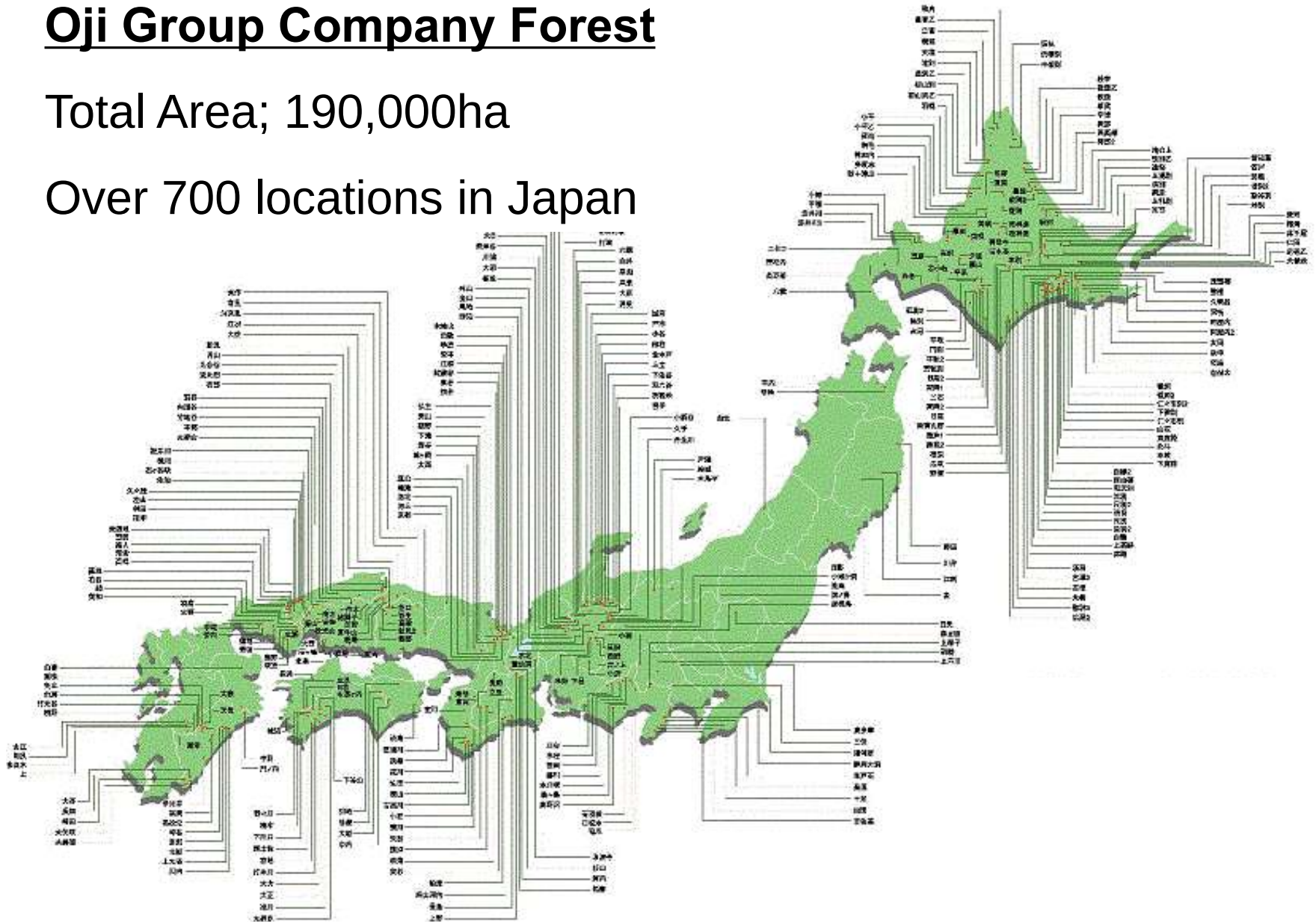
領域をこえ 未来へ



Oji Group Company Forest

Total Area; 190,000ha

Over 700 locations in Japan







We manage these company forests through the year.

- There are several jobs which are planting, thinning, road construction, fire prevention, monitoring survey for biodiversity and other maintenance.**
- Total expense for the management; 6million U\$/year**
- On the other hand, we also sell the timber around 100,000m³ annually.**

Ratio of the reserved forest among 190,000ha;

Reserved forest*;	39%
Non reserved;	59%
National park;	2%

***Explanation of “Reserved forest”;**

- In Japan, there are special protection forest area designated by Forest Agency or provincial Governor.**
- There are 17 categories; watershed protection, debris flow protection, wind protection and so on.**

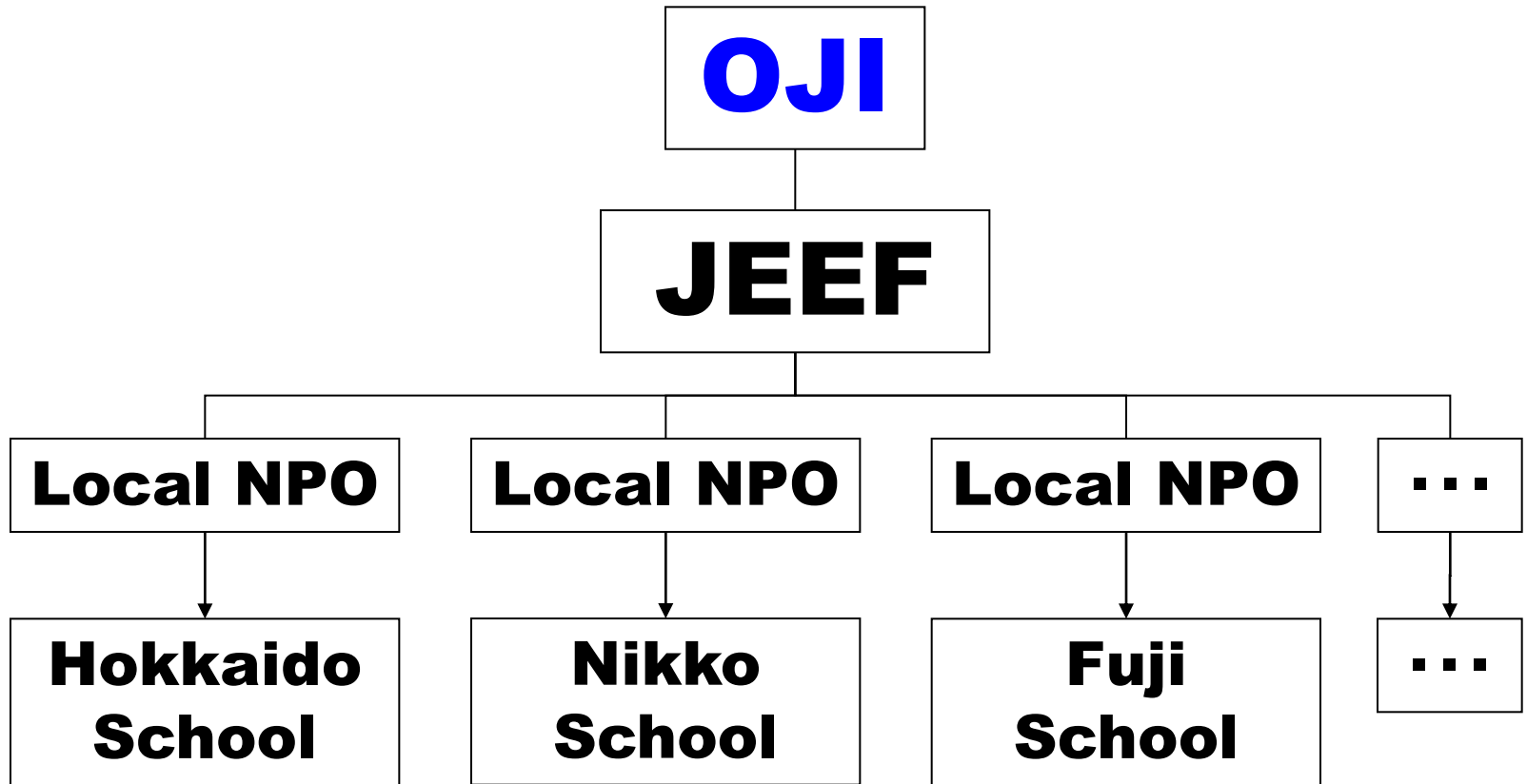
**Nature School; since 2004
we have held the “nature school” at
company forest and paper mill site
every year.**



Nature School at Hokkaido, Nikko, Fuji, Hiroshima, Miyazaki



The Japan Environmental Education Forum (JEEF) and their member local NGO conduct the each nature school.



Nature School Programs;

Length;	3 days
Fee;	Free except transportation
Number;	20 children at each site
Age;	7 through 15
Activities;	tree climbing, swimming at river or sea, cooking, several games at forest, visiting of paper mill and so on

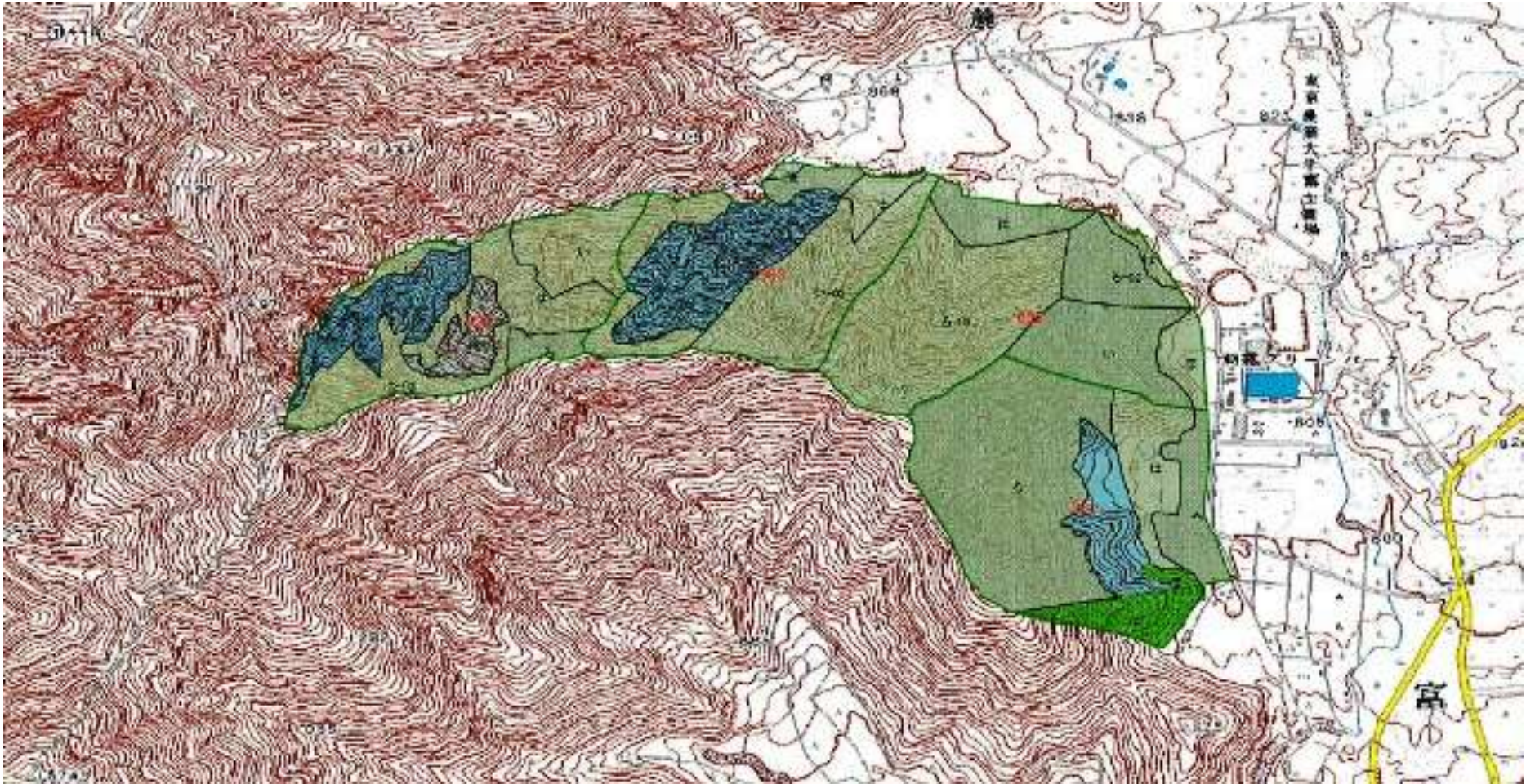
Nature School at Fuji



Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park

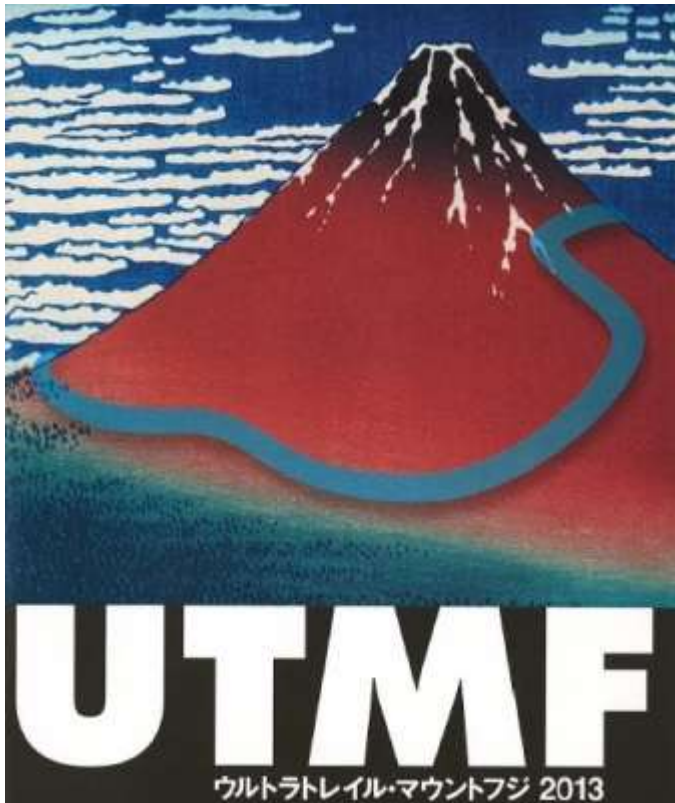
- The Park was designated as National park in 1936.**
- It consists of four regions; Mt Fuji, the Hakone, Izu peninsula and Izu island area.**
- June 2013, UNESCO decided Mt. Fuji as one of world heritage site.**

Asagiri Forest located at Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park



Do you know Ultra-Trail Run?

UTMF was held at April 2013

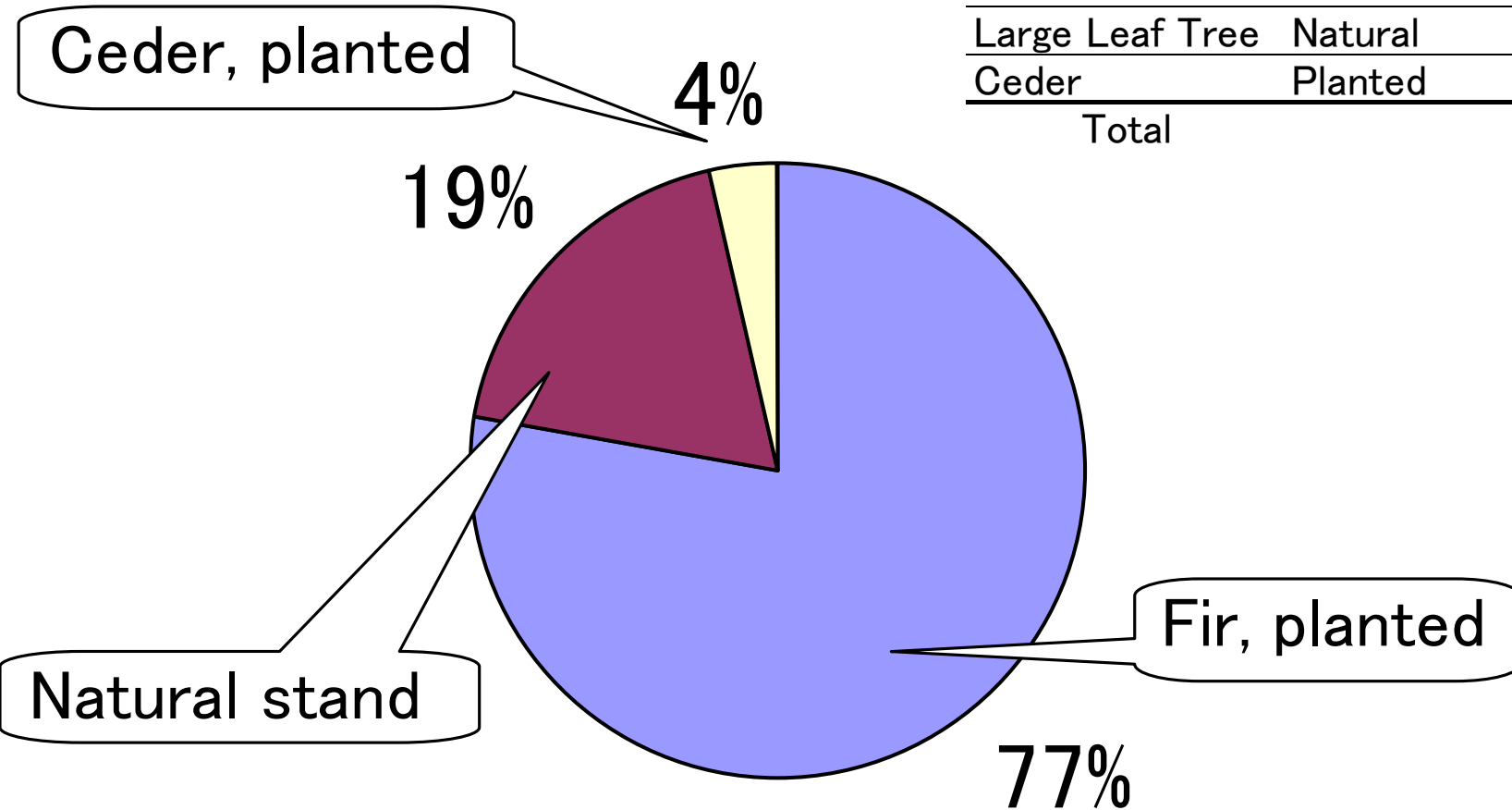


Asagiri forest was a part of those course.



About Asagiri Forest;

Species	N/P	Area(ha)	Ratio
Fir	Planted	153	77%
Large Leaf Tree	Natural	37	19%
Ceder	Planted	7	4%
Total		197	



Restriction for Forestry at National Park

At national park area there are 3 categories of restriction for the forestry activity.

- #1. No Cuttings**
- #2. Only Selective Cuttings**
- #3. Cuttings, subject to maintain their landscape**

Asagiri forest is classified at category #3. We have made thinning operation at year 2011.

Introduction of several activities at Fuji School and Asagiri Forest

tree climbing



swimming at river



With animals



**At the lodge of local NGO,
“Whole Earth Nature School”**

Learn about paper making



Unique points of our program;

**experience of
Thinning and Pruning
at forest**

About “Thinning”;



- Planted trees need thinning.**
- After planted we usually thin the trees every 10 to 15 years until harvest.**
- If thinning is not enough for the planted trees, sun lights won't reach the ground and too much competition between trees make each stem narrow like “bean sprout”.**

Thinning Experience



About “Pruning”;



**Planted trees need also pruning.
After planted we usually prune the
lower part of branch until 10 to 15
years old.**

**If pruning is not enough for the
planted tree, lumber made from
those tree have a lot of “knots”.
That means less value.**



Pruning experience



**...then, they made ornaments
from fallen trees by themselves**



Statements from the participants;

- **"It was fan to climb a tree."**
- **"I found that paper made from tree and recycled paper."**
- **"Thank you for telling me the facts which I didn't know."**
- **"It was good for me to learn about the thinning and pruning. I found that more light came after thinning."**

**Our targets of this program are
let them learn about;**

- trees, forest and paper making
with fun!**
- trees are sustainable material
for us**
- cutting trees are not always bad
thing; planted trees need thinning
to become “healthy” forests.**

Education is important;

- We learn that for children it's easy to learn and easy to forget.**
- However, learning through the experience is memorized strongly to them.**

Bottom Line;

- We'd like to continue our Nature School program with corporation of environmental education NGOs respecting Japanese beautiful nature.**

-Unfortunately, this autumn Asagiri forest was damaged by typhoon very badly.



- Next year we're plan to add our program a new activity to plant trees at this site. We believe it will also good experience for the children.

Thank you very much!

