

4c. Protective measures and implementation

The nominated site is designated as protected areas according to national laws and regulations.

- Onnebetsudake Wilderness Area
- Shiretoko National Park
- Shiretoko Forest Ecosystem Reserve
- Shiretoko National Wildlife Protection Area

Many of these protected areas overlap each other and complement each other in protecting the nominated site.

In addition, the nominated site contains habitats for various wildlife including the brown bear, Yezo sika deer, Blakiston's fish-owl, white-tailed eagle and Steller's sea eagle. Some of these species are protected by the Law for Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and as a Natural Monument under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties.



With regard to the fishery industry, the following restrictions are imposed in accordance with the Regulation of Sea Fisheries Adjustment in Hokkaido and Regulation of Inland Fisheries Adjustment in Hokkaido based on the Fisheries Law and Fishery Resources Protection Law: the restriction or prohibition include capturing Sakhalin surf clams and sea urchins based on their sizes; restriction or prohibition of fishing methods such as capturing fish by running electric currents in the water; designation of closed area or period for fishing.

With regard to the salmon and trout, which are the major fishery resources in the Shiretoko area, their capture is prohibited in all rivers in Hokkaido. In addition, their capture in the sea near the mouths of the Iwabetsu River, the Onnebetsu River, the Rausu River and the Sashirui River is prohibited to ensure the capture of adult fish for the artificial production and fry release program.

In addition, the Onnebetsu River is designated as protected water according to the Fishery Resources Protection Law and the capture of aquatic animals is prohibited year around.

Thus, sustainable use of fishery resources is aimed at through national regulations, local regulations by the Hokkaido prefectural government and the voluntary restrictions by the fishery industry.

4c.1 Onnebetsudake Wilderness Area

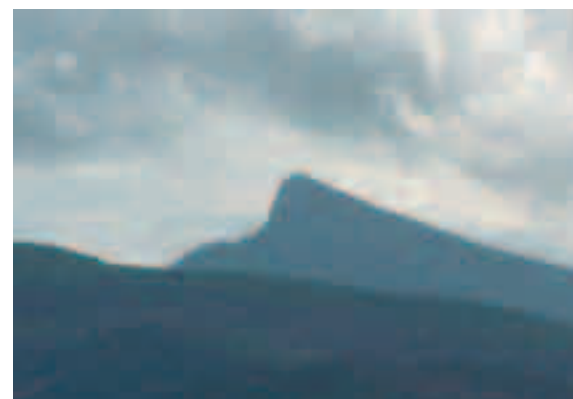
Wilderness Areas are designated and administered by the Minister of the Environment based on the Nature Conservation Law (issued on June 22, 1972). Its purpose is to provide necessary protection for virgin natural environments of a significant scale without being influenced by human activities.

Based on the above law, the area surrounding Mt. Onnebetsu was excluded from the Shiretoko National Park and designated as the Onnebetsudake Wilderness Area on February 4, 1980. The Wilderness Area is included in the nominated site.

The basic principle of the policy on conservation for Wilderness Areas lies in ensuring the nature to follow its own course in the areas concerned and except for special circumstances such as for scientific research purposes, all activities which may impact the preservation of the natural environment is prohibited. Examples of prohibited activities include: construction, reconstruction and extension of structure; logging and related activities; capturing or gathering animals or plants; gathering fallen leaves and branches; open fires.

4c.2 Shiretoko National Park

National Park is designated and administered by the Minister of the Environment based on the Natural Parks Law (issued on June 1, 1957). Its purpose is to protect the places of scenic beauty as well as promote its utilization as a resource for the health, recreation and culture of the people.



Onnebetsudake Wilderness Area
photo by Ministry of the Environment

Based on the above law, an area was designated as the Shiretoko National Park on June 1, 1964. The Shiretoko National Park is included in the nominated site. The park is classified into several zones and each is protected according to the relevant requirements in the regulatory plan: the Special Zone is an area important for the protection and the utilization of the park. Activities such as the construction of new facilities, rebuilding and logging require the permission of the Minister of the Environment. The Special Protection Zone is an area necessary to ensure the protection of the core parts of the park and is protected with more stringent requirements. In addition to the construction of new facilities, rebuilding and logging, activities such as the capturing or gathering of animals or plants, gathering fallen leaves and branches, and open fires require the permission of the Minister of the Environment. In the Ordinary Zone, activities such as reclamation of the surface of water require the notification to the Minister of the Environment. Furthermore, footpaths and visitor centers are developed in accordance with the facility plan for the park in order to ensure the protection of nature and to promote adequate utilization.

4c.3 Shiretoko Forest Ecosystem Reserve

Forest Ecosystem Reserve is designated and administered by the Forestry Agency based on the Law on the Administration and Management of National Forests. In its planned administration and management program of the national forests, details on plan creation for the actual administration and management activities of each region are set out in the National Forests Administration and Management Bylaw and Protected forest setting rule. The purpose of the Forest Ecosystem Reserve is to maintain the natural environment of the forest ecosystem, protect plants and animals, preserve genetic resources, develop forest operation and management technique, and promote scientific research etc. The Reserve preserves virgin natural forests which represent the forest zones in Japan and which exist in a reasonably large scale.

Based on the regime as described above, the central part of the Shiretoko Peninsula was designated as the Shiretoko Forest Ecosystem Reserve in April 1990. Further it was decided to extend the area up to the Onnebetsudake Wilderness Area west of the Shiretoko Crossroad effective on April 2004, and legal formalities to achieve this are in process. The Preservation Zone contains forest in the most virgin condition and measures are being implemented to ensure that this forest ecosystem is strictly preserved. Excluding special circumstances such as academic research activities and natural disaster relief, in principle, the area is left to follow its natural course without human intervention in this zone. The Conservation and Utilization Zone works as a buffer in order to prevent the environmental changes of the surrounding area impacting on the forests in the Preservation Zone. In this zone, forest operation for wood production is not allowed. However, in accordance with the conditions such as the natural conditions of the location, the area may be utilized as an educational resource or a recreational site without involving any large-scale development.



4c.4 Shiretoko National Wildlife Protection Area

National Wildlife Protection Areas are designated by the Minister of the Environment based on the Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law (issued on July 12, 2002; this law was a complete revision of the former Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law issued on April 4, 1918). Its purpose is to provide protection of wildlife and to enforce appropriate requirements on hunting to ensure the biodiversity of the wildlife which in turn enables people to enjoy the bounties of nature.

Based on the above law, the area designated as Wildlife Protection Area and Special Protection Area on November 1, 2001 overlaps with the nominated site. Activities such as capturing wildlife and collecting eggs are prohibited in the area designated as Wildlife Protection Area. Areas deemed to be an important habitat and breeding site for wildlife are designated as Special Protection Areas and certain development activities are prohibited in such areas. In addition, a part of the Special Protection Area is designated as Designated Special Protection Area which is under more stringent protection requirements. In addition to capturing or collecting animals and plants as well as collecting fallen leaves and branches, the following activities are prohibited in the Designated Special Protection Area: entering with dogs and other animals that may be harmful to the wildlife; monitoring or taking pictures of the wildlife which may affect their nesting behavior; etc.

4c.5 Natural Monuments

Natural Monuments are designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties (issued on May 30, 1950). Its purpose is to protect animals or plants (including their habitats, breeding sites, stopover points for migratory birds and native habitats) and geological features and minerals (including areas of unique natural phenomenon) which have high scientific value for the country.

Among the wildlife in the nominated site, the following four species of birds and one butterfly have been designated as Natural Monuments:

- white-tailed eagle (designated on January 23, 1970),
- Steller's sea eagle (January 23, 1970),
- Blakiston's fish-owl (May 19, 1971),
- black woodpecker (May 12, 1965) and
- *Vaciniina optilete Knoch* (May 2, 1967).

An activity that would alter the state of the Natural Monuments or affect their preservation requires permission from the Director-General of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

4c.6 National Endangered Species

National Endangered Species are endangered wildlife species that inhabit or grow in Japan which are designated by the government ordinance according to the Law for Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Among the animals which inhabit the nominated site, species such as the white-tailed eagle, Steller's sea eagle and Blakiston's fish-owl have been designated as National Endangered Species and activities such as capturing, killing or damaging and transfer of organisms of endangered species are prohibited.

4d. Management authority

The following government organizations (4d.1 - 4d.3) are responsible for the administration of the nominated site.

Further, the Shiretoko Nominated Site Regional Liaison Committee was formed with members from related government organizations and local groups in order to ensure effective cooperation and collaboration between agencies and parties for a comprehensive administration scheme for the nominated site.

4d.1 Ministry of the Environment

The nominated site is maintained through Utoro and Rausu Ranger Office for Nature Conservation in addition to East Hokkaido Regional Office for Nature Conservation.

< East Hokkaido Regional Office for Nature Conservation >

Address: 4F Kushiro National Government Building, 10-3 Saiwai town, Kushiro City, Hokkaido 085-8639

TEL: +81-(0)154-32-7500

FAX: +81-(0)154-32-7575

< Utoro Ranger Office for Nature Conservation >

Address: 208 Utoro-higashi, Shari town, Shari-gun, Hokkaido 099-4355

TEL: +81-(0)1522-4-2297

FAX: +81-(0)1522-4-3646

< Rausu Ranger Office for Nature Conservation >

Address: 388 Yunosawa, Rausu town, Menashi-gun, Hokkaido 086-1822

TEL: +81-(0)1538-7-2402

FAX: +81-(0)1538-7-2468

4d.2 Forestry Agency

The nominated site is maintained through the Shiretoko Forest Center, Abashiri South District Forest Office and Konsen East District Forest Office which are the outposts of the Kitami and Obihiro Branch Offices of the Hokkaido Regional Forest Office as well as through the three Forest Ranger Offices in Utoro, Minehama and Rausu.

< Hokkaido District Forest Office >

Address: 7-70 Miyanomori 3-jyo, Chuo-ku, Sapporo City, Hokkaido 064-8537

< Hokkaido Forestry Management Department >

Address: 7-70 Miyanomori 3-jyo, Chuo-ku, Sapporo City, Hokkaido 064-8537

TEL: +81-(0)11-622-5231

FAX: +81-(0)11-622-5235



< **Kitami Branch Office, Hokkaido Regional Forest Office** >

Address: 70 Kiyomi town, Kitami City, Hokkaido 090-8588

TEL: +81-(0)157-24-7242

FAX: +81-(0)157-24-9489

< **Obihiro Branch Office, Hokkaido Regional Forest Office** >

Address: 13 Higashi 8-jo Minami, Obihiro City, Hokkaido 080-0808

TEL: +81-(0)155-23-5829

FAX: +81-(0)155-22-8541

< **Shiretoko Forest Center** >

Address: 11 Honmachi, Shari town, Shari-gun, Hokkaido 099-4113

TEL: +81-(0)1522-3-3009

FAX: +81-(0)1522-3-3160

< **Abashiri South District Forest Office** >

Address: 656-1 aza Koshimizu, Koshimizu town, Shari-gun, Hokkaido 099-3632

TEL: +81-(0)152-62-2211

FAX: +81-(0)152-62-2213

< **Konsen East District Forest Office** >

Address: 2-1-9 Minami 2-jo Nishi, Shibetsu town, Shibetsu-gun, Hokkaido 086-1652

TEL: +81-(0)1538-2-2202

FAX: +81-(0)1538-2-2284

< **Utoro Forest Ranger Office** >

Address: 16 aza Utorohigashi, Shari town, Shari-gun, Hokkaido 099-4355

TEL: +81-(0)1522-4-2144

FAX: +81-(0)1522-4-2144

< **Minehama Forest Ranger Office** >

Address: 11-1 Honmachi, Shari town, Shari-gun, Hokkaido 099-4113

TEL: +81-(0)1522-3-1607

FAX: +81-(0)1522-3-6357

< **Rausu Forest Ranger Office** >

Address: 136 Funami town, Rausu town, Menashi-gun, Hokkaido 086-1832

TEL: +81-(0)1538-7-2017

4d.3 Agency for Cultural Affairs

Address: 3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8959

TEL: +81-(0)3-5253-4111

FAX: +81-(0)3-3591-0293