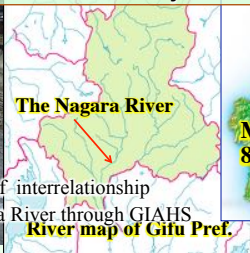
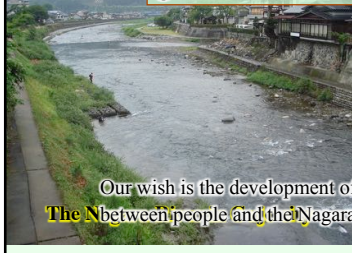


Ecological Perspectives in Environments & Biodiversity of The Nagara River System, GIFU

Gifu Pref. is located in the center of Japanese archipelago.

Presenter: Seiichi Mori

① Abundance Mountain Forest & Many Rivers



Mountain forests = 80% of Gifu Pref.

Our wish is the development of interrelationship between people and the Nagara River through GIAHS.

② Background of Various Freshwater Biota



Biogeography of Gifu Pref.

- 1) Central Japan: overlapped region of biota
- 2) The southern limit of the past glacier
- 3) Flowing to Pacific ocean and Japan Sea
- 4) Lake Tokai (large lake in the past)
- 5) Various aquatic environments

The Nagara River system is a treasure area of freshwater life.

③ Viewing from Biodiversity of Freshwater Fish & Salamander



④ Viewing from Fisheries & Food Culture



The Nagara River contributes to Biodiversity, Water Resources, Fisheries, Local Culture & Daily Custom = Foundation of daily life

⑤ Viewing the Nagara River Basin from Folklore

The regional folk culture is closely linked with the river nature.



Cherry-blossom viewing, spring custom, at the Sakura bank along the Nagara River



the Nagara boy!

He will surely continue to conserve the nature and folk culture of the river, I think.

Close relationship between Human & River: The Nagara residents have deeply interacted with riverine nature for long.

At this temple, there are about 30 wooden Ema plaques depicting catfish here, which are rare even within Japan. People write a wish on Ema, and dedicate it to temples or shrines.

Two ecological problems of the current river = Reducing these deteriorations is necessary.

⑥ Problem 1: Fragmentation of water system & fishway



For over 600 fishways in the prefecture, we evaluated the structural contents such as water level, flow velocity, physical damage and the riverbed situation. In practice, the improvement of the fishway is in progress, by reference to the check sheet.

The diffusion of an alien species, small-mouth bass does not only have the potential to reduce biodiversity, but also can even bring about the collapse of long-lasting traditions, cormorant fishing industry, that causes serious damage in the tourism sector. One year later after starting the removal activity, the complete extermination was declared.

⑦ Problem 2: Damages by alien fish & eradication



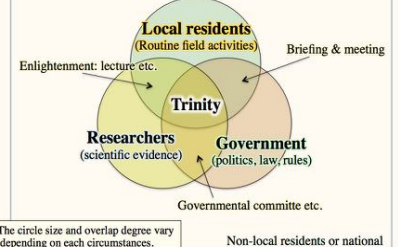
⑧ Present Interrelationship between Human & River = publicizing the study results



⑨ Our wish is the development of interrelationship between people and the Nagara River through GIAHS. We believe that GIAHS activities are the important step to continuously progress the environmental and cultural conservation in the Nagara River system, and it will also act as a starting point for the river's future.

⑩ "Trinity": three entities for consensus-building on the issue of environmental conservation (Mori, 1988)

Platform for continuous consensus formation & promote resident participation



The Nagara River is a Mother for the watershed residents. This river has function for profound interactions with the local people of the basin.