



Shiretoko

State of Conservation Report



February 2008

Shiretoko World Heritage Site
JAPAN

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Information

State of conservation report on Shiretoko World Heritage Site

1. Introduction

The Shiretoko World Heritage Site (hereinafter referred to as “heritage site”) was inscribed on the World Heritage List at the 29th World Heritage Committee held in July 2005. The decision 29COM8B.6 of the 29th World Heritage Committee requested several measures (Ref. Appendix 1) at its inscription.

In July 2004, prior to its inscription, the Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Candidate Site Scientific Council (presently Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Scientific Council, hereinafter called “Scientific Council”), consisting of experts in marine and terrestrial ecosystems, was established in Shiretoko with the aim of obtaining advice on the integrated management of its marine and terrestrial ecosystems and other relevant issues from a scientific perspective. Three working groups, “Marine Area”, “River Construction” and “Sika Deer”, have been set up (Ref. Attachment Appendix 2) and have examined the issues against which the decision requested measures.

Conservation management have been implemented in Shiretoko based on the “Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Candidate Site Management Plan” (hereinafter called “Candidate Site Management Plan”) drawn up in January 2004 based on the deliberation by the “Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Candidate Site Regional Liaison Committee” (presently Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Regional Liaison Committee, hereinafter called “Regional Liaison Committee”). Aiming for the conservation management based on better scientific knowledge, formulation of a new “Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Management Plan” will be started in 2008 reviewing and revising the “Candidate Site Management Plan” based on the deliberation of the Scientific Council and the three working groups as well as the investigation’s progress.

This report was compiled based on the advice of the Scientific Council in order to report the conservation status of the heritage site since its inscription to the monitoring mission team, who are to be invited based on the decision of the 29th World Heritage Committee, visiting Japan in February 2008.

2. Basic principle

- To manage the entire heritage site from the terrestrial area to the marine area in an integrated manner through proper operation of various systems with the aim of maintaining its value as World Heritage for future generations.
- To ensure deployment of effective measures with the close coordination of administrative bodies responsible for respective systems, local governments and the regional organizations involved, utilizing the Regional Liaison Committee, and to promote high-quality management based on the advice of the Scientific Council.

3. The progress of response to the recommendation

(1) Expansion of the marine area of the Heritage Site

- On December 22, 2005, the area of the Shiretoko National Park was extended from 1 km to 3 km from the coast. The map of the Heritage Site after the expansion was sent to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre on December 26 of the same year.

(2) Development of the Multiple Use Integrated Marine Management Plan

- Rich in biological production, the waters surrounding Shiretoko has long been a place of fisheries in harmonious coexistence with marine life.
- In Japan, sustainable utilization of marine living resources is promoted through a combination of public and self-imposed regulations, with marine living resources being managed under the Fisheries Law while fishers and their organizations are working on autonomous resource management utilizing various surveys and so on.
- Taking the inscription on the World Heritage list as an opportunity, the “Multiple Use Integrated Marine Management Plan for Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site” (hereinafter called “Marine Management Plan”) was finalized in December 2007 with the aim to maintain the balance between the conservation of the marine ecosystem in the marine area of the heritage site and the proper use of the area for human activities such as fisheries and marine recreation, for years to come.
- The objective of the Marine Management Plan is to satisfy both of stable fisheries based on sustainable utilization of marine living resources in the marine section of the heritage site and the conservation of marine life and the ecosystem of the area.
- When developing the Marine Management Plan, the Marine Working Group was established under the Scientific Council in July 2005. Since then, nine meetings have been held with participation of four local fishery cooperatives as observers in addition to nine experts and the administrative bodies involved. Furthermore, two briefing sessions were held in the region and opinions were sought from the general public.

- The premise of the Marine Management Plan is legal restrictions relating to the conservation of the marine environment, marine ecosystems, and fisheries, and autonomous management measures carried out by fishers, as well as voluntary restrictions on marine recreation
- Consisting of a great variety of organisms, the marine ecosystem of Shiretoko is difficult to comprehend in its totality. Therefore, among species that constitute the food web of the Shiretoko marine area, keystone species or predators of higher trophic levels that have a major influence on the ecosystem, or threatened species in terms of biodiversity are selected as indicator species that characterize the marine ecosystem of Shiretoko based on the diverse knowledge currently available, in order to conduct continuing management based on the concept of adaptive management.
- Indicator species selected are salmonids (chum, pink, and masu salmon) and walleye pollock from the viewpoint of keystone species as high abundance and linking between marine and terrestrial ecosystems; the Steller sealion and seals that are higher-level predators in the food web among sea mammals; and spectacled guillemot and Steller's sea eagle, endangered species that characterize the coastal ecosystem of Shiretoko, among seabirds and sea eagles.
- In order to foster stable fishing activities and conservation of the marine ecosystem, continual monitoring on indicator species, the basic marine environment and other conditions will be conducted in marine areas including the surrounding area of heritage site.
- Impact of marine recreation on sea birds, marine mammals and fisheries shall be averted through measures such as self-imposed rules.
- In order to accomplish the objectives of the Marine Management Plan, administrative bodies, relevant organizations such as fishery cooperatives, and research institutions should closely cooperate to promote their respective measures for the conservation of the ecosystem in Shiretoko and for stable fisheries and so on.
- In addition, the progress and results of various measures will be disclosed and shared through reports to the Scientific Council and the Regional Liaison Committee, posting on the Ministry of Environment's website, and so on.
- The Marine Management Plan shall be reviewed roughly every five years based on changes in the marine ecosystem of Shiretoko, results of the management and other information, and necessary amendment shall be made according to need.
- Research and monitoring of the waters surrounding Shiretoko have already been conducted and initiatives for adaptive management have started.

(3) Assessment of the impact of river constructions on salmonids and countermeasures

- Areas where salmonids run upstream and spawn are identified for 44 rivers, the watershed of which is entirely or mostly located in the heritage site. Among them, 14 rivers have artificial river constructions and impact on salmonids has been assessed for each of the constructions. The structures of river constructions are to be improved based on the result of assessment, as long as any changes do not cause serious danger to the livelihood of local citizens. (Ref. Appendix 3)
- For this purpose, the River Construction Working Group, consisting of five experts, pertinent organizations and others, was set up under the Scientific Council in July 2005. The Group has been working on assessing the impact of river constructions on salmonids and exploring their possible improvement.
- Assessment is carried out considering the overall impact of the river constructions. By studying the river environment and state of escapement of salmonids, knowledge is gained on the factors interfering in the upstream run, their habitat, and spawning environment. The impacts of modification of constructions on their functions such as disaster prevention are also considered (Ref. Appendix 4).
- From July 2005 to December 2007, eleven meetings were held for impact assessment of 100 river constructions, among which 13 constructions (six in the Iwauketsu River, two in the Rusa River, two in the Sashirui River, two in the Chienketsu River and one in the Rausu River) were judged as “being reasonable to consider improvement”.
- River constructions judged as “being reasonable to consider improvement” will be modified sequentially followed by monitoring to examine the effect of the improvement.
- Specific modification methods to facilitate the salmonids run have been examined for 11 of the constructions in the Iwauketsu River, the Rusa River, the Sashirui River and the Rausu River. The remaining two constructions in the Chienketsu River will be examined by the end of this fiscal year.
- Management authorities of the river constructions have conducted improvement work on one construction in the Iwauketsu River and two in the Rusa River in 2006 and started work on two in the Iwauketsu River and two in the Sashirui River in 2007.
- Monitoring conducted in 2007 shows that upstream run of salmonids has become easier in the Iwauketsu River and the Rusa River. In some places, the bounds where salmonids can easily spawn have been expanded by about 2 km upstream.

(4) Proper management of sika deer in Hokkaido

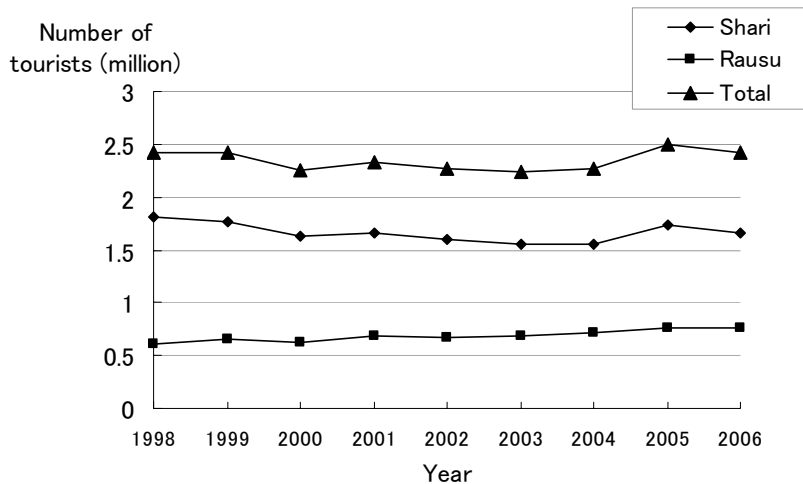
- The population density of sika deer in the Shiretoko Peninsula is still very high, leading to negative impacts on the ecosystem and natural landscape, including significant changes to the original vegetation in some areas. The situation requires proper countermeasures.

- To this end, the Sika Deer Working Group, consisting of five experts, pertinent administrative bodies and others, was set up under the Scientific Council in July 2004. The “Sika Deer Management Plan in the Shiretoko Peninsula” was then drawn up in November 2006 based on the advice of the working group for scientific conservation management of sika deer living in the Shiretoko Peninsula.
- In March 2007, the “Sika Deer Management Plan in the Shiretoko Peninsula” was positioned as a regional plan under the Specified Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan - “Conservation and Management Plan for Sika deer in Hokkaido” formulated by Hokkaido Prefecture. The plan has been implemented in cooperation with Hokkaido Prefecture and other parties involved.
- The “Sika Deer Management Plan in the Shiretoko Peninsula” aims to reduce the excessive impact on the Heritage Site’s ecosystem induced by the high population density of sika deer. Its basic policy is to leave it to natural process but when there is a threat of the loss of endangered plant species or characteristic indigenous plant species and plant communities of the heritage site, conservation management measures will be taken to avoid the loss in order to ensure conservation of biodiversity.
- Specifically, the heritage site is divided into multiple zones and defensive measures including installation of protective fences, control of the population size, and other measures will be taken in areas where foraging pressure is particularly high on endangered plant species and communities.
- When seasonal migration and dispersal of subadults are taken into account, the distribution of population that could adversely affect the heritage site is not limited to the heritage site but reaches to the base of the peninsula, and therefore the “Sika Deer Management Plan in the Shiretoko Peninsula” also covers an area adjacent to the heritage site.
- Even after the development of the “Sika Deer Management Plan in the Shiretoko Peninsula”, the Sika Deer Working Group continued discussions and the “Action Plan for the Sika Deer Management Plan in the Shiretoko Peninsula” was formulated in July 2007.
- Various conservation management measures and monitoring have been carried out based on the action plan.
- An experimental density manipulation started as one of the population control measure in the Shiretoko Cape, and 32 deer were captured in December 2007.
- The experimental density manipulation of sika deer is conducted continuously through wintering period of 2007 – 2008 aiming to capture 150 female adult deer.

(5) Development of strategies for proper use

(i) State of use including change in the number of tourists after the inscription

- The figure below shows the number of tourists to Rausu town and Shari town where the Shiretoko World Heritage Site is situated:



Breakdown of tourists for Rausu town and Shari town

(ii) Promotion of ecotourism

- Shiretoko Eco-tourism Association was set up in July 2004 with the aim of promoting ecotourism programs unique to Shiretoko together with local citizens so that visitors can more deeply experience the relationship between the nature and the people who live in it while ensuring the responsibilities of all persons involved for conservation and use. The Association has explored desirable methods of ecotourism in Shiretoko.
- So far, 35 meetings (including those of working groups) and 13 training sessions (workshops, lectures and forums) have been held.
- The Association drew up the “Shiretoko Ecotourism Promotion Plan” in June 2005 compiling the basic concepts for establishing “Shiretoko-style ecotourism”, aiming to reduce impact on the natural environment, control its excessive use and provide a high-quality experience.
- Based on this promotion plan, the “Guidelines for Shiretoko Ecotourism”, establishing common rules to be followed by guides and guide employers, and the “Action Plan for the Promotion of Shiretoko Ecotourism” for the implementation of the promotion plan, were formulated in March 2007.
- From April 2007 on, the Association has been exploring a system that can be operated on a voluntary basis by local parties involved for the promotion of ecotourism in Shiretoko, in order to properly conserve natural, historical and cultural resources unique to the region and utilize them in an effective and sustainable manner while further raising awareness of ecotourism.

(iii) Proper use

- In order to conserve the diversity of ecosystems that make up the virgin natural environment and abundant wildlife for future generations, the basic policy for use at the heritage site is to manage such activities as sightseeing at an appropriate level so as not to negatively impact the natural environment.
- A review committee consisting of academic experts and representatives from relevant local organizations was established in November 2001 in order to review an ideal form of protection and use based on the basic policy above for Shiretoko National Park, which covers a major proportion of the heritage site. The committee has divided Shiretoko National Park into two zones—Apical Region and Central Region of the Peninsula Zone—and has been considering the appropriate scale of tourism for each zone according to the characteristics of it. Basic Plans on the Proper Use of Apical Region and Central Region of the Peninsula Zone have been formulated.
- For the Central Region of the Peninsula Zone, an annual action plan for proper use has been drawn up based on the basic plan since 2007.
- In the Central Region of the Peninsula Zone, measures have been implemented since 2000 for the appropriate use of automobiles, including the regulation of private cars and use of shuttle busses, in order to conserve the natural environment of the Shiretoko-goko Lakes and the area behind them while ensuring convenient and safe use of the area.
- In the Apical Region of the Peninsula zone, a document containing guidelines for visitor management, instructions and the rules that visitors should observe is under consideration. In April 2006, it was requested to refrain from entering.
- In January 2008, the visitor rules for the Apical Region of the Peninsula Zone are compiled, seeking the cooperation of users to observe the rules.
- Efforts are being made as well towards the early designation of a “Regulated Utilization Area” where the number of visitors and manners of use can be restricted based on the Natural Parks Law.
- In addition to the established management, new systems have been introduced. In National Parks, the “Active Ranger” system was commenced in 2005 to assist Park Rangers, while in National Forest areas, a system of forest preservation staff called ‘Green-support staff’ was commenced in 2006. In this way, these systems are working together on promoting the conservation management of the heritage site along with reinforcement of patrols focusing on the area where visitors are concentrated and on-site instruction for visitors to ensure its proper use.

(6) Implementation of research and monitoring

- Adaptive management of the heritage site based on scientific knowledge requires setting indicators of management and monitoring their change as well as conducting research.
- To this end, comprehensive research on the marine and terrestrial ecosystems or the research on suitable use are coordinated among the relevant administrative bodies, local governments, and regional organizations involved as well as researchers, and scientific knowledge has been accumulated. Based on the results of these researches and in accord with the opinions of the Scientific Council, indicators of management will be set, monitoring items will be selected and long-term monitoring will be conducted.
- As the climate change, also being a major issue for the World Heritage Committee, has possibility to impact on Shiretoko because one of its features is the sea ice area at the lowest latitude in the northern hemisphere, monitoring of climate change will be conducted to understand its impact.
- In addition, since understanding the current situation of the ecosystem in the neighboring areas of Japan and the Russian Federation is also necessary for adaptive management, Japan-Russia cooperation such as information sharing, will be promoted in the fields of conservation and sustainable use of the regional ecosystem.
- Results of the research and monitoring will be used for review of various plans, including the Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Management Plan, and will be disclosed not only to researchers but also to the wider public through the Ministry of Environment's website.

4. Future plans

(1) Revision and enhancement of the Management Plan

- Based on the past efforts and their results, the reviewing work will start in 2008 to revise the current "Candidate Site Management Plan" into the "Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Management Plan".
- The "Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Management Plan" is to be compiled based on the advice of the Scientific Council and deliberation at the Regional Liaison Committee.
- The "Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Management Plan" positions the "Marine Management Plan" and the "Sika Deer Management Plan in the Shiretoko Peninsula" as a management plan for individual issues, incorporating the results of past deliberation.

- The plan is also to incorporate concepts of salmonids management based on the results of the impact assessment of river constructions and concepts in the “Marine Management Plan”.
- With respect to the promotion of proper use and ecotourism, Basic Plans for Proper Use and rules for use will be added to the “Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Management Plan” in line with the deliberation after the development of the “Candidate Site Management Plan”.
- The Scientific Council will discuss how monitoring for proper management of the heritage site should be and the results will be also incorporated.

(2) Development of Shiretoko World Heritage Center

- As a base for the proper conservation management of the heritage site, a “Shiretoko World Heritage Center” having functions, including providing information on the natural environment, explaining the rules for use and collecting and exchanging information on management activities, will be established in Utoro, Shari town by 2009.
- In addition, as the gate facility to the Apical Region of Peninsula Zone where a primeval natural environment remains, “Shiretoko World Heritage Field House”, having functions of explaining the rules for use and raising awareness on the natural environment will be established in the Rusa area of Rausu town by 2009. Facing the bountiful sea, the facility will also introduce how people of the region have used gifts from the sea in a sustainable manner from past to present (including the “Marine Management Plan” of the World Heritage).
- Shiretoko World Heritage Center will make efforts to conduct proper conservation management of the heritage site, working in close cooperation and sharing the role with the existing facilities such as the Rausu Visitor Center and the Shiretoko National Park Nature Center.

(3) Establishment of Shiretoko Volunteer Activities Center

- To serve as a base for forest conservation activities and forest environment education in the buffer area of the heritage site by a variety of entities such as voluntary bodies, educational institutions and enterprises that are highly conscious of environmental conservation, a facility is planned to be established in Utoro, Shari town (at Shiretoko National Camping Area) by the end of March 2008. Accordingly, the Shiretoko Forest Center is going to be moved from Honmachi, Shari town to Utoro by the end of March 2009.

Appendix 1: Decision 29 COM 8B.6

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents *WHC-05/29.COM/8B*, *WHC-05/29.COM/8B.Add 2* and *WHC-05/29.COM/INF.8B.2*,
2. Inscribes **Shiretoko** (Japan) on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria (ii) and (iv):

Criterion (ii): Shiretoko provides an outstanding example of the interaction of marine and terrestrial ecosystems as well as extraordinary ecosystem productivity, largely influenced by the formation of seasonal sea ice at the lowest latitude in the northern hemisphere.

Criterion (iv): Shiretoko has particular importance for a number of marine and terrestrial species. These include a number of endangered and endemic species, such as the Blackiston's Fish owl and the plant species *Viola kitamiana*. The site is globally important for a number of salmonid species and for a number of marine mammals, including the Steller's sea Lion and a number of cetacean species. The site has significance as a habitat for globally threatened sea birds and is a globally important area for migratory birds.

3. Notes that the State Party of Japan has agreed to extend the marine boundary of the property from 1 km to 3 km off the coastline, and that such extension is "de facto" in place awaiting legal designation by the end of 2005;
4. Requests the State Party to:
 - a) expedite development of a marine management plan, to be completed by 2008, to clearly identify measures for strengthening marine protection and the possibilities of extending the boundaries of the marine component of the property;
 - b) send a map and details of the final boundaries of the property, as well as a copy of the law supporting them, to the World Heritage Centre once they have been confirmed in law;
 - c) develop a salmonid management plan to identify impacts of dams and strategies to address this impact; and
 - d) address other management issues included in the evaluation report, in particular in relation to tourism management and scientific research;
5. Encourages the State Party to invite a mission to the property in two year from its inscription to assess progress with the implementation of the marine management plan and its effectiveness in protecting the marine resources of the property;
6. Congratulates the State Party for the commendable process of public consultation involved in the preparation of the nomination documents, the preparation of an excellent nomination dossier; and for effectively addressing IUCN's recommendations to enhance the conservation and management of this property.

Appendix 2: Members of Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Scientific Council

1. Members of the Scientific Council (Title omitted)

Tsuneo Igarashi	Professor Emeritus, Hokkaido University	Forest Ecology
Yukio Ishikawa	Professor, Department of Agriculture and Environment, Hokkaido College, Senshu University	Forest Ecology
Noriyuki Ohtaishi	Professor Emeritus, Hokkaido University	Mammalogy(terrestrial)
Masahide Kaeriyama	Professor, Graduate School of Fisheries Science, Hokkaido University	Fish Ecology
Koichi Kaji	Professor, Graduate School, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology	Mammalogy(terrestrial)
Masami Kaneko	Professor, Rakuno Gakuen University	GIS
Gaku Kudo	Associate Professor, Graduate School of Environmental Earth Science, Hokkaido University	Alpine Vegetation
Akihiro Kobayashi	Professor, Hokkaido College, Senshu University	Park Management
Mari Kobayashi	Lecturer, Faculty of Bio-industry, Tokyo University of Agriculture	Mammalogy(marine)
Eishige Komiyama	President, Wild Salmon Institute	Ichthyology (fresh water)
Yasunori Sakurai	Professor, Graduate School of Fisheries Science, Hokkaido University	Marine Ecology
Mitsuhiro Sano	Director-General, Hokkaido Prefecture Wakkanai Fisheries Experiment Station	Fishery resource management
Hideki Takahashi	Professor, Hokkaido University Museum	Botany
Hajime Nakagawa	Director, Shiretoko Museum	Ornithology
Futoshi Nakamura	Professor, Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University	Ecosystem Management
Hiroshi Hattori	Professor, Hokkaido Tokai University	Marine Biology
Hiroyuki Matsuda	Professor, Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences, Yokohama National University	Mathematical Ecology

2. Members of the Marine Area Working Group under the Scientific Council (Title omitted)

Masahide Kaeriyama	Professor, Graduate School of Fisheries Science, Hokkaido University	Fish Ecology
Mari Kobayashi	Lecturer, Faculty of Bio-industry, Tokyo University of Agriculture	Mammalogy(marine)
Yasunori Sakurai	Professor, Graduate School of Fisheries Science, Hokkaido University	Marine Ecology
Mitsuhiro Sano	Director-General, Hokkaido Prefecture Wakkanai Fisheries Experiment Station	Fishery resource management
Mitsuhiro Nagata	Director, East Research Branch, Hokkaido Fish Hatchery	Resource Multiplication
Hiroshi Hattori	Professor, Hokkaido Tokai University	Marine Biology
Mitsutaku Makino	Researcher, National Research Institute of Fisheries Science, Fisheries Research Agency	Fishery, Marine policy
Hiroyuki Matsuda	Professor, Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences, Yokohama National University	Mathematical Ecology
Shuka Maruyama	Chief, Resources Management Division, Hokkaido Kushiro Fisheries Experimental Station	Ichthyology(marine)

3. Members of River Construction Working Group under the Scientific Council (Title omitted)

Takeshi Okabe	Professor, Faculty of Engineering, University of Tokushima	River Engineering
Eishige Komiyama	President, Wild Salmon Institute	Ichthyology (fresh water)
Yuji Seo	Director, Institute for Watershed Ecosystem	Watershed Ecology
Futoshi Nakamura	Professor, Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University	Ecosystem Management
Tomomi Marutani	Professor, Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University	Soil-Erosion Control Engineering

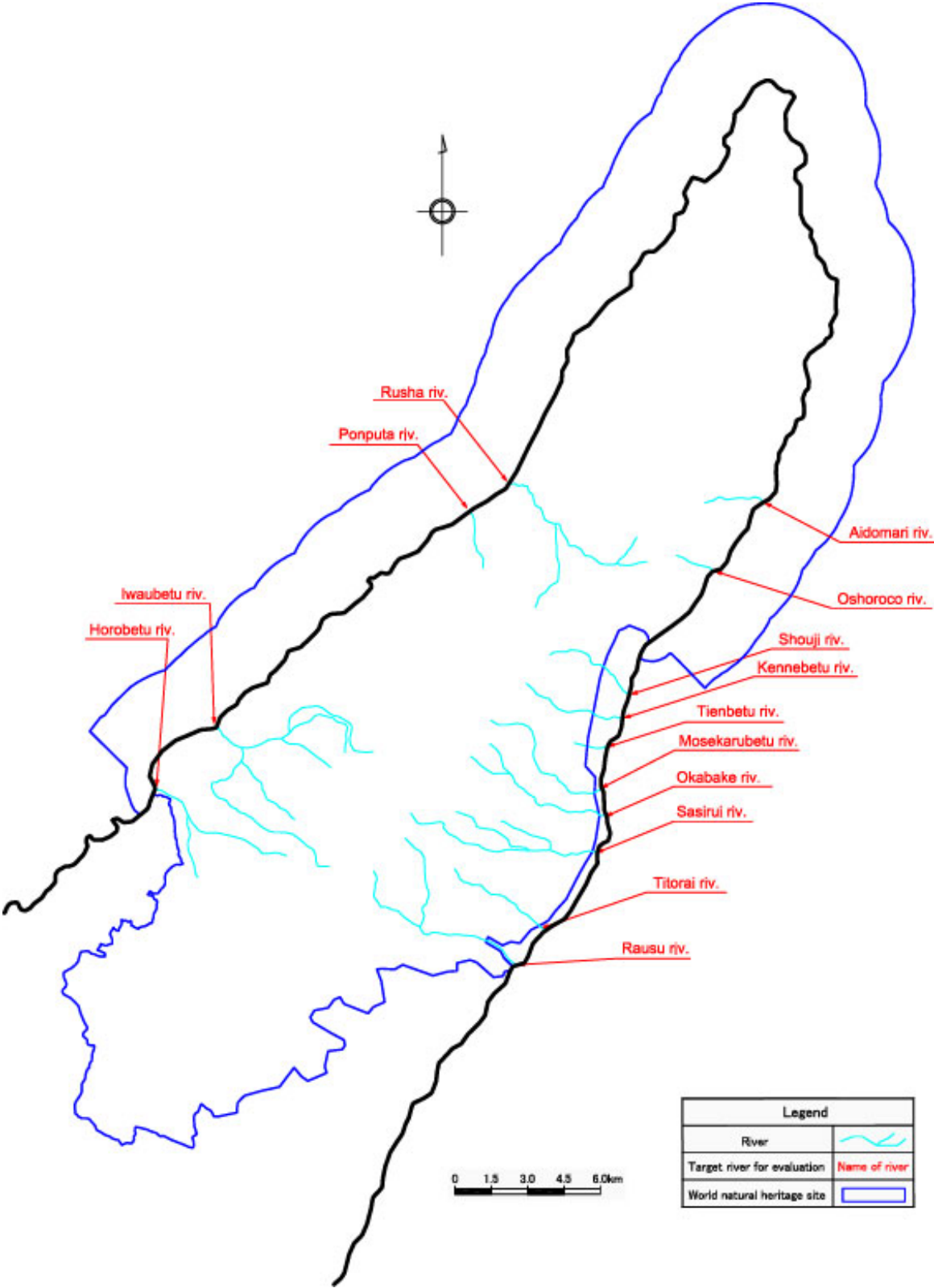
4. Sika Deer Working Group under the Scientific Council (Title omitted)

Yukio Ishikawa	Professor, Department of Agriculture and Environment, Hokkaido College, Senshu University	Forest Ecology
Hiroyuki Uno	Section chief, Nature Conservation Department, Hokkaido Institute of Environmental Sciences	Mammalogy (terrestrial)
Koichi Kaji	Professor, Graduate School, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology	Mammalogy (terrestrial)
Kunihiko Tokida	Senior Scientist, Japan Wildlife Research Center	Mammalogy (terrestrial)
Hiroyuki Matsuda	Professor, Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences, Yokohama National University	Mathematical Ecology

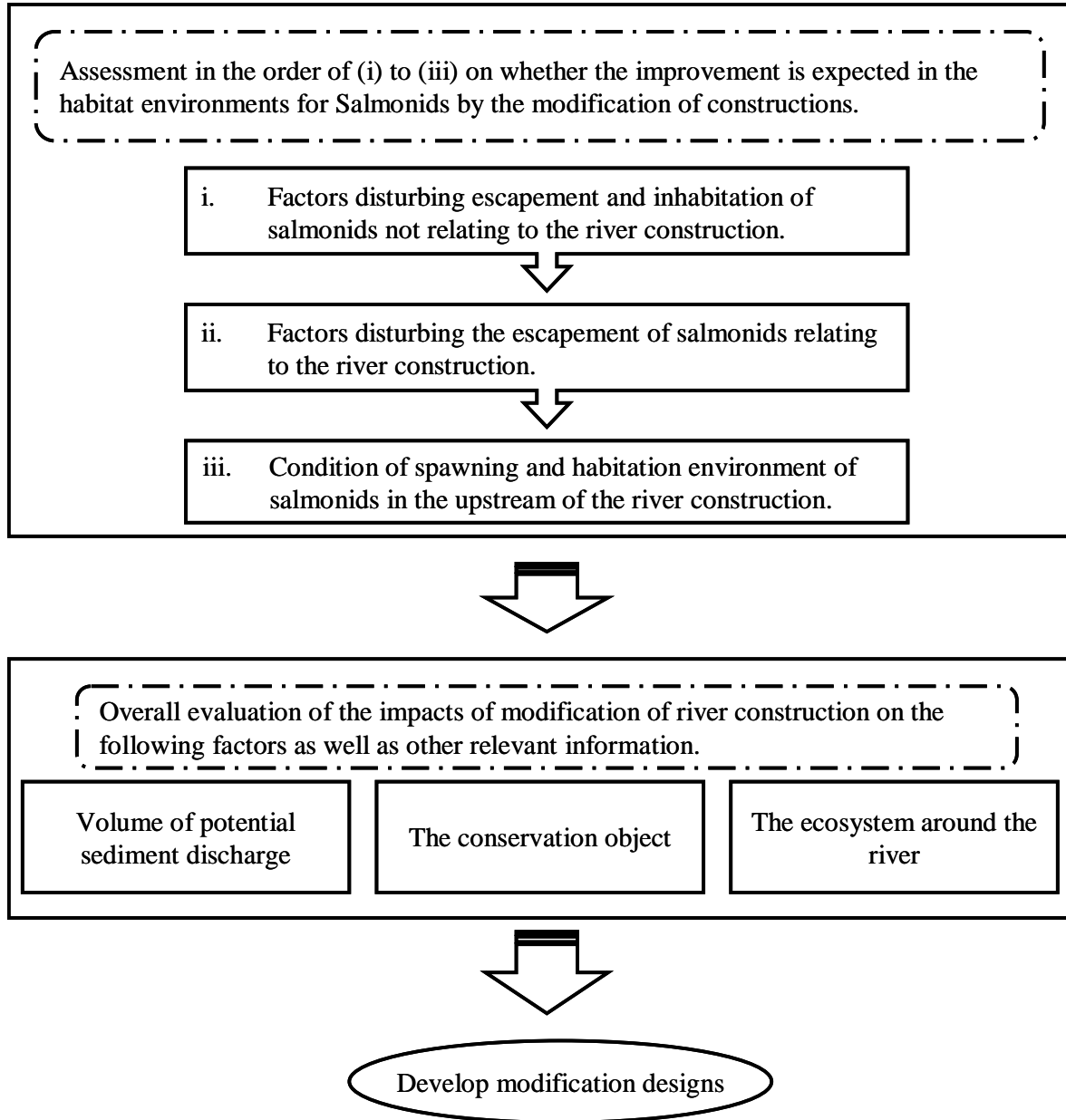
5. Members of Shiretoko National Park Proper Use Committee (Title omitted)

Iwao Ogawa	President, EcoNetwork	Zoology, Tourism
Akihiro Kobayashi	Professor, Hokkaido College, Senshu University	Park Management
Hisashi Shinjo	Senior Technical Manager of Wetland Ecosystems, Kushiro Intl. Wetland Centre	Botany, Wetlands Conservation
Tatsuichi Tsujii	President, Hokkaido Environment Foundation	Botany
Hajime Nakagawa	Director, Shiretoko Museum	Ornithology
Kouichi Nakayasu	President, Hokkaido Forest Assembly Hall	Forest Management

Appendix 3: Fourteen rivers that constructions were set up in the Siretoko world natural heritage site



Appendix 4: Flow of impact assessment of river constructions on salmonids



Information

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1. Patrol Status

1. Ministry of the Environment

classification	Summary
Patrol area	The Shiretoko World Heritage Site
Patrol teams	Ministry of the Environment employees (4), Active rangers (2–4); also, Sub rangers (5-8), Natural park guides (24), National Wildlife Protection Area wardens (2) conduct patrols as necessary
Records of patrol	<p>Ministry of the Environment employees</p> <p>FY2005: 73 days, total 81 man-days</p> <p>FY2006: 68 days, total 72 man-days</p> <p>FY2007: 82 days, total 92 man-days (as of the end of December)</p> <p>Active rangers ^{*1)}</p> <p>FY2005: 264 days, total 343 man-days</p> <p>FY2006: 290 days, total 336 man-days</p> <p>FY2007: 241 days, total 372 man-days (as of the end of December)</p> <p>Sub rangers ^{*2)}</p> <p>FY2005: 5 employment, 70 days, total 105 man-days</p> <p>FY2006: 6 employment, 70 days, total 105 man-days</p> <p>FY2007: 8 employment, 70 days, total 105 man-days</p> <p>Natural park guides ^{*3)}</p> <p>FY2005: 24 staffs</p> <p>FY2006: 24 staffs</p> <p>FY2007: 24 staffs</p> <p>National Wildlife Protection Area wardens ^{*4)}</p> <p>FY2005: 2 staffs system, 88 days, total 88</p> <p>FY2006: 2 staffs system, 84 days, total 84</p> <p>FY2007: 2 staffs system, 67 days, total 67 (as of the end of December)</p>
Details of activities	Guidance on proper use and administration, inspections of park facilities/equipment, cleanups, etc.

*1) Active ranger: An employee who assists Ministry of the Environment employees (rangers).

*2) Sub ranger: A ranger who is employed during the summer when visitors concentrate (Kamuiwakka area).

*3) Natural park guide: a volunteer who guides park visitors when necessary and collects necessary information.

*4) National Wildlife Protection Area wardens: a commissioned official who goes on patrols to prevent poaching, supervises visitors, conducts surveys of wildlife state, etc.

2. Forestry Agency

classification	Summary
Patrol area	The Shiretoko World Heritage Site and adjacent areas
Patrol teams	Forestry Agency employees(15~16), Green Support staff(4~5)
Results of patrol	Forestry Agency employees FY2005: total 457 man-days FY2006: total 507 man-days FY2007: total 511 man-days (as of the end of December) Green Support staff FY2006: 132 days, total 472 FY2007: 189 days, total 600 (as of the end of December)
Details of activities	Management of National Forest including understanding a forest situation, inspection/repair of signs, etc., beautification awareness, wildfire prevention awareness, removal of trees that pose a danger, etc., and giving instruction to the people who entered the forests.

“Green Support” staff:

“Green Support” staffs are temporary staff hired to conduct activities conducive to the protection of forests, including: patrols to ascertain levels of destruction of vegetation in forests, mountain-climbing routes, etc.; observation of plants; teaching proper manner to tourists and other people who enter the National Forest and dissemination activities.

3. Hokkaido Government

classification	Summary
Patrol area	The Shiretoko World Heritage Site and adjacent areas (Shari/Rausu town)
Patrol teams	Nature conserve wardens(4), Wildlife wardens(4)
Results of patrol	Nature conserve wardens and Wildlife wardens FY2005: 314 days, total 314 man-days FY2006: 308 days, total 308 man-days FY2007: 209 days, total 209 man-days (as of the end of December)
Details of activities	Guidance on proper use and administration

- Duties of nature conserve wardens
 - (1) Matters related to maintenance of facilities, management of sanitary conditions, and management of activities of visitors, etc.
 - (2) Matters related to maintenance of signs
- Duties of wildlife wardens
 - (1) Monitoring Wildlife Protection Area, Specified Hunting Gear Prohibited Area (guns), and Game Hunting Area designated by Hokkaido Prefecture in accordance with Wildlife Protection and Appropriate Hunting Law
 - (2) Regulating hunting and instructing hunters

2. Facilities maintenance and improvements

Fiscal Year	Details of maintenance and improvements	Expenditure	Responsible organization
FY2005	Shiretoko-goko Lakes recreation area, raised boardwalk, 240m.	¥132,000,000	Ministry of the Environment
	Repair of caution/instruction signs and structures preventing entry along the route traversing Mt. Rausu and Mt. Iou.	¥397,000	Forestry Agency
	Rausu River Basin Disaster Prevention Project. · Construction of drop structures (6 fish-ways)	¥140,000,000	Hokkaido
FY2006	Rausu Visitors Center, one building.	¥464,000,000	Ministry of the Environment
	Repair of caution/instruction signs and structures preventing entry along the route traversing Mt. Rausu and Mt. Iou.	¥442,000	Forestry Agency
	Put up off-limits signs to the upper three falls of Kamuiwakka.	¥10,000	
	Improvements to a check dam (Iwaobetsu River [tributary, Akai river])	¥31,605,000	
	Rusha River minor erosion control works. · Improvements to a check dam (cutting down and notching of spillway crown)	¥23,322,000	Hokkaido
Lake Rausu Line Road (walkway project). · Repair of boardwalk along 31 m	¥1,250,000		
Rausu River Basin Disaster Prevention Project. · Construction of drop structures (5 fish-ways)	¥230,000,000		
FY2007	Rausu Hot Springs recreation area, walkway 260m.	¥8,000,000	Ministry of the Environment
	Shiretoko Volunteer Activities Center Repair of caution/instruction signs and structures preventing entry along the route traversing Mt. Rausu and Mt. Iou.	¥65,529,000 ¥347,000	Forestry Agency
	Improvements to two check dams. (Iwaobetsu River [tributary, Pirikabetsu River])	¥49,035,000	

Fiscal Year	Details of maintenance and improvements	Expenditure	Responsible organization
	Sashirui River minor erosion control works. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Improvements to a check dam 	¥32,551,000	Hokkaido
	Shiretoko Pass public restrooms (maintenance).	¥152,000	
	Rausu Lake Line Road (walkway project). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Repair of boardwalk 	¥866,000	
	Rausu Hot Springs recreation trail (walkway project). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Walkway repair 	¥268,000	
	Shiretoko-goko Lakes recreation area (walkway project). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Recreation trail (boardwalk) repair 	¥1,350,000	
	Rausu River Basin Disaster Prevention Project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Construction of drop structures (2 fish-ways) 	¥200,000,000	

3. Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Survey Schedule

※Created based on the materials of the Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Scientific Council

	Surveyed object	No.	Survey name, etc.	Description	Implementation bodies	Research years		
						2005	2006	2007
Marine ecosystem	Sea ice	1	Observation of ocean currents in the southwestern area of the Okhotsk Sea	Observation of direction, speed and surface temperature of ocean currents using observation boats	First Regional Coast Guard Headquarters	○	○	○
		2	Sea ice observation	Observation of sea ice using aircraft, etc.	First Regional Coast Guard Headquarters	○	○	○
	Water temperature, water quality, chlorophyll-a, plankton, etc.	3	Grasping changes in the marine environment using satellite images	Observation of water temperature, sea-ice distribution and chlorophyll-a using satellite remote sensing	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		4	Fixed-point observation using buoy installations	Fixed-point observation of water temperature/ quality (concentration of salt, chlorophyll-a) by installing marine observation buoys	Ministry of the Environment			○
		5	Survey to understand ecological characteristics of the marine environment and ecosystem component species	Observation of water mass structure, plankton and nekton using acoustic methods and underwater robot camera	Hokkaido University		○	○
		6	Monitoring of biologic community using underwater robot	Observation of benthonic organisms and fish using underwater robot	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		7	Ice algae survey	Ice algae survey (chlorophyll amount, species composition, bioactivity, etc.) is conducted in the Saroma Lake and Utoro from the end of February to March	Prof. Hattori (Member of the Scientific Council)	○	○	○
		8	Deep water survey	Observation of temperature / salt content of and zoo/phytoplankton in pumped deep water	Ministry of the Environment			○
	Fauna and flora	9	Fish biota survey	Identification of fish species (new species)	Shiretoko Museum	○	○	○
		10	Fauna and flora survey of the shallow sea area along the Shiretoko Coast	Survey of fish, invertebrates, sea algae/seaweed in the shallow sea area	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		11	Survey of kelp beds in the shallow sea area	Survey of biota of sea algae/seaweed	Ministry of the Environment		○	
	Sea algae/seaweed	12	Sea algae/seaweed distribution survey	Survey of distribution of laminaria and seaweed using acoustic equipment	Ministry of the Environment			○
	Harmful substances	13	Marine contamination survey	Analysis of petroleum, cadmium, mercury, etc. in sea water	Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard	○	○	○
	Walleye pollock	14	Assessment of fishing resources in marine area around Japan	Ascertainment and assessment of walleye pollock stock	Fisheries Agency	○	○	○
		15	Survey of reproductive behavior	Observation of reproductive behavior using underwater robot cameras	Ministry of the Environment			○
	Overall fish	16	Survey of fishery resources	Execution of surveys of catch statistics, stock, habitat environment, etc. of major fish species	Hokkaido	○	○	○
		17	Survey of food relationships among major fish species	Understanding the food web of the marine area by studying the feeding habits of fish and squid	Ministry of the Environment			○
		18	Survey of migration ecology of organisms based on bio-logging	Quantitative monitoring on behavior of salmon and trout and walleye pollack in the ecosystem along the Shiretoko Coast using acoustic telemetry	Ministry of the Environment			○
	Steller sealion	19	Survey of migrating Steller sealions and damage by them	Survey on the arrival of the Steller sealion and the damage they inflict on fisheries	Hokkaido	○	○	○
		20	Survey of Steller sealion stock	Survey of the number of animals coming to the Japanese coast and their gender, age, length, weight, maturity, stomach/intestinal contents, etc.	Fisheries Agency	○	○	○
	Seal	21	Survey of marine mammal habitat	Survey of habitat and damage to fisheries	Hokkaido		○	
		22	Survey of nuisance individuals killed in the marine area of Rausu	Survey of migration status and analysis of feeding habit, DNA, reproduction of individual Seal that were killed as nuisance animals	Marine Wildlife Center of Japan (NPO)	○	○	○
	Seabirds	23	Sea birds survey	Survey of the number of living population and breeding population of seabirds (spectacled guillemot, black-tailed gull, slaty-backed gull and Japanese cormorant) in the Shiretoko Peninsula	Ministry of the Environment		○	
		24	Survey of habitat and nesting sites	Survey of habitat and nesting sites of seabirds	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		25	Survey of habitat of spectacled guillemot	Survey of habitat of spectacled guillemot including the distribution of their habitat, marine area and breeding site. Survey of distribution of seabirds in the marine area with potential impact of pleasure boats, etc.	Ministry of the Environment			○
		26	Long-term monitoring of sea birds	Survey of the reproductive status of sea birds along the coastal line of the peninsula	Survey group for Long-term monitoring of seabirds (The Shiretoko Nature Foundation, Shiretoko Museum, Rausu town, ect.)	○	○	○

	Surveyed object	No.	Survey name, etc.	Description	Implementation bodies	Research years		
						2005	2006	2007
Terrestrial ecosystem	sika deer	27	Monitoring of the vegetation inside and out of the protective fences against deer	Monitoring of the vegetation recovery state inside and out of the protective fences against deer located at three points in grasslands and two in forests of the Shiretoko Cape	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○
		28	Monitoring of the vegetation inside and out of the protective fences against deer	Monitoring of the vegetation recovery state inside of the protective fences against deer located at two points in forests on the Shiretoko Cape	Forestry Agency	○		
		29	Survey of seasonal migration of sika deer	Survey of seasonal migration of tagged individuals in Onnebetsu, Horobetsu, Iwaobetsu and Shiretoko Cape	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○
		30	Analysis of the number of natural deaths	Analysis of individuals that had died naturally	Shari town, Rausu town, The Shiretoko Nature Foundation, ect.	○	○	○
		31	Density manipulation experiment	Experimental sika deer density manipulation in the Shiretoko Cape (experimental capture)	Ministry of the Environment			○
		32	Survey of feeding pressure of sika deer	Surveys of vegetation and trace of feeding pressure of sika deer	Ministry of the Environment Forestry Agency		○	○
		33	Survey of the number of wintering individuals	Survey of the number of wintering individuals of sika deer in the Shiretoko Cape and Rusha area	Ministry of the Environment	○		
		34	Survey of feeding pressure of sika deer in grasslands of the Shiretoko Cape	Estimation of the feeding pressure by comparing the plant volume inside and out of the protective frames set up for individual vegetation types such as tall grasses and dwarf bamboo	Ministry of the Environment			○
		35	Survey of penetration into the alpine zone	Survey of penetration of sika deer into the alpine zone	Ministry of the Environment	○		
		36	Survey of habitat trends of sika deer	Grasping of the habitat trends through aircraft census and light census	Ministry of the Environment, Hokkaido, Shari town, Rausu town, The Shiretoko Nature Foundation, ect.		○	○
		37	Past behavior of sika deer population	Survey of past feeding pressure by sika deer and transition of plants favored by sika deer based on the tree-ring analysis of old dead trees and pollen analysis of the core soil	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	
		38	Soil erosion survey	Survey of changes in the soil-erosion line based on the fixed stakes located on the edge of the Shiretoko Cape plateau	Ministry of the Environment			○
	Brown bear	39	Survey of brown bear habitat environment	Analysis of the habitat environment based on the result of tracking of brown bears with indicator and vegetation environment of the area of distribution	Ministry of the Environment	○		
		40	Shiretoko Kimunkamui Project (2006-08), survey of the habitat status in Rusha, etc.	Ascertaining the home range, migration dispersion, etc. of individual brown bears living in the Shiretoko Peninsula and its adjacent area based on the existing individuals (GPS telemetry) and past captured animals (DNA analysis). In addition, changes in feeding habit, reproduction interval, etc. will be assessed.	The Shiretoko Nature Foundation		○	○
		41	Gathering basic information for brown bear management	Ascertaining the current situation of their appearance in the National Park and surrounding urban area as well as conflict with local industries	Ministry of the Environment (including Shari town, Rausu town contract work, Unique survey by the Shiretoko Nature Foundation)			○
	Alien species	42	Survey of the status of invasion of alien species	Survey of the status of invasion, extermination, monitoring of extermination, etc.	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○
		43	Survey of the invasion status of <i>Procyon lotor</i> and others	Conducting survey of the invasion status and damage incurred by <i>Procyon lotor</i> while considering ways of their removal	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○
		44	Survey of the invasion status of <i>Bombus terrestris</i>	Survey of the invasion status of <i>Bombus terrestris</i> in the Shiretoko Mountain Range climbing trails	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○
	Birds	45	Blakiston's fish-owl protection/propagation project	Ascertainment of the breeding population, Banding Survey	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○
		46	Development of hazard map of Blakiston's fish-owl and sea eagles	Consideration of risk reduction measures based on the understanding of the habitat situation, cause of deaths and inhibitory factors. Development of maps for assessment of accident risk.	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		47	Protection/propagation project for white-tailed eagle and Steller's sea eagle	Survey of the wintering population and impact of artificial feeding	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		48	Survey of migration route of sea eagles	Compiling knowledge on the migration routes of Steller's sea eagle and white-tailed eagle in Hokkaido while conducting field survey of the migration situation of Steller's sea eagle (across Hokkaido)	Ministry of the Environment			○
		49	Monitoring survey of white-tailed eagle's reproduction	Survey on the reproductive status of white-tailed eagles	Monitoring survey group of white-tailed eagle (The Shiretoko Nature Foundation, Shiretoko Museum, Rausu town, ect.)	○	○	○
		50	Survey of the number of the wintering individuals	Survey of the number of the wintering individuals	Joint survey group (Shiretoko Museum, Rausu school board, ect.)	○	○	○
		51	Survey of the number of the visiting population	Survey of the number of the visiting individuals	Rausu town	○	○	○
		52	Survey of the distribution of breeding bird species	Survey of the distribution of breeding bird species based on line census	Ministry of the Environment	○		
	53	Survey of birds of prey in the Shiretoko Peninsula Green Corridor	Identification of the habitat area and grasping the data on the nest building situation of Mountain Hawk-eagle, etc.	Forestry Agency			○	
	Plants	54	Survey of distribution of rare plant communities	Survey of the distribution of rare plant communities including <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> var. <i>japonicum</i> along the coastal lines and rivers	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○
		55	Survey of flora of Shiretoko	Survey of flora around Lake Rausu and in the coastal area of the Shiretoko Peninsula	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		56	Development of a vegetation map for the Shiretoko Peninsula	Development of 1/25000 scale vegetation map for the Shiretoko Peninsula based on aerial photographs and vegetation survey	Ministry of the Environment	○		
		57	Development of plant species inventory	Sorting out botanical specimens of the Shiretoko Peninsula collected in the Hokkaido University Museum and development of a plant species inventory	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		58	<i>Viola kitamiana</i> survey	Ascertaining of the distribution area of <i>Viola kitamiana</i> to compare with past survey results; taking samples of <i>Viola kitamiana</i> in the population around the Shiretoko Mountain Range and the Mt. Onnebetsu to understand its genetic diversity	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
	Fungi	59	Ascertaining the mushroom biota in the Shiretoko Peninsula	During the three years from 2004 to 2006, 600 species were identified in 10 areas including Horobetsu. From 2007 to 2008, further results will be compiled along with supplemental investigation.	Prof. Igarashi (member of the Science Council)	○	○	○

	Surveyed object	No.	Survey name, etc.	Description	Implementation bodies	Research years		
						2005	2006	2007
Freshwater ecosystem	Freshwater fish	60	Survey of freshwater fish biota	Survey of the distribution of fish of foreign origin	Hokkaido	○		
	Salmons	61	Survey of the state of upstream migration of salmonid fish in Shiretoko	Survey of the state of upstream migration and spawning beds	Hokkaido	○	○	○
		62	Survey on the transport of nutrient salts by salmonid fish	Survey on the status of nutrient salts transport based on the analysis of stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen in salmon, brown bears, willows, etc.	Ministry of the Environment		○	○
		63	Survey of behavior of humpback salmon and chum salmon in the coastal sea area	Behavioral survey of salmonid fish individuals	Hokkaido University		○	○
	River construction	64	Impact assessment of river constructions	Survey for contribution to the impact assessment of river constructions based on the opinions of the River Construction WG (river environment, dynamic state of sediment)	Forestry Agency, Hokkaido	○	○	○
		65	Survey to ascertain effects of improvements made to river constructions	Grasping the changes in the status of salmon swimming upstream caused by improvements	Forestry Agency, Hokkaido		○	○
Proper use	66	Survey on the usage status, survey for examination of reasonable use	Ascertaining the trends of users and the impact of use on the natural environment (usage status of the Shiretoko Swamp, night-time observation of animals, questionnaire survey/interview, checking the routes of sightseeing boats, etc.)	Ministry of the Environment	○	○	○	

4. Dissemination activities

Type	Details	Responsible organization
Brochure "World Natural Heritage Sites in Japan"	Developed and distributed color brochures in 2006 outlining World Natural Heritage sites in Japan: Shiretoko, Shirakami-Sanchi, and Yakushima. Japanese as well as English and French bilingual editions prepared.	Ministry of the Environment
Brochure "World Natural Heritage Site: Shiretoko"	Developed and distributed color brochures in 2005 outlining distinctive natural features of Shiretoko and efforts to preserve its forests.	Forestry Agency
Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site: Visitor's manner guide	Printed 7,500 Japanese and 1,000 English language editions in FY2006 and FY2007 (¥917,000), distributed them to tourists and mountain-climbers and made them available at the Hokkaido Regional Forestry Office, Shiretoko Forest Center, Abashiri Nanbu District Forest Office, and Konsen Toubu District Forest Office.	Forestry Agency
Brochure on Shiretoko Forest Center	Print about 1,000 copies every year, distribute them to related institutions, visitors, and make them available at the Shiretoko Forest Center	Forestry Agency
Public relations magazine "From the Shiretoko Forest"	Have printed six times a year (about 300 copies) since the Shiretoko Forest Center was established in FY1988. Distribute them to related institutions, visitors, and make them available at the Shiretoko Forest Center.	Forestry Agency
Brochure "Shiretoko"	Printed 60,000 Japanese, 10,000 English, 5,000 Korean, and 10,000 Chinese language copies in 2005 of a brochure showcasing Shiretoko, the World Natural Heritage Site, and distributed them to municipalities, airports, JR train stations, and travel companies.	Hokkaido
"Shiretoko Manner Book"	In order to raise awareness about proper manner of experiencing nature in Shiretoko, 3,200 Japanese, 1,600 English, 1,600 Korean, and 1,600 Chinese language copies were printed in 2005 and distributed to Shari Town, Rausu Town, airports, local hotels, and JR train stations.	Hokkaido
Website "World Natural Heritage Sites in Japan"	Website showcasing the World Natural Heritage Sites of Shiretoko, Shirakami-Sanchi, and Yakushima. Japanese, English and French versions accessible. http://www.env.go.jp/nature/isan/worldheritage/index_f.html	Ministry of the Environment

Type	Details	Responsible organization
Website “Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site”	Providing access to the following materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process from nomination to inscription of Shiretoko as a World Natural Heritage • Materials related to the Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Regional Liaison Committee, Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site Scientific Council, and Committee on the Promotion of Proper Use of Shiretoko National Park. • Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Candidate Site Management Plan. http://hokkaido.env.go.jp/kushiro/nature/mat/m_1_1/	Ministry of the Environment
Rausu Visitor Center website	Rausu Visitor Center website opened in November 2007. Presenting the latest information to a nationwide public on nature, walkways, and roads mainly on the Rausu side of Shiretoko National Park. The site will be kept updated and providing information on World Heritage sites and their proper utilization. http://rausu-vc.jp/	Ministry of the Environment
Website “World Natural Heritage Sites in Japan”	A website about forests in Japan registered as World Natural Heritage sites. http://www.rinya.maff.go.jp/sekaiisan/index_h.html	Forestry Agency
Websites	Providing information about Shiretoko’s forests on the websites of the Hokkaido Regional Forest Office, Shiretoko Forest Center, Abashiri Nanbu District Forest Office since FY2005. http://www.hokkaido.kokuyurin.go.jp/kyoku/ http://www.abasirinanbusinrinkanrisyo.go.jp/index.html http://www.shiretoko.go.jp/	Forestry Agency
Information on Shiretoko on website of Hokkaido government	Creating web pages on Hokkaido prefectural government website featuring on Shiretoko since it’s inscription on the World Heritage List. http://www.pref.hokkaido.lg.jp/ks/ssi/	Hokkaido
Lectures	Lectures offered since FY2007 mainly at the Rausu Visitor Center for community residents aimed to raise awareness about the conservation management of wildlife and environmental conservation. In FY2007, there will be seven lectures at the Rausu Visitor Center and three traveling lectures.	Ministry of the Environment
Committee for Establishment of “Shiretoko no Towa no Mori (Eternal Forest in Shiretoko)”	Set up a committee to deliberate on foundation of the system to continuously promote public participation in establishment of Forest in Shiretoko Peninsula	Forestry Agency

Type	Details	Responsible organization
“Forestry seminars”	Seminars such as walking, woodwork and charcoal making are held with about 30 participants about 10 times a year at the Shiretoko Forest Center. And tours of forest bath in the Rausu Lake are also held with about 30 participants every year at Konsen Tobu District Forest Office.	Forestry Agency
“Shiretoko Relay Forum”	From FY2003 to FY2005, forums on the wondrous natural environment of Shiretoko were held in Tokyo for the first year, in Rausu Town for the second, and in Sapporo for the third, featuring celebrities, the Governor of Hokkaido, and others.	Hokkaido, Ministry of the Environment, Shari town, Rausu town, Yomiuri news paper Hokkaido branch
Creation of materials for dissemination of recognition of efforts at modification of river constructions	Pamphlets, booklets and DVDs are under creation in order to disseminate recognition of efforts into modifying river constructions.	Forestry Agency
Map “Highlights of Hokkaido’s National Forest”	Presentation of typical landscapes and popular sites such as Shiretoko Mountains and the Rause Lake by making a map “Highlights of Hokkaido’s National Forest”.	Forestry Agency
Creation of DVD for dissemination	A DVD was created in 2005 using a geographical information system (GIS) designed to disseminate information and raise awareness about the preciousness of Shiretoko’s natural environment. It is broadcasted at airports, trains, in buses, etc.	Hokkaido
Panel exhibitions and panel creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To inform more people about the value of Shiretoko, panel exhibitions were held at 11 locations around Hokkaido in 2005, and also in Sapporo in 2006 and 2007. • Created panels in 2007 outlining rules that should be observed by people visiting Shiretoko World Heritage site. 	Hokkaido
Environmental education	<p>In order to both conserve Shiretoko’s wild natural environment and use it properly as a local resource, the local Nemuro Subprefectural office, from FY2004 to FY2006, designed environmental education programs, trained teachers, and provided information for community-based environmental activities.</p> <p>Held a “Shiretoko Seminar” for elementary school pupils since FY2006 in which employees teach them about the wonder and importance of Shiretoko. Begun in FY2006 at 11 schools Plans to expand it to 21 schools in FY2007</p>	Hokkaido

Type	Details	Responsible organization
Putting up billboards	Put up billboards in 2005 on both the Shari and Rausu sides of the park indicating that it was inscribed on the World Heritage List. Held events celebrating its inscription.	Forestry Agency

5. Summary of Major Facilities

1. Rausu Visitor Center

Serving as the Rausu side “entrance” to the Shiretoko World Heritage site and Shiretoko National Park, the facility provides information and interpretation on nature and culture and on how to use the site through exhibits of models, specimens, video footage, and photographs. It aims to respond to visitor’s interest, disseminate information and raise awareness.

- Location: Inside of the Heritage site (6-27 Yunosawa-cho, Rausu-cho, Menashi-gun, Hokkaido)
- Lot area: 11,428.32m²
- Building area: 831.38m²
- Structure: Reinforced concrete, partially wooden, single story
- Inside: Information space, meeting/lecture hall, special exhibit room, document reference room
- Opening date: May 2007 (renewal)
- Builder: Ministry of the Environment
- Administrator: Ministry of the Environment

2. Action and Volunteer Center (tentative name)

A center for the activities by diverse organizations, such as forestry-related volunteer groups, educational institutions, and companies dedicated to environmental conservation, to hold or sponsor greenery promotion or forest-related environmental education programs.

- Location: Outside of the Heritage site (Division 1377 Utoro Kagawa, Shari-cho, Shari-gun, Hokkaido: inside of Shiretoko National Campgrounds)
- Lot area: 1,890.30 m²
- Building area: 375.05 m² (total floor area 319.90 m²)
- Structure: Wooden, single story
- Inside: Lecture space, meeting hall, break room, storage, workroom, etc.
- Opening date: May 2008 (scheduled)
- Builder: Forestry Agency
- Administrator: Forestry Agency

3. Shiretoko World Heritage Center (tentative name)

As a Shari-side “entrance” to a World Heritage area, the facility will be dedicated to conveying the appeal of the primitive natural wonders of Shiretoko as well as raising awareness of rules and manners that must be observed when entering the area. In addition, it will serve as a center where community residents, researchers, and students can acquire the latest information on the management of the Shiretoko World Heritage site.

- Location: Outside of the Heritage site (186-1 Utoro-nishi, Shari-cho, Shari-gun, Hokkaido)
- Lot area: About 2,800 m²
- Building area: About 750 m²
- Structure: Wooden, single story
- Inside: Information space, lecture hall, exhibit space, break room, meeting hall
- Opening date: Spring of 2009
- Builder: Ministry of the Environment
- Administrator: Ministry of the Environment

4. Shiretoko World Heritage Field House (tentative name)

As the “entrance” of the apical region, the facility will conduct awareness-raising activities concerning use rules and manners in the apical region and proper way to behave against wildlife based on the conservation management. In addition, the facility will provide information on past and present human activities in the Shiretoko World Heritage area and on the ocean around Shiretoko, which has been the stage for such activities.

- Location: Outside of the Heritage site (8 Kitahama, Rausu-cho, Menashi-gun, Hokkaido)
- Lot area: About 1,500 m²
- Building area: About 260 m²
- Structure: Wooden, partially two stories
- Inside: Lecture space, exhibit room, information space, break space, observation space
- Opening date: Spring of 2009
- Builder: Ministry of the Environment
- Administrator: Ministry of the Environment

Ministry of the Environment
Forestry Agency
Agency for Cultural Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
Hokkaido Government
Shari Town
Rausu Town

