

Efforts for Conservation of Significant Forest Ecosystem by the Forestry Agency of Japan

Forestry Agency



National Forests

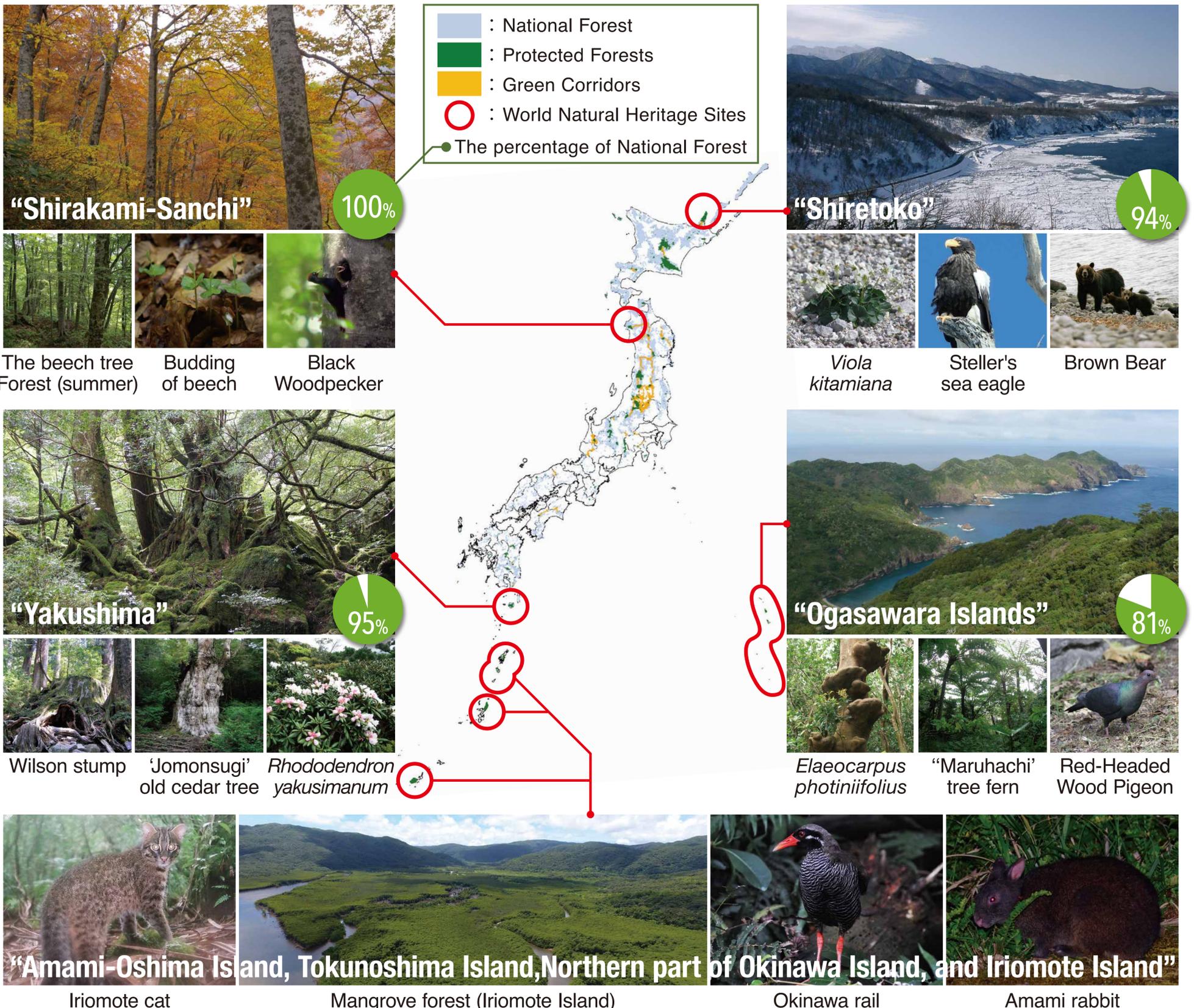
Japan is one of the most forested countries in the world, having around 70% of the total land area. National Forests directly managed by Forestry Agency represent approximately 30% of the total forest area in Japan.

Forestry Agency designates National Forests with significant forest ecosystems as “Protected Forest” to protect primeval forest ecosystem, precious flora and fauna and genetic resources. Protected Forests cover 13% of National Forests and are classified into three categories, Forest Ecosystem Reserve, Biotic Community Protected Forest and Rare Population Protected Forest.



Most areas of the World Natural Heritage sites in Japan are designated and protected as Forest Ecosystem Reserves. These Protected Forests are interconnected by “Green Corridors” which are designed to secure migratory pathways for wild animals and plants.

World National Heritage and National Forest



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Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

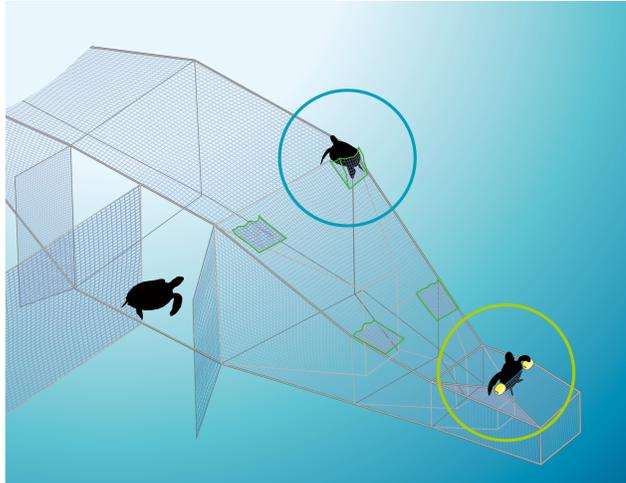
Sustainable Use of Fishery Resources

In Japan, fishermen, researchers, and government agencies are working together to implement various initiatives for sustainable fisheries.

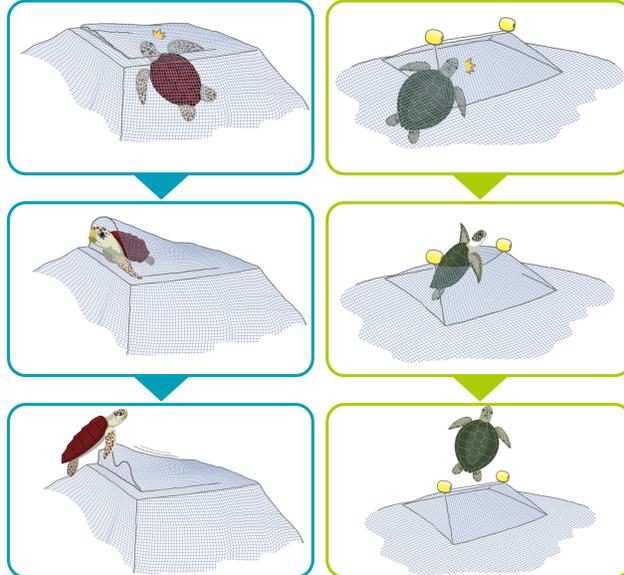
Through these efforts, we are promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity into fisheries.

Development and dissemination of sea turtle bycatch prevention technology

In order to reduce bycatch the sea turtle by fishery, we have developed a bycatch avoidance system and are working to promote its use among fishery community. The system shown in the figure below requires only an escape device to be attached to the top of the set net, allowing only the sea turtles to escape without letting the fish in the set net escape.



Schematic diagram of a fixed net with a sea turtle bycatch avoidance device



Sea turtles actually escape from the net in the experiment (Shiode et al., 2019)

Conservation and restoration of seaweed beds and tidal flats by fishermen and local

It is important to raise the productivity of the entire ecosystem by conserving seaweed beds and tidal flats and restoring their functions. Local governments create seaweed beds and tidal flats, and fishermen and local residents carry out conservation activities such as extermination of harmful organisms and tilling of tidal flats in an integrated manner to implement measures on a wide scale



Removal sea archin

Efforts to remove sea urchins that hinder the formation of seaweed beds

Image : Nagasaki City, Nagasaki Prefecture



Removal of Bladdr moon shell

Efforts to remove predatory organisms that prey on bivalves that are important for the performance of functions such as water purification of tidal flats

Image : Onomichi City, Hiroshima Prefecture



Installation of mother algae

Efforts to install mother algae (mature and seeded seaweed) and promote the regeneration of seaweed beds

Image : Ootsuchi Town, Iwate Prefecture



Removal of predator (Gastropod)

Efforts to cultivate tidal flats and improve sediment quality in an aerobic environment where tidal flat organisms can easily inhabit

Image : Kisarazu City, Chiba Prefecture



transplantation and sowing eelgrass

maintain and restore eelgrass beds by Transplantation and sowing

Image : Ashikita Town, Kumamoto Prefecture

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