



Rice grain sized young fiddler crab (Photo by Mr. Seiji Koda) Fiddler crab, one of endangered species, in Yoshino River, we can enjoy the life history of fiddler crab before our eyes

Yoshino-gawa river, the river with the largest class of estuarine zone and tidal flat in Japan.

There remains miraculously an extensive tidal flat in the estuarine of Yoshino River with 1,300 m in its width. Although it is locating in the vicinity of prefectural capital city, it participated firstly in Japan in East Asian - Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) to be an indispensable stopover for many migratory birds including shorebirds. In addition, we can see wide variety of rare species including a fiddler crab. It is internationally precious tidal flat that satisfies the international standards to be registered with the Ramsar Convention. The tidal flat provides children with the field of environmental learning as well as with the benefits for human life through supporting agriculture and fishery.



The estuarine tidal flat with 100 ha in area.



Aquaculture of a kind of green laver species (Suji-Aonori in Japanese) boasting the highest production in Japan (Photo by Mr. Yoshio Takada)



The scenery of glass eel fishery is the special feature of winter. The fishery of glass eel is one of evidences that the well-being of ecological system of Yoshino River is being maintained. (Photo by Mr. Shinichi Nakahama)



The scenery of nature observation activity at the estuarine tidal flat of Yoshino River



Black-faced Spoonbills, one of endangered species, come flying to the tidal flat regularly (Photo by Mr. Yoshiaki Hamai on October 7, 2018)



Lotus root field At the basin of Yoshino River, various industries including agriculture and fishery have been developed depending on natural feature of each area. A lotus root is produced around the estuarine of Yoshino River and its production is the highest in the western Japan.



Indigo (Ai in Japanese) as the benefit from the estuarine of Yoshino River and tradition. Indigo would be the biggest and the most precious gift presented by Yoshino River. The dye, "Sukumo" in Japanese, is made by a master of indigo dye ("Ai-Shi in Japanese) with a traditional procedure.

We are aiming for The YOSHINO-GAWA River to be designated as a Ramsar Convention site.

The Tokushima Nature Observation Society, Japan

We promote re-discovery of local nature through observation outings, etc. To communicate the value of the Yoshino-gawa River estuary tidal flats and the need for their conservation of biodiversity in this area, we are implementing CEPA through observation outings, surveys and support for environmental education in schools.