

Please come and see our lovely Yoshino-Gawa Estuary by your own eyes!

こんなに美しい空と風があることを世界に誇りたい  
We want the world to know the beauty of this sky, this wind

## ★吉野川河口からのメッセージ Message from Estuary of Yoshino-gawa River

吉野川河口は、徳島に住む多くの人々に、やすらぎを与え、身近な自然として、長年愛されてきました。  
With strong attachment, many people in Tokushima have been enjoying the estuary of Yoshino-gawa River, its richness in nature and the ease it is providing for a long time.

県庁所在地のすぐ隣にあって、日本本来の川の姿が残され、高い生物多様性が保持されている場所です。  
また、ラムサール条約の国際基準を満たす、国際的にも重要な湿地です。

さらに、子どものたちの環境教育の絶好の場所として、また、漁業、農業など暮らしを支えています。

The estuary is locating closely to the center of the capital city of Tokushima Prefecture, Tokushima city. Here, however, we can see the original form of Japanese river has been left and high quality of biodiversity has been preserved. Moreover, the estuary is internationally crucial wetland that meets the international criteria of Ramsar Convention.

しかし、この日本の代表的な estuary の生物多様性が危機にあります。

私たちは、この吉野川 estuary を、森、川、海、空、人の暮らしが多様につながる素敵な場所として、将来にひきつぎたいと考えています。

But now our greatest concern is that the biodiversity in this distinguished estuary in Japan is now being in crisis, since we are eager to give the estuary of Yoshino-gawa River our future generation as the right place where woods, river, sea, sky and human life are getting together.



## ●日本最大級の汽水域と河口干潟を誇る吉野川

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

四国三郎こと吉野川 は高知県瓶ガ森より発し、徳島県を西から東へ横断する全長 198 キロの大河です。  
河口から第十堰がある 14.5 kmの地点まで広がる汽水域は、吉野川の多様な生命や暮らしをつないでいます。そして、ここには、今日、失いつつある日本の河口本来の姿があり、広大な河口干潟が残されています。河口の川幅の広さ（1300m）は全国で１、２位をあらそうものであり、河口域約 500ha は、第６回ラムサール条約締約国会議（ブリスベン、1996 年）で立ち上げられた「東アジア・オーストラリア地域シギ・チドリ類重要生息地ネットワーク」に日本で最初に参加した干潟であり、環境省の「日本の重要湿地５００」にも選定されています。

The Yoshino-gawa River arises in the forest of Kame-ga-Mori in Kochi Prefecture, and flows across Tokushima Prefecture from west to east. Its total length is 194 km , making it a major-class river in Japan. The brackish water area is extending upstream from the rivermouth to the Daijuseki Barrage of 14.5 km in its distance. The area is producing, supporting and keeping the wild lives of rich in diversity. And it is here that the vast tidal flat can be seen in the original and typical type of river estuary in Japan.

The width of the river at its mouth (1300 meters) is the first or second widest in the nation. The estuarine zone of 500 hectare ( ha.) in extent was designated as its first site in the “East Asian/Australasian Migratory Shorebird Network” in Japan at the 1996 Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Conference of the Parties in Brisbane, Australia. It has been also selected as one of wetlands of importance in Japan by the Ministry of Environment of Japan.

## ●吉野川河口域（汽水域）の環境の紹介

Introduction to the environment at the estuarine zone of Yoshino-gawa river.

吉野川河口汽水域においては、汽水域から海域にわたる高度な生物多様性が確保されている。レッドデータブックに掲載されているシオマネキ、ハクセンシオマネキやリュウハンミョウはじめ、今や各地の干潟から姿を消しつつある多種多様な生きものが、ごく当たり前に見られる場所です。それから、ダイゼン、メダイチドリ、ハマシギなど渡り鳥の飛来数が多く、160 種以上の野鳥が観察されています。さらに、人間にとっても、吉野川河口は良質な海苔やシジミを産出しており、河口の広大な風景は人々に最も愛される場所として親しまれ、豊かな水辺環境を提供しています。

From the estuarine zone at the mouth of Yoshino-gawa river to the costal area, we can see high and rich biodiversity preserved. At first glance it looks rather an ordinary spot, it provides habitat for Red Data Book species, such as the fiddler crabs *Uca arcuata* and *Uca lactea* as well as other RDB species in a context of overall biological diversity that is now largely disappearing from other tidal flats in Japan. In addition, it serves as a staging or wintering site for migratory waterbirds such as Black-bellied Plover, Mongolian Plover, and Dunlin - altogether more than 160 species of bird have been observed here. Moreover, for human beings, the Yoshino Estuary is an excellent spot for cultivation and collection of “nori” (laver) seaweed and “shijimi” corbicula freshwater clams. The wide-open space of the estuary landscape is one of the best-loved by people in the area, and provides a rich waterside environment.



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自然観察会をとおして身近な自然を見直すための活動をしている。吉野川河口干潟の価値や生物多様性保全の大切さを伝えるために、自然観察会やエコツアー、様々な市民調査、学校の環境教育の応援など普及啓発活動をしている。

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.



# 「日本の代表的な河口域 (estuary) が危機にある」

One of representative estuarine region in Japan is now in danger of disappearing.



## ハシは4本もいらんやろ!



吉野川の河口から 5 km以内に今、

In just a 5 km stretch from the Yoshino-gawa River Estuary there are:

1. 吉野川橋、Yoshinogawa-bashi Bridge
  2. 吉野川大橋があり、Yoshinogawa -Oh-Hashi Bridge
  3. しらさぎ大橋が 2012 年に完成。Shirasagi-Oh-Hashi Bridge Completed to construct in 2012)
- そのうえ、4 本目の橋として四国横断自動車道（高速道路）の橋が建設中。On top of this, it is now under construction to build another bridge as part of a highway project

この 4 本目の橋はほんとうに必要なのでしょうか？

Now we are wondering “the 4th bridge is truly necessary ???”

日本では、「うどん」は好物のひとつです。うどんを食べるときには、ハシ（箸・橋）は 4 本も必要ありません。Udon noodle is one of most popular food among Japanes.

When taking Udon noodle, four chop sticks (*Hashi* in Japanese) is too much (two is enough).

私たちは、美しい吉野川河口に 4 本目の橋は、必要ないと考えます。

Is the fourth bridge really necessary??? We think it is much more important to preserve the natural beauty of Yoshino-gawa River.



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- ・ラムサール条約の国際基準を満たしている国際的にみても貴重な干潟や河口域の自然が、大きく損なわれ、県民の心をいやす景観が失われてしまう。子どもたちに吉野川河口干潟の生物多様性を傷つけずに手渡したい。

The Yoshino River Estuary meets the Ramsar Convention standards and is internationally recognized as important wetland area. This area of natural beauty is also highly prized by local people, but it is in danger of being severely damaged. We want to hand the rich biodiversity of this area to our children in tact.

- ・わずか 1.8 キロ の場所に 2 つの巨大な橋（長 1300m）を同時につくるのは、明らかに二重投資です。

In an area of only 1.8 km, building two giant bridges (length: 1300m) at the same time is obviously too much.

- ・橋の建設工事により河口汽水域から沿岸部にかけての生物のつながりが断ち切れ、豊かな生物多様性をもつ干潟の生態系が大きく傷つく。

The continuity of ecosystem from estuarine to costal region is cut down by the construction of bridge. It largely disturbs the wetland ecosystem with the richness in biodiversity.

- ・干潟は「生命のゆりかご」といわれ、豊かな沿岸漁業を支える場として、また環境教育の場としても大切な場所です。しかし、橋の建設によって大きく傷つけられます。

Tidal wetlands are said to be the ‘cradle of life,’ they are also very important places for a rich fishing industry and for environmental education. But the bridge construction will lead to major losses in this environment.

- ・人口が減り、高齢者層が増え、生産者人口が少なくなるなど、人口推移からみて、将来世代に大きな負担を残すような過剰な道路建設への投資は避けるべきです。

If we think about the changing demography, fewer children being born etc., we should not leave such a burden of paying for all these unnecessary roads on future generations.

- ・最河口の沿岸部を通過する計画は津波や地震の被害を強く受けると予想され、防災道路とはなり得ません。

The bridge at transitional zone between mouth of river and sea and road passing along the coastal area would be damaged from Tsunami and an earthquake, we could not expect the road plays as a road for disaster prevention.

### ●Yoshino-Gawa River and Its Brackish Estuarine Area

吉野川は、徳島県内を西から東へと流れ、全長 194km と日本の大河の一つです。河口域の干潟はその豊かな多様性ばかりではなく、多くの種類の渡り鳥の中継地点となっています。この河口汽水域は 2010 年に環境省によってラムサール条約登録湿地の潜在候補地の一つに選定されています。

The Yoshino-Gawa River, flowing from west to east in Tokushima Prefecture, is one of great rivers in Japan (approximately 194 km in length). The estuarine area in its mouth has been known not only as its great biodiversity but also the stopover point for many kinds of migratory birds. Its brackish estuarine area had been selected as one of the potential candidates to be a registered wetland for the Ramsar Convention by Japan Ministry of Environment in 2010.