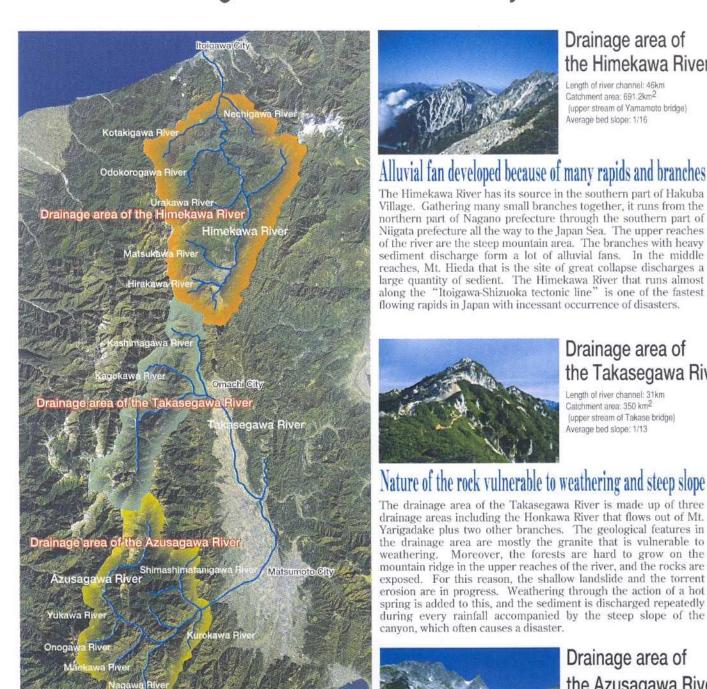


Three drainage areas within the jurisdiction





The Himekawa River has its source in the southern part of Hakuba Village. Gathering many small branches together, it runs from the orthern part of Nagano prefecture through the southern part of Niigata prefecture all the way to the Japan Sea. The upper reaches of the river are the steep mountain area. The branches with heavy ediment discharge form a lot of alluvial fans. In the middle eaches, Mt. Hieda that is the site of great collapse discharges a arge quantity of sedient. The Himekawa River that runs almost along the "Itoigawa-Shizuoka tectonic line" is one of the fastest lowing rapids in Japan with incessant occurrence of disasters.



Nature of the rock vulnerable to weathering and steep slope rainage areas including the Honkawa River that flows out of Mt. arigadake plus two other branches. The geological features in e drainage area are mostly the granite that is vulnerable to reathering. Moreover, the forests are hard to grow on the ountain ridge in the upper reaches of the river, and the rocks are sposed. For this reason, the shallow landslide and the torrent rosion are in progress. Weathering through the action of a hot



Sediment accumulation in the devastated upper reaches Five branches join the Azusagawa River that has its source in Mt. Yarigadake. The mountainous region in the upper reaches is extremely devastated by the volcanic eruption and through the action of a hot spring, etc., and a large quantity of sediment is accumulated there. The ejecta from Mt. Yarigadake have often flowed down the slope as debris flow. Besides, the granite in the drainage area has weathered considerably, which makes the area vulnerable to a disaster when coupled with the lay of the land where many small-scale valleys develop.

Major disasters in the drainage area

northern part of Nagano prefecture through the southern part of Niigata prefecture almost along the Itoigawa-Shizuoka tectonic line, the Takasegawa River that has its source in Mt. Yarigadake and runs down the steep slope of valleys, and the Azusagawa River that flows into Taishoike Pond from Mt. Yarigadake all the way through the eastern foot of the peaks of the Hodakas and joins Shihorisawa that is extremely devastated by the eruption of Mt. Yakegadake. These three drainage areas have suffered a sediment-related disaster caused by their own shapes and geological characteristics.. The mountains in the upper reaches of the river become devastated, and discharge a large quantity of sediment into the Honkawa River, which in turn becomes debris flow after a torrential downpour, or is dams up the river, and the dam breaks to cause flood.

June 4, 1915

Great eruption of Mt. Yakedake

The great eruption of Mt. Yakedake. A mudflow following

the breach and the flood to the river. The sediment that

flowed down the slope during that time dammed up the

Azusagawa River to give birth to Taishoike Pond in

rain front caused a debris flow in the Takasegawa River

A stationary seasonal rain front that stayed over the

the collapse dammed up the Azusagawa River, and caused

Major disasters in recent years 1735 - A landslide occurred on the east side of Wantani volcano. The "Extrusion" was formed near Kamikochi spe 1746 - Mr. Yakedake erupted, and a great earthquake hit the country. 1757 - Mt. Togihata collapsed, and stopped water for two days; then, 1802 - Kakunodaira was devastated. Landslides buried six houses. 1887 - Myosaizeki dam was breached, and a large collapse occurred August 23, 1890 - A great flood occurred in the Azusagawa River, 1896 - A collapse of Mt. Mukai at Kakunodaira in Nagawa Village occurred. Six houses were buried.

1909 - Mt. Yakedake erupted dozens of times. August 11, 1910 - A flood damage was caused by the Takasegawa River and the other small rivers. A flood in the Himekawa River caused a flood damage to the whole area along the river August 8, 1911 - A great collapse of Mt. Hieda occurred, which dammed up the Hime-kawa Fliver. July 22, 1912 - A great torrential downpour caused damage to the whole area along the Hinnekawa River. June 4, 1915 - Taisho Pond appeared upon great eruption of Mt. Yakedake. July 9, 1917 - A deluge in the Matsukawa River and the Hirakawa River caused a great deal of damage April 1923 - A torrential downpour caused a flood to the Himekawa River. August 20, 1924 - Two places of the embankment in the site of Nechimura Village broken A flood washed away the area for about 130 hours. July 9, 1931 - A deluge in the Matsukawa River and the Hirakawa River caused a great deal of damage

July 11, 1934 - An embankment in the Hirakawa River collapsed,

September 26, 1959 - Typhoon No. 15 collapsed the Matsukawa embankment.

July 13, 1965 - The Nechigawa River flooded after the localized forrential downpour.

July 15, 1902 - A flood occurred in the Himekawa River. Mt. Kozuchi in Minamiotari Village collapsed.

and caused a great deal of flood damage to the Kitashiro district. May 23, 1936 - A thaw collapsed Mt. Kazelukidake. Debris flows occurred for three days April 21, 1939 - Mt. Kazehari in Minamiotari Village collapsed, and dammed up the Himekawa River. 1945 - An autumn rain front and a typhoon caused a great deal of flood damage to Nakawa Village June 1946 - The Hirakawa River and the Matsukawa River flooded after the torrential downpoi June 29, 1946 - A landslide occurred near Kuruma and Johoji. July 28, 1948 - A thunderstorm caused a debris flow to flow out of Mt. Kazefukidake, and dammed up the Himekawa River. September 26, 1953 - A Koyanai embankment in Nechlmura Village was broken by 60m. July 10, 1959 - The Hirakawa River and the Matsukawa River flooded. The total amount of damage reached 45 million yen. Service on the Oito Lime was suspended

June 23, 1961 - A seasonal rain forest caused a great mud avalanche to hit Zenrokuzawa 1963 - The areas along the Azusagawa River and the Honkawa River were inundated by the flooding after the localized torrential downpour. July 7, 1964 - A seasonal rain front caused the Nechigawa River to flood. The amount of damage reached 180 million yen. August 29, 1964 - A debris flow occurred in Urakawa. Aggradation occurred by 12 to 20m. The Himekawa River and the Honkawa River were dammed up, which caused a great deal of damage May 8, 1965 - A landslide occurred in the upper reaches of the Urakawa River, and dammed up the Himekawa River and the Honkawa River. Service on the Olto Line was suspended. The bridges were washed away

September 18, 1965 - Typhoon No. 24 hit the drainage area of the Nechigawi The amount of damage reached 2.2 billion yer 1966 - A mud avalanche occurred in the Urakawa River 1967 - A great landslide collapse of Mt. Akahage in the Odo The amount of damage to the basin area of the Nechigawa River reached 490 million yen. The flood submerged Kuzu spa. July 3, 1975 - A debris flow hit Hachiemonsawa and Shirosawa after the localized torrential downpour June 19, 1978 - A mud avalanche caused by an autumn rain front hit Genmonsawa, Zenrokusawa, and Shirosawa

June 26, 1978 - A flood caused by a torrential downpour collapsed the Suishingu bridge in Hakubamura Village.

August 23, 1979 - Typhoon No. 11 caused debris flow to occur in Kamikochi. A debris flow occurred in the Urakawa River, too. May 12, 1981 - A large-scale debris flow occurred in the Urakawa River, and arrived all the way at the Himekawa River. June 23, 1981 - The Himekawa River was swollen, and collapsed the Otari bridge. August 23, 1981 - typhoon No. 15 caused a sediment-related disaster to Nigorizawa. Shiraisawa, and the Nakamatagawa River. No. 10. The amount of damage reached 5.6 billion yen. March 8, 1991 - A large-scale landslide occurred in Hisui valley. April 8, 1992 - A large-scale debris flow occurred in the Urakawa River. The sabo dam stopped it.

southern part of Niigata prefecture and the northern part of Nagano prefecture stepped up its activities, and triggered a torrential downpour for 38 hours until early morning of the 13th day centering on the Joetsu district. A large-scale localized torrential downpour occurred in July 11, 1992 - A localized torrential downpour triggered by a seasonal rain front caused damage one the Takasegawa River with the land devastated in the after another to the area centering on Otari Village and Itoigawa City. The Oito Line was hit hard upper reaches. The Kuzu spa was washed away almost December 6, 1996 - A collapse in the upper reaches of Gamaharazawa caused a debris flow completely (see the photo on the right). The Nekohana September 15, 1999 - An erosion collapse at the exit of Kama tunnel of the Prefectural Route sabo dam at Genkyu in Omachi City suffered a collapse. Kamikochi-koen isolated 1,300 people.



lowed out from the upper reaches broke the embanks on both sides of the main Nakawa River. The public facilities and the houses were washed away, and the route was cut off. The Village was isolated from the outside. The amount of damage reached 5.6 billion yen. Deluge of the Himekawa River caused by torrential downpour during last stage of the rainy season season, and a heavy rain fell that recorded the total precipitation of 400mm locally. The surface of a mountain collapsed all over the drainage areas of the Himekawa River. A debris flow occurred in 38 locations of the Himekawa River system, which cut off the route. Four hundred and twenty-five households in 19 villages became isolated from the outside. Service on the JR Oito Line was suspended over a long period, too. Moreover, the sediment flowed into the Honkawa River from its branches, and became accumulated. For this reason, the river bed rose by more than 10m at the location that was hit hardest.





by the localized torrential downpour

The rain that kept falling day after day under the influence of typhoon No. 10

precipitation of 289mm. The collapsing sediment and the woody debris that

The photo shows the Shirosawa bridge near the juncture at Shirosawa in the

Story of the founding of the Matsumoto Sabo Work Office and history of its work

Origin and development of the Matsumoto Sabo Work Office 1876 - A local office of the Civil Engineering Bureau in the Ministry of the Interior 1879 - Sabo works directly controlling the Sano-gawa River of the Shinano-gawa River and the Chikuma-gawa River started. 1905 - A local office at Niigata, the Ministry of the Interior, was founded.

1916 - French style stepped dam construction in the Ushibuse-gawa River started. 1932 - The Sabo Work Office of the Shinano-gawa River system, Civil Engineering Local Office at Niigata, Ministry of the Interior, was founded for the purpose

of carrying out the work directly controlling the river system in the upper reaches of the Shinano-gawa River. The sabo work directly controlling the Azusa-gawa River started. 1935 - Designated as the sabo work plant of the Shinano-gawa River system. 1936 - The construction of the Japan's first arch dam started on the stone levee in the upper reaches of Kamagafuchi. (Completed in 1944) 1946 - The work expanded to Shimashimadani, a branch of the Azusa-gawa River. French style stepped dam in the Japan's first arch sabo dam The construction of the Shimashimadani No. 1 sabo dam started. 1948 - The sabo work directly controlling the Takase-gawa River started. The Hon Nagano prefecture under the national aid Kamagafuchi Kawa River and its branch, the Kashima-gawa River, were incorporated into granted after the sabo law was enforced the directly controlled sabo work execution area. In September of the same in 1897). year, the name was changed to the Sabo Work Office of the Shinano-gawa River System, Regional Construction Bureau at Kanto, Ministry of

 1951 - A local office at Mt. Yakegadake was founded.
 1951 - Work expanded to the Na-gawa River, a branch of the Azusa-gawa River, and Mt. Yakedake. The construction of No. 1 sabo dam at Nakahorizawa 1952 - Work expanded to the Ono-gawa River, a branch of the Azusa-gawa River.
 1958 - The name was changed to the Sabo Work Office of the Shinano-gawa River system, Regional Construction Bureau at Hokuriku, Ministry of

1959 - The construction of the No. 3 sabo dam at Shimashimadani started. 1962 - A local office at Himeno was founded at Hakuba Village in Kita-azumi District. The sabo work directly controlling the Hime Kawa River system started. To deal with the flood damage to the Matsu Kawa River, etc. caused by Ise-wan Typhoon in 1959, the sabo work of its branches, the Matsu Kawa River and the Hira Kawa River started.

1964 - The name was changed to the Matsumoto Sabo Work Office. 1965 - The construction of the Ura Kawa River No. 1 sabo dam started in the Ura Kawa River, a branch of the Hime Kawa River. 1966 - The Kago Kawa River, a branch of the Takase-gawa River was added to the work. The construction of Kago-kawa No. 1 sabo dam started. 1970 - The Odokoro-gawa River, a branch of the Hime-Kawa River, was incorporated into the directly controlled work area to deal with the debris

flow disaster and the devastation caused by the great collapse of Mt. 1972 - The construction work of the Hira Kawa River watercourse started at the alluvial fan in the lower reaches of the Gentaro sabo dam in the Hira Kawa River, a branch of the Hime Kawa River. 1973 - Scope of work execution expanded to Kanayamazawa, a branch of the Ura Kawa River that is in turn a branch of the Hime Kawa River. 1976 - The sabo dam work of Hachlemonzawa in the Azusa-gawa River started as the measures taken to recover from the debris flow disaster caused by the localized torrential downpour in the preceding year and to deal with a debris

1979 - The Kotaki-gawa River, a branch of the Hime Kawa River, was incorporated into the directly controlled area. The construction of Higashimata No. 1 sabo dam started. 1980 - A local office at Mt. Yakegatake was abolished, and a staff room for supervisors at Mt. Yakedake was founded, instead. 1985 - The debris flow braker was completed at Kamikamihorizawa in Mt. Yakedake as an experimental work to deal with a debris flow. 1987 - The No. 5 riverbed girdle work started to deal with the main Azusa-gawa River for the purpose of preserving the Kamikochi area. 1988 - Environmental measure department was founded. 1988 - The Nechi-gawa River, a branch of the Hime Kawa River, was incorporated

into the directly controlled area. The construction of the Nakamata-gawa No. 1 dam started. The channel work of the Matsu Kawa River started. Scope of work execution expanded to the Ura Kawa River and 1989 - The channel work of the Hira Kawa River was completed (first phase work). 1992 - International Alps Summit/Alps Scenery Symposium was held. 998 - International Sabo Forest Symposium was held. The sabo forest work in the Kashima-gawa River started. The construction of the Ura-kawa Rive

super conduit sabo dam was completed



Shimashimadani No. 3 sabo dam (completed in 1978)

Sabo Technology for disaster prevention in harmony with nature

~Various Sabo facilities~ All three major rivers including Azusa River, Takase River and Himekawa River under the jurisdiction of Matshmoto Sabo Control Office have their stream sources in the North Japan Alps and flows into the Japan Sea. Matsumoto Sabo Work Office covers a wide range of areas from the upper torrents toward the midstream and takes diversified measures according to the characteristics of each section of the streams, actively working on the construction of a variety of

Sabo allowing sediment flow out

with volcanic areas and devastated mountains typical of the North Japan Alps extending upstream. A large amount of sediment outflow in these steep rivers makes river courses unstable and sedimentrelated disasters serious. In the normal condition, allowing sediment to flow downstream is necessary for stabilizing the river course, maintaining the function of various facilities, reducing impacts on the ecosystem and preservation of coastal areas. In this respect, comprehensive sediment control is required in view of the consistency of the whole river-system covering the whole water flow from the mountains toward the coast. In the comprehensive river-system control, strategy for sediment movements should not be addressed at separate river areas like a water source, alluvial fan, river mouth and the coast, but comprise these whole river areas. Along Himekawa River, sediment movements are monitored not only in the Sabo control jurisdiction

under the Sabo project but also in the whole areas from stream source toward the river mouth in cooperation with the river management division. Images in monitoring cameras are transmitted through optical cables to monitor drifting sediment and suspended sediment for realization of comprehensive sediment control. Furthermore, attempts have been made to develop Sabo dams which hold back sediment in floods and allow it to flow down in normal time.

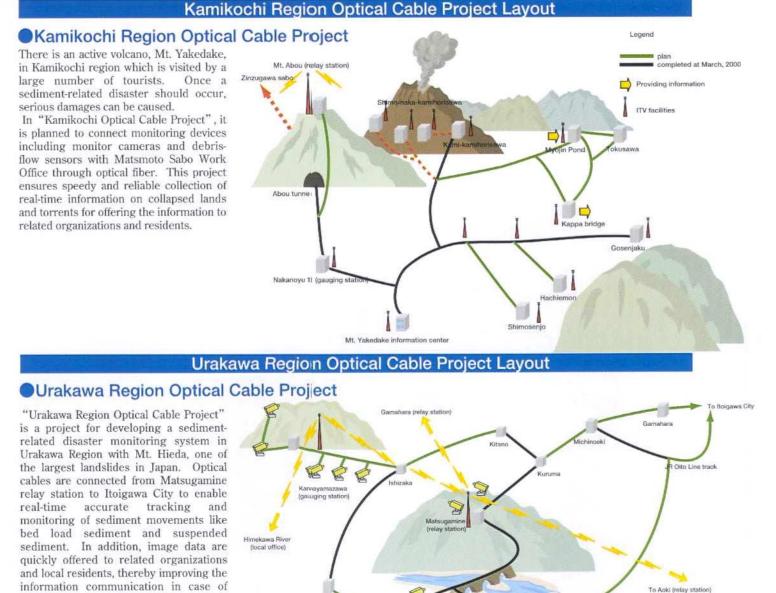


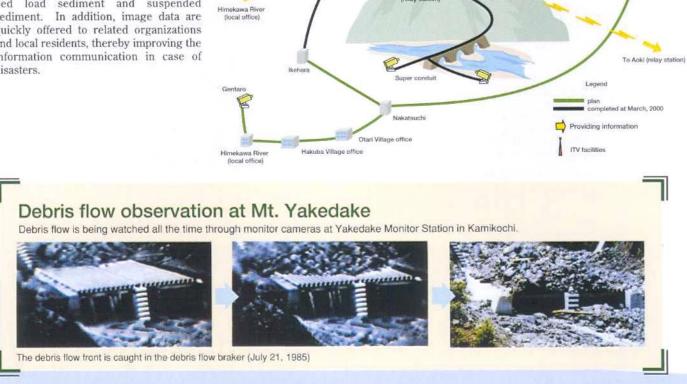
Urakawa Super Conduit Sabo Dam Urakawa River basin having the landslide on Mt. Hieda, one of the The slit in the dam allows harmless sediment to flow downstream in three largest landslides in Japan, keeps supplying a large amount of sediment downstream. Urakawa Super Conduit Sabo Dam normal condition, thereby contributing to the prevention of riverside and coast erosion. In case of floods, it controls downstream hazardous supplies sediment to the downstream side at normal time and sediment in the same manner as ordinary Sabo dams. Some slits in a controls sediment in abnormal torrential flow. The levee crown is dam can function as fish ways, aiming at harmony with the ecosystem.



Slit-type Sabo Dam

Sabo Information Technology Project





Sabo for the activation of region and communities

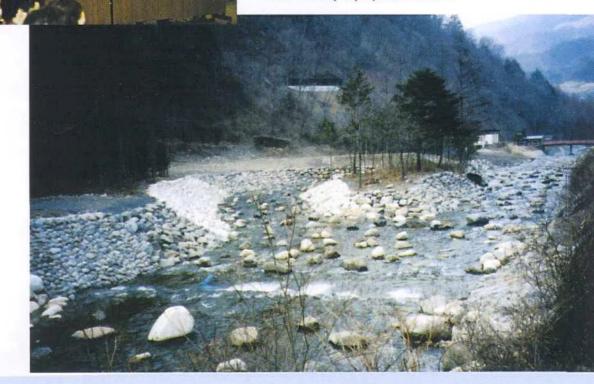
Kashima River Sabo Forest Development Project

(Omachi City, Nagano Prefecture) In the upper stream of Kashima River, Sabo dams are under construction for sediment control. The mid-stream of the river, with gentle river slopes, meanders, resulting in erosion of riversides and deposit of sediment. Omachi City located downstream has suffered damages due to repeated sediment outflow and deposit. In "Kashima River Sabo Forest Development Project", efforts have been positively made to make the best use of the present status of the river. For this purpose, groups of groundsels are formed on a wide riverbed to develop a sediment retarding space with natural control functions, and the forest along the river are utilized as protection against sediment discharge. A council consisting of residents and scholars has been organized to discuss the specific concepts of the Sabo forest

Sabo works integrated in community activities aiming at the activation of the region



Nomugi Pass Channel Works (Nagawa Village, Nagano Prefecture) Nagawa Village is forwarding a plan to designate the area around Nomugi Pass as a "History Zone" for walking in nature and historic spots as a part of the activation plan of local communities. Nomugi Pass Channel Works function as the core of this project, reflecting the locality by the best use of natural beauty rich with water and existing facilities. The project is in progress under the slogan "Sabo hannel friendly to people and nature"



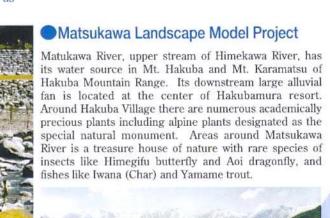
Harmony with natural environment

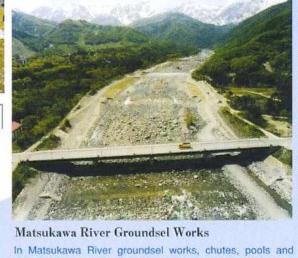


harmony with surrounding landscape. Bamboo grass is planted on the mounding on the back of the revetment. Trees are left uncut as much as practical to preserve and promote greening of the area.



Transplantation of endangered species a Chinese milk vetch, "Tsumerenge In an effort to reduce the impact of the grounds works upon the local vegetation, an indigenous species, Tsumerenge growing along Matsukawa River was transplanted to the upper stream under the guidance of local specialists. Tsumerenge designated as an endangered species in the red data book by The Nature Conservation Society of Japan. Kurotsubame Corbicula, also designated as an endangered wild creature in the red data book by Environmental Agency.





shoals are created imitating a natural stream to preserve environment for various creatures to survive. All the proundsels are provided with fish ways and Kawaragumi umi, indigenous plants around Matsukawa River was transplanted in shoals and along the riverside. In harmony with nature, this Sabo work aims at the communication

Effects of Sabo works and changes in land utilization Areas along Matsukawa River in Hakubamura Village, Nagano Prefecture~ In July 1995 the area along Matsukawa River experienced the most serious flood in history. The area

