# Overview of the Monitoring Sites 1000

Ministry of the Environment Nature Conservation Bureau, Biodiversity Center of Japan Yusuke SAITO http://www.biodic.go.jp/



### Points of the Slides

- 1. The purpose and business structure of the Monitoring Sites 1000
- An introduction of all fields of the Monitoring Sites 1000, and example survey results
- 3. Future prospects, etc.

### Points of the Slides

### 1. The purpose and business structure of the Monitoring Sites 1000

2. An introduction of all fields of the Monitoring Sites 1000, and example survey results

3. Future prospects, etc.



# Ecosystems

- Supply source of various ecosystem services, <u>our foundation</u> for living.
- In addition to the laws of nature, anthropogenic influences are also <u>a factor for change.</u>
- Understanding the state of an ecosystem and detecting change (in particular signs of deterioration) at an early stage.
- Recording of scientific data relating to ecosystem changes to aid nature conservation measures and academic research.



Often neglected, but extremely important!



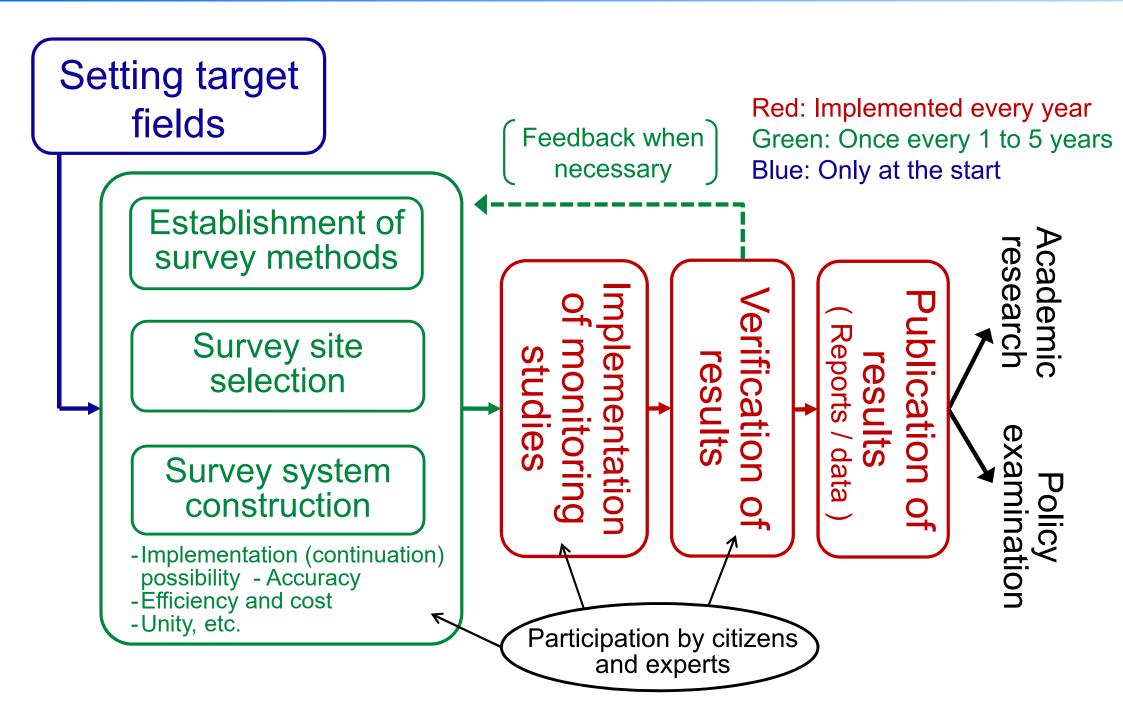


"Regional Monitoring Promotion Project for Important Ecosystems"

A project which aims to conduct <u>long-term, quantitative</u> <u>monitoring of Japan's basic ecosystems</u>, and <u>publish obtained results</u> in order to <u>assist academic</u> <u>research and develop appropriate nature</u> <u>conservation measures</u>.

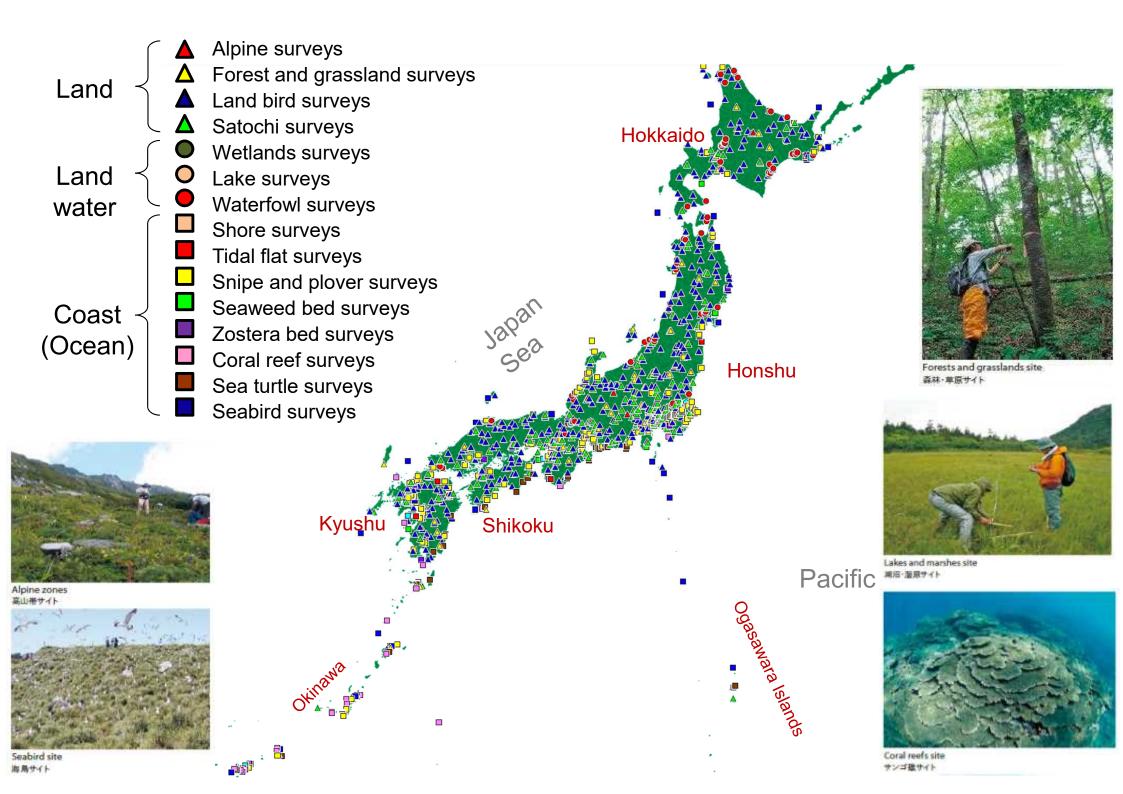
★Long-term surveys of approximately 1000 sites throughout Japan over a period of 100 years (planned)

# Flow of Operations



### Survey Field, Contents, and Number of Sites

Ecosystem			Survey Site	Major Survey Items	Sites	Field Surveyors	Surveyors
Land	Alpine			Seven surveys consisting of (1) Physical environment, (2) Vegetation, (3) Pinus pumila annual branch growth, (4) Flowering phenology, (5) Butterflies, (6) Ground wandering beetles, (7) Bumblebees	5	Researchers	50
	Forest/ Grasslands		Core	(1) Every tree survey, (2) Litter, (3) Ground wandering beetles	20	Researchers	330
			Quasi-core	(1) Every tree survey, (2) Litter, (3) Ground wandering beetles	28	Researchers	
			Land birds	(1) Land bird population survey	419	Citizen scientists	400
	Satochi		Core site	Nine surveys consisting of (1) Flora, (2) Medium and large mammals, (3) Birds, (4) Butterflies, (5) Water environment, (6) Harvest mice, (7) Frogs, (8) Fireflies, (9) Vegetation map	18	Citizen scientists	2,505
			General site	At least one survey from the nine core site surveys	219	Citizen scientists	
Land water	Lakes and wetlands			Wetlands: (1) Vegetation, (2) Physical environment and flowering phenology Lakes: (1) Animal and plant plankton, (2) Lake vegetation, (3) Lake benthos, etc.	25	Researchers	69
			Waterfowl	<ol> <li>Population survey, (2) Swan growth rate, (3)</li> <li>Weather and surrounding environment</li> </ol>	81	Citizen scientists	137
Ocean	Coast	Sandy beaches	Sea turtles	(1) Number of landings/spawnings, (2) Sand temperature, (3) Changes to coast, (4) Understand feed damage	36	Citizen scientists	150
		Shores		(1) Benthic organisms, (2) Temperature	6	Researchers	50
		Tidal flats		<ul><li>(1) Benthic organisms, (2) Subsoil particle analysis,</li><li>(3) Granularity loss on ignition</li></ul>	10	Researchers	115
			Shorebirds	(1) Population survey	144	Citizen scientists	673
		Zostera beds		(1) Seaweed survey, (2) Benthic organisms	6	Researchers	38
		Seaweed beds		(1) Seaweed survey	6	Researchers	49
	Coral reefs			<ul><li>(1) Coverage survey, (2) Physical environment,</li><li>(3) Acanthaster population, etc.</li></ul>	24	Researchers	66
	Small islands		Seabird sites	(1) Population survey, (2) Breeding survey	30	Researchers	87
Total					1,077 <sub>sites</sub>		4,719 people



## Ensuring Survey Accuracy (Unified Techniques)

 Although long-term survey data from multiple locations is useful, data comparison is difficult if there are varying survey methods depending on location or time.

- → Establishment of a common national "Survey Manual" that is consistently followed.
  - In general, changes to this manual are not allowed except for minor changes when necessary.

