

Examples of Landscape Resource Usage



<Yodogawa Examples>

- Yodogawa Suikei Bika Action
- Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara
Hozen Shimin Network
- Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai
- Introducing the Sunset Hour
- Yodogawa Romantic Tour
- Osaka Yodo-River Citizens
Marathon
- Yodogawa Urban Camp
- Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya
Matsuri

<Examples of Other Rivers>

- Suzuka Balloon Festival
/Suzuka River [Class A River]
(Mie Prefecture)
- Illumination/Sumida River
[Class A River] (Tokyo Prefecture)
- Shichijo Ohashi o Kireinisurukai
Activities/Kamogawa River
[Class A River] (Kyoto Prefecture)
- Kentoshisen Race/Kasegawa River
[Class A River] (Saga Prefecture)
- Koinobori Festa 1000
/Akutagawa River
[Class A River] (Osaka Prefecture)
- Yasuragitei/Shinano River
[Class A River] (Niigata Prefecture)

Efforts to Maintain and Preserve the Rich Natural Scenery of the Yodogawa

Example: Yodogawa Suikei Bika Action

A major problem in river management, waterside usage, river landscape and public health is the illegal dumping of garbage into the river. The Yodogawa Suikei Bika Action Liaison Committee was created in 2016 to deal with these matters in cooperation with local municipalities and residents.

Working together with residents to clean the rivers along the Yodogawa (Yodogawa, Katsura, Uji, Kizugawa) from upstream to downstream helps beautify and preserve the waterside environment. An additional goal is to encourage participants to become aware of and practice manners such as taking garbage home.

In FY2018, Yodogawa had about 51 tons and 1000 bags (45L/bag) of trash collected by 5,311 participants in 7 areas of the Yodogawa basin from February to March to maintain and preserve the natural landscape.



Photo Credits: Yodogawa River Office

<Main Organizations>

○ Sponsoring Organizations:

- Yodogawa Suikei Issei Bika Action Liaison Committee

- Organizers of beatification activities in the 7 Yodogawa basin areas

- MLIF Yodogawa River Office (Secretariat)

- River Rangers

○ Supporting Organizations:

- Union of Kansai Governments, Osaka Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto City, Asahi Shimbun Co., Kyoto Shimbun Co., Sankei Shimbun Co., Mainichi Newspapers Co., Yomiuri Shimbun Co.

Example: Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara Hozen Shimin Network

The Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara Hozen Shimin Network (called Itasennet) is a partnership between Yodogawa citizens groups, research institutes and governments that cooperate under the motto, “let the Itasenpara, a natural monument of Japan, swim in the Yodogawa River again.” The network was created in August 2011 with the aim to revive the natural environment and increase biodiversity. Starting with 17, there are currently 43 organizations that are active in the Shirokita and Niwakubo cove areas.

From the early 1970s to 2000s, there was an increase in the number of exotic fish, particularly the largemouth bass and bluegill, that impacted native fish in the Shirokita coves. Native fish decreased and the itasenpara was no longer seen after 2005. For this reason, periodical extermination of exotic fish started in April 2012. The extermination of carnivorous exotic fish has been successful and native fish have increased in several coves. The itasenpara was reintroduced to the area in 2013 and the numbers are steadily increasing. By periodically exterminating exotic fish, the natural landscape of the Yodogawa is being maintained and preserved.

<Activity Details>

Periodical extermination (exotic fish/plants), fishing contests for exotic fish, cleaning activities, publicity and education activities regarding Yodogawa’s biodiversity, etc.



Photo Credits:
Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara Hozen Shimin Network

Example: Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai

With the completion of Saseragi Park in front of Neyagawashi Station, the Neyagawa Revitalization Workshop activities expanded to revitalizing the city waterways. They started their activities in the Shimeno area with hopes to revitalize the Yodogawa in consideration of life and culture.

The Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai is one of those activities and has been held once every summer since 2008. There are about 100 participants and including staff, about 150- 200 people. Participating organizations fund the event and materials are provided by citizens organizations, municipalities and the MLIT. However, there are issues such as sponsoring organizations, aging organizers and financing.

It was hoped that the Shimeno area will be developed as a center for daily life, so activities to involve the residents were considered from the start of the project. These dedicated efforts have been recognized by the MLIT, and out of all the Yodogawa Riverside areas, it is the only one to be selected as a model area for redevelopment.

<Main Organizations>

○ Sponsoring Organizations:

- Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai Committee
- Neyagawa Mizube Club
- Setsunan Univ. Dept. of Civil and Env. Engineering, Ishida Seminar
- Osaka Pref. "Watashino Mizube" Contest Kitakawachi Committee
- Neyagawa Youthnet
- Setsunan Univ./Osaka Electro-Comm. Univ./Neyagawa Mizube Club Jr.
- Osaka Prefecture University College of Technology,
- Osaka Prefecture Nishineyagawa High School Biology Club
- Yodogawa River Rangers

○ Partner Organizations:

- Mizubeni Shitashimukai
- Yodogawa Sagan Suibo Office Shimeno Branch
- Neyagawa City Shizen o Manabukai
- Yodogawa Riverside Park Administration Center
- EXEDY Corporation

○ Supporting Organizations:

- MLIT Yodogawa River Office · Osaka Prefecture · Neyagawa City

<Programs>

- E-boat, canoeing, stand up paddleboard (SUP) · sandbag wall making
- brick arch making · reed coaster making · cleaning activities, etc.



Example: Introducing the Sunset Hour

To let people experience the natural beauty of the sunset on the Yodogawa River, we introduce the time of the sunset and allow viewing in our company facilities. This activity was started out of our hope to share the magnificent beauty of the setting sun on the Yodogawa.

Since we introduced a bulletin board with the time of the sunset, there has been a gradual increase in the number of people who visit. Recently, we have also seen more visitors from abroad. We continue this activity with hopes to spread the beauty of this natural landmark of Osaka to the world.

<Main Organization>

Sekisui House Umeda Operation Co.



Umeda Sky Bldg. Kuchu Teien Observatory

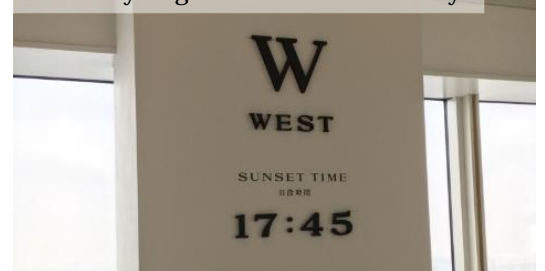


Photo Credits: Sekisui House Umeda Operation Co.

Efforts to Improve the Yodogawa's Attractiveness by Using the Historical/Cultural Features of its Resources

Example: Yodogawa Romantic Tour

The reason for restoring the ship route was the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Road and railway functions may not work when a large-scale earthquake occurs, and water traffic is very useful for rescue activities and transportation of equipment. The route had been investigated since 2006, and the Yodogawa Romantic Tour cruise started in September 2017.

The characteristic ship was modeled after a steamboat that traveled the Yodogawa River during the Meiji period.

The route is operated with the aim of helping to rediscover the nature and history around Yodogawa riverside while being prepared for natural disasters.

<Main Organizations>

- Sponsoring Organization: Osaka Aqua Bus Co., Ltd.
- Supporting Organization:
 - ・MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office
 - ・Osaka Prefecture ·Hirakata City ·Hirakata Culture Tourist Association
 - ・Yodogawa Shuun Seibi Suishin Council
 - ・Kitaosaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Cooperating Organizations: Maruman Sushi and Kappo Fuji restaurants

<Programs Onboard>

- ・Narrated stories about the history of the region by storytellers
- ・Musical performance of the sanjikkoku ship song, etc.



Photo Credits: Osaka Aqua Bus Ltd.

Efforts to Create Liveliness and Activities to Enjoy the Yodogawa Landscape

Example: Osaka Yodo-River Citizens Marathon

The Osaka Yodo-River Citizens Marathon has been held every year in November since its start in 1997, marking its 22nd year in 2018. It is a marathon created for the goal of having citizens participate and complete the race. This is the first marathon started by citizens for citizens in Japan, to be easily enjoyed by anyone regardless of age, gender, winning or running fast. It is also the first marathon to have its entire route along the riverside.

There were less than 2,000 participants in the first race, but since its 14th year, there have been more than 10,000 participants every year. One of the reasons for the race's popularity is being able to pass through the Yodogawa-ozeki Weir, which is normally closed to the public.

In addition, all participants are designated a Yodogawa beautification committee member for the day to ensure that no garbage is left on the riverside.

By setting the course through Yodogawa Riverside Park, we have an opportunity to reflect on the natural environment of the river basin and hope to provide an eco-oriented marathon that is considerate of the health of the runners and the environment.

<Main Organization>

- Sponsoring Organization: Osaka Yodo-River Citizens Marathon Committee Volunteer Staff

<Programs>

- ・Full marathon ·Half marathon
- ・Group full marathon ·Group half marathon

※Groups are 5 runners per team. The average time of the 5 members will be used.



Photo Credits: Osaka Yodo-River Citizens Marathon Committee

Example: Yodogawa Urban Camp

The Yodogawa Urban Camp was created in response to the proposal for revitalizing the Yodogawa River (Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry) and has been held every year since September 2015.

Utilizing the Yodogawa Riverside Park Nishinakajima area, the attractiveness of the area is being improved.

These are activities to enjoy nature in an urban area. In 2018, the first activity to stay overnight in the river space was held.

<Main Organizations>

○Sponsoring Organizations:

MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office · Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry

○Co- Organizer:

First year only - MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office

<Programs>

- Growing Up Camp
- No Equipment Select Camps
- Canoeing
- Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP)
- E-boat (10-seater row boat)
- Paraglider floating, etc.

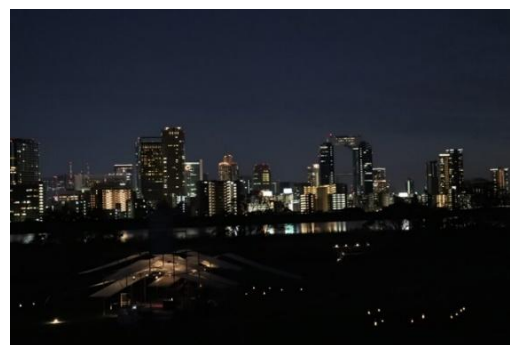


Photo Credits: Yodogawa River Office

Example: Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri

The festival has been held every year since 2012 for the purpose of nurturing youth through sports. The Yodogawa riverside is used to educate children and create a place parents to interact.

The event is funded by donations from businesses, and in the 8th year, there were approximately 6,500 participants.

As a place for enjoyment and deepening of ties between businesses, groups and residents of the Yodogawa right bank, the festival aims to hold events to create opportunities to think about disaster prevention, safety, environment, history, culture and welfare. It also contributes to the development and revitalization of the local culture of the right bank area.

<Main Organizations>

○Sponsoring Organization: Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri Committee

○Co- Organizer: Yodogawa Riverside Park

○Supporting Organizations:

- MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office
- Ministry of the Environment Kinki Regional Environment Office
- Osaka Prefecture · Settsu City
- Settsu City Board of Education · Settsu City Jichirengokai
- Settsu City Rojin Club Rengokai
- Settsu City Society of Commerce and Industry
- Settsu Rotary Club · Settsu Lions Club
- Settsu City PTA Council · Junior Chamber International Settsu
- Japan Bousaisi Society Osaka Branch Settsu District
- Settsu Association for International Exchanges

○Cooperating Organizations:

- Research Institute of Environment, Agriculture and Fisheries, Osaka Prefecture, Seibutsu Tayousei Center Support Staff
- Japan Self Defense Force Osaka Provincial Cooperation Office
- Osaka Meiboku Danchi · Osaka Meiboku Seinenkai
- Various Residents Associations: Torikai · Torikai Kita · Torikai Nishi · Torikai Higashi · Ajifu · Befu

<Programs>

- Events related to the Yodogawa (Yodogawa cruises, raft-making, etc.)
- Disaster prevention corner
- Youth education, play area (mini-trains, woodshop class, etc.)
- Sports corner (Futsal, etc.)
- Performance, dance, entertainment (street performers, picture shows), etc.



Photo Credits: Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri Committee

Efforts to Maintain and Preserve the Rich Natural Scenery of the Rivers

Example: Suzuka Balloon Festival/Suzuka River [Class A River] (Mie Prefecture)

The Suzuka Balloon Festival was first held in 1992 and welcomed its 27th year in 2018. When searching for a place where hot air balloons could fly in the Chubu region, Suzuka City became a candidate because there is was a good balance between nature and urban areas. Since then, the Suzuka Balloon Festival attracts pilots from all over the country and the colorful balloons decorate the autumn sky.

The main venue is the river ryokuchi (green area) where many enjoyable events are held for visitors including boarding a hot air balloon. To let as many people experience the view, there are 5 balloons stationed to allow visitors to enjoy the natural landscape from the sky.

In 2018, there were approximately 166 thousand visitors who came to the river ryokuchi or Suzuka Circuit areas to view the hot air balloons and competitions over 3 days.

Together with residents, we continue our activities in hopes that many people will enjoy the hot air balloons and beauty of the natural landscape.

<Main Organization>

Suzuka Balloon Festival Committee

<Usage Information>

- Fees: 2,000 Yen (JHS students and up),
1,000 Yen (elementary school students),
2 children free per parent (kindergarten and under)
- Boarding Numbers: 3- 4 people/flight
- Flight Time: 5- 6 minutes

<Anchored Flight Conditions>

- Each balloon is flown in a 50m×50m open area (no obstacles on the ground or in the sky)
- Anchor vehicles can enter the flight area (3- 4 vehicles per balloon)



Photo Credits: Suzuka Balloon Festival Committee

Efforts to Improve Landscape Attractiveness by Using the Historical/Cultural Features of its Resources

Example: Illumination/Sumida River [Class A River] (Tokyo Prefecture)

Tobu Railway has designated four priority areas for concentrated investment in the Tobu Group Medium- Term Management Plan growth strategy. One area is the Asakusa/Tokyo Skytree area. With the aim of creating a lively area and attracting more people, we have started illuminating the Sumida River Bridge from 2018 with the support of Tokyo Prefecture under the concept of “a colorful bridge that connects Asakusa and the Tokyo Skytree® year round.”

The illumination can be seen from various places in the Asakusa/Tokyo Skytree area such as the Tokyo Skytree and cruise ships along the Sumida River, and contributes to improving the attractiveness of the railway line and improving the night view.

In addition, illuminations in collaboration with seasonal events such as the Tokyo Skytree illuminations or sakura festival are ways in which the landscape attractiveness is improved.

<Main Organization>

Tobu Railway Co., Ltd.

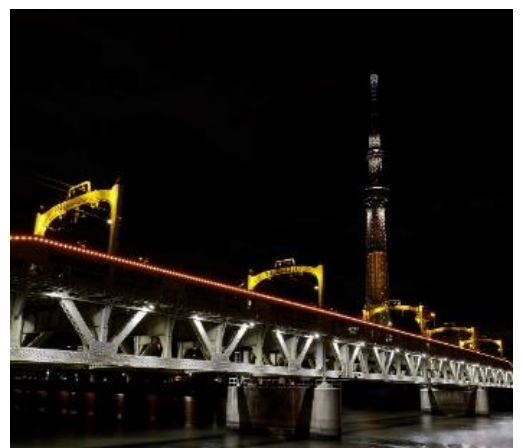


Photo Credits: Tobu Railway Co., Ltd.

Example: Shichijo Ohashi o Kireinisurukai Activities/Kamogawa River [Class A River] (Kyoto Prefecture)

The Kyoto Keikan Forum and local residents celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Shichijo Ohashi Bridge in 2013. However, interest in Shichijo Ohashi did not increase and for a time, it was ridden with grass and garbage. On July 7, 2015, 12 resident volunteers started activities to clean up Shichijo Ohashi.

Since then, cleaning activities have taken place at 9:00am on the 7th of every month for the aim of making as many people aware of the attractiveness of Shichijo Ohashi. Currently, about 50 participants from neighboring areas, businesses, local governments and fans from afar participate every month. Those who participate originally came for differing reasons, but through this mutual connection of Shichijo Ohashi, new collaboration projects have been created as well.

The activities were initially subsidized by the city, but gradually the group has been able to acquire their own funds. In 2018, donations were raised through the illumination event.

Shichijo Ohashi was not well recognized at the start of the activities, but as the number of supporters grew, it was designated as one of Japan's tangible cultural properties with the assistance of the city in November 2018.

<Main Organization>

- Shichijo o Kireinisurukai

<Activity Details>

- Cleaning and exchange activities from 9am on the 7th of every month
- Publicity activities: making leaflets, providing information on Facebook, making postcards, pin badges, tenugui towels, having mini-lectures, and various other events such as illuminations, etc.



Photo Credits: Shichijo Ohashi o Kireinisurukai

Example: Kentoshisen Race/Kasegawa River [Class A River] (Saga Prefecture)

This is a rowing boat race that connects the river and people, making use of the history and culture of the Kasegawa River, where Jianzhen arrived from China. The race has been held every August since 1997 and welcomed its 22nd year in 2018. The boats are modeled after the Tang dynasty ships (kentoshisen), and each team consists of 12- 16 people, with 45- 50 teams participating. The event is funded by sponsoring organizations.

The day before the tournament, cleanup activities are carried out at the race venue and the Kasegawa embankment under the motto, "keep the river clean," which is the foundation of hydrophilic programs.

Every year, there are veteran and first-timer teams that participate from inside and outside the prefecture, in addition to foreign teams. The entire venue is filled with lively cheering, and serves as a place for families, friends, officials and residents to cooperate and interact with one another.

The activities are being carried out with the hope that volunteer activities will flourish and history will be passed down to future generations.

<Main Organization>

- Sponsoring Organization:

Saga Ganjin Wajo Matsuri Kentoshisen Race Promotion Committee
(Staff consists of industry, government and resident members)

<Program>

- Kentoshisen race



Photo Credit: Saga City Tourist Association

<Participation Information.

- 10,000 Yen/team
- 12~16 members/team
- Course length=500m(250m one way)

Efforts to Create Liveliness and Activities to Enjoy the River Landscape

Example: Koinobori Festa 1000/Akutagawa River [Class A River] (Osaka Prefecture)

Every year for two weeks near Golden Week, 1000 koinobori (carp windsocks) are raised in hopes that children will grow up in good health and as a way to promote the Akutagawa River, which is symbol of the city. The windsocks are donations from the residents or handmade windsocks made by preschoolers in the city.

This event has been held for more than a quarter of a century since 1992 and has taken root as a familiar event among residents. Currently, it is run by the Koinobori Festa 1000 Promotion Council, which is formed by 12 local organizations including neighborhood community associations and the Junior Chamber International Takatsuki. The event received the support of about 120 businesses and organizations in 2018, making it an event that has grown to receive the support of the local community.

At the event on April 29th (holiday), stage events such as dance performances and open-air stores are held as events for children to enjoy, and the venue is bustling with many people.

<Main Organization>

- Sponsoring Organization: Koinobori Festa 1000 Promotion Council



Photo Credits: Takatsuki City

Example: Yasuragitei/Shinano River [Class A River] (Niigata Prefecture)

On the left and right riverbanks, there are areas for dining and promoting health. Residents, businesses and local governments work together to create a beautiful landscape and new liveliness.

The area has been managed by Snow Peak Inc. since 2017, and the secretariat is regularly staffed by two members, with additional support during business hours from Niigata City Hall and vendors (10+ stores). The activities are made possible with the cooperation and support of many people.

The 2018 business period was from July 1st to October 14th. Business plans are made continuously from the end of the previous year with careful coordination with the related organizations.

In addition, on-site response during bad weather is a major consideration during the business period.

Thanks to these efforts, more than 30,000 people visit every year and the visitors seem to be satisfied based on the results of the questionnaires.

<Main Organizations>

- Sponsoring Organizations:
Niigata City, Snow Peak Inc.
- Supporting Organization:
Mizbering Yasuragitei Kenkyukai

<Programs>

- No equipment BBQ
- Food booths, etc.



Photo Credits: Snow Peak Inc.